Digital Tools for Civic Engagement - Knowledge is Power!

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@RebeccaRumbul

DSI Rome 6th June 2018
mySociety is a not-for-profit social enterprise with a mission to **invent** and **popularise** digital tools that **enable citizens to exert power over** institutions and decision makers.
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mySociety code is running right now in…
Get answers from the government and public sector

Make a request for information to a UK public authority; by law, they have to respond

Browse 318,392 requests to 16,926 authorities

How it works

You have the right to request information from any publicly-funded body, and get answers. WhatDoTheyKnow helps you make a Freedom of Information request. It also publishes all requests online.

1. Use this site to make your request for information – we’ll show you how.
2. We’ll drop you an email as soon as your request gets a response.
3. We publish it all online. Great! Now you have your answer, and everybody else can access it too.
Alaveteli sites around the world
Lariam: Hundreds of British soldiers suffering from mental illness after being given anti-malarial drug

Exclusive: Shocking figures reveal scale of mental health problems among veterans treated with Lariam
Lariam: Hundred suffering from last less

Revealed: more than 500,000 home care visits last less than five minutes

Minister calls for overhaul of home help services after councils admit to rising numbers of fleeting visits, raising fears vulnerable people are being forced to choose between being washed or fed.

"It is totally inappropriate and unacceptable for frail elderly people and those with disabilities to receive care visits to address their personal needs in this sort of time," Norman Lamb said. Photo:
Lariam: Health sufferings given few years ago

Stop and search used illegally against thousands

Police forces to apologise to those stopped after officials find 40 operations under section 44 were illegal

Ten of the 40 illegal operations were in the capital. Photograph: Sean Smith for the Guardian

Tens of thousands of people have been stopped in the street and searched unlawfully under controversial section 44 anti-terrorism powers, the Home Office and the Ministry of Defence are set to announce. The figures, obtained by a Freedom of Information Act request, have been published as part of a wider inquiry into police conduct.

A police stop and search suspect in London. Ten of the 40 illegal operations were in the capital. Photograph: Sean Smith for the Guardian

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Lariam: Has received given? sufferings.

Prince Charles has received confidential cabinet papers for decades, according to a Whitehall three-year freedom of information battle.

Revelation that heir to throne is routinely sent confidential papers comes after.

Exposed: Prince Charles has received confidential cabinet papers for decades.

Given a three-year freedom of information battle.

Revealed: Prince Charles has received confidential cabinet papers for decades.

Soldiers...
How many UFOs are reported each year?

2007: 17
2008: 25
2009: 35
2010: 31
2011: 2
2012: 0
2013: 1
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Edward Miliband (Leader of Her Majesty's Official Opposition; Doncaster North, Labour)

I will tell the Prime Minister what people on the Opposition Benches are doing: we are standing up for hard-working families and businesses while he is a friend of the tax avoiders. I am going to keep asking him the question until he answers it. It is a very specific question about hedge funds avoiding stamp duty on their share transactions. It is costing hundreds of millions of pounds. He is bankrolled by the hedge funds. He claims he wants to act on tax avoidance. Why won’t he act?

David Cameron (The Prime Minister; Witney, Conservative)

If the right hon. Gentleman has a good submission for the Budget, he can talk to the Chancellor about it. He says what they are doing on his side of the House. Let me tell him what he has been doing on his side of the House: two former Labour Health Secretaries completely condemned his health policy; all the leading university vice-chancellors condemned his university policy; and he cannot find one single business leader to back his economic policy. Is it any wonder that the Chuckle Brothers have lodged an official complaint and said they do not want to be compared to the two clowns opposite?

Edward Miliband (Leader of Her Majesty's Official Opposition; Doncaster North, Labour)

I am afraid I am going to keep asking the question until the Prime Minister has an answer. Let me explain it to him. [Interruption.] You can’t help him George; you’re too far away. Let me explain it to him very simply. Everybody pays stamp duty on their share transactions. [Interruption.]
# How Simon Kirby voted on Miscellaneous Topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vote</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>very strongly against</strong></td>
<td><strong>greater regulation of gambling</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>a mixture of for and against</strong></td>
<td><strong>measures to prevent climate change</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>very strongly against</strong></td>
<td><strong>slowing the rise in rail fares</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>very strongly for</strong></td>
<td><strong>selling England’s state owned forests</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>very strongly for</strong></td>
<td><strong>capping civil service redundancy payments</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>very strongly for</strong></td>
<td><strong>Labour’s anti-terrorism laws</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>very strongly for</strong></td>
<td><strong>the privatisation of Royal Mail</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>a mixture of for and against</strong></td>
<td><strong>financial incentives for low carbon emission electricity generation methods</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>very strongly against</strong></td>
<td><strong>requiring pub companies to offer pub landlords rent-only leases</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>moderately for</strong></td>
<td><strong>restricting the scope of legal aid</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
How often have ‘kittens’ been mentioned in parliament?

Results 1–20 of 139 for kittens

Written Answers — Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: Cats: Sales (5 Jan 2016)

Daniel Zeichner: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, if she will bring forward amendments to regulations under the Pet Animals Act 1951 to include a ban on the sale of kittens in pet shops.
# Who says kittens the most?

The most recent mentions of the exact phrase *kittens*, grouped by speaker name.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occurences</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Date range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Richard Lochhead (Scottish National Party) - Member, Regulatory Reform Committee; Member, Liaison Committee (Commons); Member, Palace of Westminster (Joint Committee); Member, Foreign Affairs Committee; Member, Liaison Committee (Commons); Member, Draft Investigatory Powers Bill (Joint Committee); Chair, Environmental Audit Committee</td>
<td>Dec 2007 – Jun 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Rob Fello MP (Labour) - Chair, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee; Member, Panel of Chairs; Member, Ecclesiastical Committee (Joint Committee)</td>
<td>Sep 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Christine Grahame (Scottish National Party)</td>
<td>Sep 2004 – Aug 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>David Amess MP (Conservative) - Member, Liaison Committee (Commons); Member, Procedure Committee; Member, Panel of Chairs; Member, Privileges and Conduct, Committee for (Lords); Member, Administration Committee; Member, Palace of Westminster (Joint Committee); Member, Panel of Chairs; Member, Public Accounts Commission; Chair, Committee of Selection; Member, Speaker’s Committee for the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority; Member, EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee; Member, House of Commons Commission; Member, Foreign Affairs Committee; Member, Panel of Chairs; Member, International Development Committee; Member, Regulatory Reform Committee; Member, Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee</td>
<td>Dec 1992 – Sep 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Albania Kuvendi

Party Groupings

- PS 66 seats
- PD 51 seats
- LSI 15 seats
- PDIU 3 seats
- PR 3 seats
- PBDNJ 1 seat

What’s in this dataset?

As much as we know. Here’s a taste of the information we have so far.

- Biographical 100%
- Social links 0%
- Contact details 92%
- Identifiers 97%

Know where we can find more information? Let us know

Members

Search for: Name, place, etc...
Show details: Biographical

- Adelina Rista
  PS — Fier
- Agron Duka
  PR — Durrës
- Agron Çela
  LSI — Shkodër

@rebeccarumbul @mysociety
WikiData

WikiData:WikiProject every politician/Political data model

Data Model for Political Wikidata

This is an attempt to document best practices for modelling data about political positions and concepts currently used across Wikidata. These are not all used consistently everywhere, and in some cases (particularly around Cabinet memberships) aren't really used widely enough yet for it to be clear that they are the best approaches for ease of both querying and data entry. Discussion on different/better approaches are very welcome.

Legislative Branch

Legislators

Mandatory

instance of (P31) : human (Q5)
occupation (P18) : politician (Q52955)
position held (P39) : a specific national position, eg Member of Parliament in the United Kingdom (Q16707842)