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# Department of Politics & Public Policy

## Annual Research Report 2013/14

### Introduction and Highlights

This report documents the research accomplishments of the Department of Politics and Public Policy (PoPP) in the academic year 2013-14. Our research is concentrated predominantly in public policy, but encompasses international politics, political theory and pedagogy within the discipline of politics. It epitomises DMU's mission to deliver research excellence with impact, covering everything from developments in governance theory and critical urban studies to high-level research partnerships with policy makers, advisory and consultancy projects for central government and other prominent public sector stakeholders. The following paragraphs showcase last year's highlights.

We were delighted to appoint three new permanent lecturers in spring 2014: Dr Valeria Guarneros-Meza, Dr Katharine Rietig and Dr Jinghan Zeng, colleagues who add a strong international dimension to our public policy research. Dr Guarneros-Meza specialises in Latin American Urban Studies; Dr Rietig is working on policy learning, particularly in the context of environmental governance. Dr Zeng lectures and researches Chinese Politics and research methods. In addition, Dr Eleanor Mackillop, Dr Steve Parker and Andy Thomas joined the department as part-time lecturers, Eleanor and Steve bringing research expertise in local governance and public management, Andy in popular participation in space exploration in Russia and China.

The department won over £550,000 in new research income, notably grants from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF). The JRF study progresses Professor Jo Richardson's influential research on Gypsy and Traveller communities, exploring the co-production of conflict resolution methods for Gypsy and Traveller sites. The ESRC project led by Professor Jonathan Davies will scrutinise how austerity policies develop in the cities of eight countries, in particular the extent to which the voices of citizens and voluntary groups are heard in shaping and contesting the outcomes of reduced public spending.

Our engaged scholarship continues to influence the world of politics and policy. Last year we highlighted Professor Colin Copus's report written for the Commons Political and Constitutional Reform Committee, setting out a statutory code of relationships between central and local government. This work progressed in 2014, with Professor Copus drafting the Local Government (Independence) Bill, introduced to Parliament as a Private Members Bill in late 2014. Professor Rob Baggott and Professor Steven Griggs developed a self-assessment tool for local health and wellbeing boards, "Ensuring Health and Wellbeing", part of a follow-up to the outstanding ESRC Knowledge Transfer Partnership between APSE (Association of Public Service Excellence) and DMU. Together with collaborators at the University of Cardiff, Dr Guarneros-Meza is part of the ongoing evaluation of the European Social Fund Local Service Board, a project sponsored by the Welsh Government. Dr Rietig contributed to a worldwide study of climate legislation in 66 countries, gaining plaudits from the World Bank, the UN and the US Senate. At the request of the Central Compilation and Translation Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee, Dr Zeng produced a report on the "Political Legitimacy of the Chinese Communist Party" – a key theme in his work.

Colleagues organised several memorable events, including the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary conference of the Local Governance Research Unit, The Chartered Institute of Housing national conference and the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence annual conference. We hosted the department's second annual lecture in February 2014, given by Professor Bob Jessop on *A Cultural/Cultureal Political Economy Perspective on Crises of Crisis-Management: the Limits of Governance*.

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## Introduction and Highlights (continued)

The department made a vital contribution to the faculty REF submission in Business and Management, demonstrating major improvements in all areas of assessment. We are consistently among the best post-92 research universities, and compare favourably with many “traditional” institutions as well. The panel singled out our knowledge transfer and staff development support for praise.

The remainder of the report lists key research outputs, current PhD students and completed doctorates.



# Department of Politics & Public Policy

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### Publications

#### Refereed Journal Articles

Baggott, R. and Jones, K. (2014) 'The Voluntary Sector and Health Policy: the role of national level health consumer and patients' organisations in the UK' *Social Science and Medicine*, Vol.123, pp202-209

Baggott, R. and Jones, K. (2013) 'Big Society in an age of austerity: threats and opportunities for Health Consumer and Patients' Organizations in England' *Health Expectations*. DOI:10.1111/hex.12185

Blair, A., Wyburn-Powell, A., Goodwin, M., and Shields, S. (2014) 'Can dialogue help to improve feedback on examinations,' *Studies in Higher Education*, Vol.39, Issue 6, pp.1039-1054. ISSN: 0307-5079.

Blair, A. (2013) 'Democratising the learning process: the use of Twitter in the teaching of Politics and International Relations', *Politics*, Vol.33, Issue 2, pp. 135-45. ISSN: 0263-3957. Top 10 most accessed article in Politics in 2013. Chosen by journal editors as one of 9 best articles between 2007-2013 for virtual issue on Learning and Teaching published 2013, online ISSN: 1467-9256.

Blair, A., Curtis, S., and Shields, S. (2013) 'The significance of assignment feedback: from consumption to construction', *European Political Science*, Vol.12, Issue 2, pp.231-44. ISSN: 1680-4333/2012.

Blair, A., Curtis, S., Goodwin, M., and McGinty, S., [Shields] (2013) 'What feedback do students want?', *Politics*, Vol.33, No.1, pp.66-79. ISSN: 0263-3957. Winner of Politics 2014 Learning and Teaching Prize (awarded biannually)  
Top 10 most accessed article in Politics in 2013. Chosen by journal editors as one of 9 best articles between 2007-2013 for virtual issue on Learning and Teaching published 2013, online ISSN: 1467-9256.

Blair, A., McGinty, S., [Shields] (2013) 'Feedback-Dialogues: Exploring the student perspective,' *Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education*, Vol.38, No.4, pp.466-76. ISSN: 0260-2938.

Blair, A., McGinty, S., [Shields], and Curtis, S. (2013) 'Is peer feedback an effective approach for creating dialogue in Politics?', *European Political Science*, Vol.12, Issue 1, pp.102-115. ISSN: 1680-4333.

Copus, C., and Wingfield, M. (2014) Are Independent Councillors Really Conservatives in Disguise? *Local Government Studies*, 40:5, 647-669

Copus, C., and Dadd, M. (2014) It's a Proper Job: Process, People and Power in an English City, *Public Money and Management*, 34:5, 323-330

Copus, C. (2014), Councillors' Perspectives on Democratic Legitimacy in English Local Government: Politics Through provision? *Urban Research and Practice* 7:2, 169-181

# Department of Politics & Public Policy

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### Publications (continued)

#### Refereed Journal Articles (continued)

Copus, C. (2013) London Government: Problems, Perspectives and Power, *Croatian and Comparative Public Administration*, 13:3 p.803-820

Copus, C., and Erlingsson, G. (2013) Formal institutions versus informal decision-making: On parties, delegation and accountability in local government, *Scandinavian Journal of Public Administration* 17 (1): 51-69

Copus, C., and Sweeting, D. (2013), Repoliticising and redemocratising local democracy and the public realm: why we need councillors and councils, *Policy & Politics* 43: 3,389-408

Sweeting, D., and Copus, C. (2013) Councillors, Participation and Local Democracy, *Urban and Regional Research International*, 14:1, 121-137

Davies, J.S. (2014) 'Coercive Cities: Reflections on the Dark Side of Urban Power in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century'. *Journal of Urban Affairs* 36(S2): 590-599

Davies, J.S. (2014) 'Contesting Governance Hegemonies: Developments in Critical Theory and Practice, Editorial *Critical Policy Studies* Symposium, Part 1, 8(1): 1-4

Davies, J.S. (2014) 'Contesting Governance Hegemonies: Developments in Critical Theory and Practice, Editorial for *Critical Policy Studies* Symposium, Part 2, 8(2): 1-4

Davies, J.S. (2013) 'Just do it differently? 'Everyday making, Marxism, and the struggle against neoliberalism', *Policy & Politics* 41(4): 497-513. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary special edition

Davies, J.S. and Msengana-Ndlela, L.G. (2014), 'Urban Power and Political Agency: Reflections on a Study of Local Economic Development in Johannesburg and Leeds', *Cities: The International Journal of Urban Policy and Planning*. Published online before print, 26.9.14. DOI: 10.1016/j.cities.2014.09.001

Davies, J.S. (2014), 'Rethinking Urban Power and the Local State: Hegemony, Domination and Resistance in Neoliberal Cities'. *Urban Studies*. 2014/15. Published online before print 1.10.13. DOI: 10.1177/004209801350515

Davies, J.S. and Spicer, A. (2014), "Interrogating Networks: Towards an Agnostic Perspective on Governance Research". *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* Published online before print, 1.11.13, DOI:10.1068/c11292.

Goldsmith, C. (2013) "Gladwyn Jebb" in Rogelia Pastor-Castro and John Young (eds), *The Paris Embassy* (Palgrave Macmillan)

Blanco, I., Griggs, S. and Sullivan, H. (2014) 'Situating the Local in the Neoliberalisation and Transformation of Urban Governance Transformation', *Urban Studies*, 51(15): 3129-46

Griggs, S. and Howarth, D. (2013) 'Between a Rock and a Hard Place': The Coalition, the Davies Commission and the 'Wicked Issue' of Aviation Expansion', *Political Quarterly*, 83 (4): 515-26

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### Publications (continued)

#### Refereed Journal Articles (continued)

Griggs, S., Sullivan, H. and Blanco, I. (2014) 'Special Issue: Neoliberalism, the Local and the Urban', *Urban Studies*, 51(15) (refereed special issue)

Guarneros-Meza, V. (2014) 'The Local Bureaucrat in the Making of Urban Power', *Cities*, online publication. DOI: 10.1016/j.cities.2014.07.004

Abello-Colak, A. and Guarneros-Meza, V. (2014) 'The role of criminal actors in local governance', *Urban Studies*, 51(15), pp3268-289. DOI: 10.1177/004209801351983.

Andrews, R., Downe, J., and Guarneros-Meza, V. (2014) 'Contracting for cohesion: Can local area agreements make a difference?', *Policy & Politics*, 42(4), pp.77-93

Entwistle, T., Downe, J., Guarneros-Meza, V., and Martin, S. (2014) 'The multi-level governance of Wales: layer cake or marble cake', *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 16(2), pp. 310-25

Martin, S. and Guarneros-Meza, V. (2013) Governing Local Partnerships: Does External Steering Help Local Agencies Address Wicked Problems? *Policy & Politics*, 41(4), pp.585-603

Lishman, R. (2014) Part of the ESRC project on Boosting Affordable Housing Supply, information on the ESRC website <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/my-esrc/grants/ES.K007564.1/read>

Richardson, J. (2014) 'Roma in the news: an examination of media and political discourse and what needs to change'. *People, Place and Policy Online*, Volume 8, No. 1, pp 51 – 64

Beebeejaun, Y., Durose, C., Rees, J., Richardson, J., and Richardson, L. (2014) 'Public Value or Public Harm? Towards coproduction in research with communities' *Environment and Planning C* doi:10.1068/c12116 <http://www.envplan.com/abstract.cgi?id=c12116>

Rietig, K. (2014) 'Neutral' Experts? How Input of Scientific Expertise Matters in International Environmental Negotiations. *Policy Sciences* 47(2): 141-160. DOI 10.1007/s11077-013-9188-8

Rietig, K. (2014) Reinforcement of Multilevel Governance Dynamics: Creating Momentum for Increasing Ambitions in International Climate Negotiations. *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics* 14: 371-389. DOI 10.1007/s10784-014-9239-4

Rietig, K. (2013) Sustainable Climate Policy Integration in the European Union. *Environmental Policy and Governance* 23(5): 297-310. DOI: 10.2002/eet.1616

Zeng, J. (2014) Institutionalization of the Authoritarian Leadership in China: A Power Succession System with Chinese Characteristics? *Contemporary Politics*, Vol. 20, No. 3

Zeng, J. (2014) The Debate on Regime Legitimacy in China: Bridging the Wide Gulf between Western and Chinese Scholarship, *Journal of Contemporary China*, Vol. 23, No. 88



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### Publications (continued)

#### Refereed Journal Articles (continued)

Zeng, J. (2013) What Matters Most in Selecting Chinese Leaders: Qualitative Comparative Analysis, *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, Vol.18, No. 3

#### In Chinese

Zeng, J. (2014) Zhengzhi hefaxing: weishenme zhongxifang xuejie kanfa ruci butong? (Political Legitimacy: Why do Chinese and Western Scholars Think So Different), *jingji shehui tizhi bijiao (Comparative Economic & Social Systems)*, No. 5

#### Books

Baggott, R. (2015) *Understanding Health Policy* (Policy Press)

Baggott, R. (2013) *Partnerships for Public Health and Wellbeing* (Basingstoke: Palgrave) Kindle Edition

Blair, A. (2015) *Britain and the World since 1945*, Routledge. 208pp. ISBN: 978-1-408-24829-4

Griggs, S. and Howarth, D. (2013) *The Politics of Airport Expansion in the United Kingdom: Hegemony, Policy and the Rhetoric of "Sustainable Aviation"* (Manchester: Manchester University Press)

King, P. (2014): 'The Antimodern Condition: An Argument Against Progress' (Aldershot, Ashgate)

Richardson, J., Barker, L., Furness, J., and Simpson, M. (2014) *Frontline Futures: new era, changing role for housing officers*, Coventry: CIH

#### Edited Collections (as editors)

##### Edited Books

Griggs, S., Norval, A. and Wagenaar, H. (2014) (eds.) *Practices of Freedom. Decentred Governance, Conflict and Democratic Participation*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)

Budd, L., Griggs, S. and Howarth, D. (2013) (eds.) *Sustainable Futures in Aviation* (London: Emerald Press)

Harrington, C. (ed) (2014) *Obama's Washington: Political Leadership in a Partisan Era*, ISA (Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London)

#### Chapters in books

Blair, A. (2014) 'Performance Assessment in Europe', in J. Ishiyama, Will Miller and Eszter (eds) *International Handbook of Teaching and Learning in Political Science and International Relations*, Edward Elgar



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### Publications (continued)

#### Chapters in books (continued)

Blair, A. (2013) 'Britain and Monetary Union', in F. Laursen (ed.) *The EU and the Eurozone Crisis: Policy Challenges and Strategic Choices*, Farnham: Ashgate, pp.65-84. ISBN: 978-1-4094-5729-9

Copus, C., and Leach, S. (2014), Local Political Leaders,(Ch.36) in Rhodes and 't Hart (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of Political Leadership*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp549-560

Copus, C. (2013) Local Government, Chapter 20, in Jones, Kavanagh, Moran and Norton (editors), *Politics UK*, Eighth edition, Pearson Education, pp:412-435

Griggs, S. and Sullivan, H. (2014) 'Necessity as the Mother of Reinvention: Discourses of Innovation in Local Government' in C. Ansell and J. Torfing (eds.) *Public Innovation through Collaboration and Design*, London: Routledge, pp.19-40

Griggs, S. and Howarth, D. (2014) 'Poststructuralism, Social Movements and Citizens Politics' in H-A. van de Heijden (Ed) *Handbook of Political Citizenship and Social Movements*, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, pp. 279-307

Guarneros-Meza, V. and Martin, S. (2014) Local Service Boards in Wales in P. Lægreid, K. Sarapuu, L. H. Rykkja and T. Randma-Liiv (eds.) *Organizing for Coordination in the Public Sector. Practices and Lessons from 12 European Countries*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, in press

Harrington, C. (ed) (2014) *Obama's Washington: Political Leadership in a Partisan Era*, ISA (Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London)

Harrington, C. (2014) 'Sense and Sustainability: The Politics of Food in Obama's America' in Clodagh Harrington (ed) *Obama's Washington: Political Leadership in a Partisan Era*, ISA (Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London)

Richardson, J. (2013) 'Delivering housing learning in a tough environment' in Thornhill, J (2013) (Ed) *Learning today, leading tomorrow: skills and learning for the housing industry of the future*, Coventry: CIH

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### Publications (continued)

#### Other academic publications

Griggs, S., Baggott, R. and Reynolds, A. (2014) *Ensuring Health and Wellbeing. A Self-assessment Tool for Health and Wellbeing boards*, APSE: Manchester

Griggs, S., Howarth, D. and Wingfield, M. (2014) *Ensuring Collaboration: One Way Ahead for Public-Private Partnerships*, Manchester: AMEY/APSE

Griggs, S. Wingfield, M., Copus, C. and Martin, S. (2014) *Two Tribes? Exploring the Future Role of Elected Members*, APSE: Manchester

Griggs, S., Freeman, R. and Wingfield, M. (2014) *The Future Role of Elected Members in Scotland*, APSE Scotland: Edinburgh

Richardson, J. (2014) 'No Place To Go: How can we create space and place in communities for Gypsies and Travellers?', *Britain in 2014*, Swindon: ESRC

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### Research Income

#### External Grants

##### Jonathan Davies

Principal investigator on major ESRC funded consortium project: *Collaborative Governance under Austerity: An Eight-case Comparative Study*. £435,131 - April 2015-September 2017

##### Steven Griggs

Steven Griggs, APSE, National Survey of Elected Members, £10,000, lead investigator with Wingfield, M. (DMU), Copus, C. (DMU) and Martin, S. (Cardiff)

##### Jo Richardson

Leeds Gypsy and Traveller Exchange, Evaluation of Asset Based Community Development Project, September 2014 to July 2017, £26,408 Project Lead. (With Fred Mear) ongoing project

Joseph Rowntree Foundation July 2014 to September 2015, Principal Investigator 'Co-producing conflict resolution methods for Gypsy and Traveller Sites' £99,915 – ongoing project

Melton Borough Council 2014, Project leader at DMU on evaluation of 'Me and My Learning' project, £20,000 (with Ros Lishman and Tim Brown) ongoing project

ESRC 2013 to 2014, Part of team on knowledge exchange project 'Boosting Affordable Housing Supply' £70,000. Project now completed

#### DMU Funded Research

Alasdair Blair: HEIF project – De Montfort University European Centre of Excellence, £10,000 (2014)

Colin Copus: RIF6 – De Montfort University, £9,000 (2014)

Colin Copus: RCIF – De Montfort University, £10,000 (2014)

Jo Richardson: Seedcorn funding £1,250 (£400 Faculty and £850 Department) for Leeds Listening Project

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### Major Research Events at DMU

Alasdair Blair: Conference Organiser: 'Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence Annual Conference', De Montfort University, June 2014

Alasdair Blair: Conference Organiser: 'European Parliament to Campus', De Montfort University, December 2014

Colin Copus: LGRU 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary seminar: Ensuring the Future of Local Government in 21<sup>st</sup> Century. 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Colin Copus: COST Democratic Renewal Round Table: Action IS1207 Local Public Sector Reforms - An International Comparison. 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Jo Richardson: Conference Organiser: ESRC seminar (as part of series) on 'Creating the space and place for Gypsy and Traveller sites', De Montfort University, November 2013



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### Non-academic speaking engagements

Colin Copus: 'Creative Welfare solutions in municipalities', Key-note speaker, Finnish Association of Local Government Studies, Kuopio, Finland, 25-26 September 2014

Colin Copus: 'Independents in the Political arena, Powys', Key-note speaker LGA Independent Group Conference, 12 September 2014

Colin Copus: Invited roundtable participant: discussion of Respublica (think Tank) report on the Manchester Combined Authority and policies for public service reform 10 September 2014

Colin Copus: Invited roundtable participant: to Core Cities and London Councils roundtable on fiscal devolution to local government 21 July 2014

Colin Copus: 'Whatever Happened to Local Democracy', Key-note speaker, South east Employers Local democracy network seminar, London 4 July 2014

Colin Copus: 'Putting People before Politics Putting Principle before Party', Invited guest speaker: A Conference for Independents, Cheshire Independent Group, 11 April 2014

Colin Copus: 'Decentralisation Decade; A New Deal for English Local Governance', Roundtable invited participant, IPPR, 26 March 2014

Colin Copus: 'What next for localism?', Key-note speaker at the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) conference: 19 March 2014, London

Colin Copus: Local Government Association, extraordinary general meeting; as speaker on changes to the LGA's governance arrangements and on the prospects for party and non-partisan candidates in the 2014 elections, 23 January 2014

Colin Copus: 'International seminar, Governance, science and innovation in development policies, leadership for governance', Key-note speaker, Department of Social, Political and Territorial sciences, University of Aveiro, Portugal, 14 January 2014

Clodagh Harrington: 'The Meaning of the US Midterms', Uppingham School, November 2014

Jo Richardson: Frontline Futures, Chartered Institute of Housing national conference, Manchester, June 2014

Jane Scullion: 'Old rules for new technologies at Social Media – The Issues: Coping Strategies', North West Legal Consortium, Manchester, UK, 11 December 2014

Jinghan Zeng: 'Will China Rule the World: Understanding China's Rise', invited talk by *the Chinese Studies Research Alliance*, University of Leicester, December 2014

Jinghan Zeng: 'China's anti-corruption campaign and the case of Zhou Yongkang', media interview on *Danish Broadcasting Corp*, 10 April 2014

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### Conference and Seminar Highlights

Presenting papers at conferences and seminars is a vital way of showcasing our work and progressing it towards publication. In 2013-14, colleagues gave over 100 papers at events across Europe, the USA, Canada and China and Japan on a vast array of topics reflecting the diversity of our research. Key conference/seminar presentation themes included: ensuring health and wellbeing, local and national alcohol policy, the politics of food and obesity, lessons from new and established Mayoralities in England, the changing role of councillors, the role of partnerships in austerity governance, fair trade and the economic crisis, state violence and coercive governance in cities, affordable housing, conflict and conflict resolution in planning for Traveller sites, learning as a vehicle for enhancing sustainability policy and the question of political legitimacy in China.

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### Current PhD Students

#### Student

Haila Altwaiian  
Mark Charlton  
Tim Cheetham (DMU Studentship)  
Janie Codona  
Lei Dai  
Olawale Fawehinmi  
Yoric Irving-Clarke  
Abdulbaset Ghnedi  
Paul O'Brien  
Robert Ogman (DMU Studentship)  
Raksha Pandya-Wood  
Catherine Saltis  
Jane Scullion  
David Simmonds  
Andy Thomas  
Laura Wilkes  
Lyn Wyeth

#### Supervisor

Alasdair Blair/Lixian Jin  
Alasdair Blair/Steven Griggs  
Colin Copus/Mark Roberts  
Jo Richardson/Steven Griggs  
Alasdair Blair/Andrew Tolson/Jinghan Zeng  
Rob Baggott/Kathryn Jones  
Peter King/Jo Richardson  
Alasdair Blair/Chris Goldsmith  
Steven Griggs/Jonathan Davies  
Jonathan Davies/Steven Griggs  
Kathryn Jones  
Colin Copus/Alasdair Blair  
Colin Copus/Mark Roberts  
Colin Copus/Alasdair Blair  
Alasdair Blair/Jinghan Zeng  
Colin Copus/Alistair Jones  
Colin Copus/Alistair Jones

### PhD Completions

#### Student

Michael Dadd  
Eleanor Mackillop  
Jing Pan  
Mark Poynter  
Steve White

#### Supervisor

Colin Copus/Melvin Wingfield  
Steven Griggs/Jo Richardson  
Alasdair Blair/Martyn Denscombe  
Alasdair Blair/Clodagh Harrington  
Colin Copus/



# Department of Politics & Public Policy

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# Department of Politics & Public Policy

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