

## Local Government In The Uk Government Beyond The Centre

English local government is in a state of decline after 40 years of incremental but cumulative centralisation by central government. This book is the first to directly address this trend's impact upon the institution of local government, a crucial element in the democratic viability of a unitary state. The process of centralisation, and its corrosive effect on the status and responsibilities of local government, have been widely recognised and deplored among politicians and senior officers within local government, and by academics with an interest in this field. However, there has been no study exploring in detail its impact, and, equally important, suggesting ways in which the growing imbalance between the powers of central and local government should be rectified. This book fills this gap. This text will be of key interest to scholars, students and practitioners of local government, and more generally to those interested in what has been happening to British politics and governance.

Marketization is one of the most powerful reform doctrines reshaping the organization of public service delivery throughout the last four decades. This book revisits conventional ideas and models of marketization and compares how these have diffused and evolved across municipalities in England and Scandinavia. The book highlights the paths and impacts of marketization as diverse and dynamic and asks us to reconsider what and how we think about marketization. The content of the book is co-authored by researchers from four countries and builds upon comparable surveys and case-studies from two longstanding 'spearhead' services – parks and roads – for the implementation of marketization. The book appeals to scholars and policy makers with interests in discussions about the history and future of marketization in an international perspective.

The comprehensively revised second edition of this successful text provides an up-to-date analysis of the changing world of local politics in Britain. Substantial new sections have been added on local political parties, hung councils, the politics of non-elected local government, recent developments in privatisation, and the politics of the poll tax. The book now provides a systematic treatment of the Thatcher legacy in local politics, the philosophy and strategy which underpinned it and likely futures in the post-Thatcher era. Reviews of the 1st edition: '...should be read by anyone seeking to understand local government and its possible futures.' George Jones, *Local Government Chronicle* '...an excellent and stimulating introductory text.' Peter McLaverty, *Sociological Review*

*Explaining Local Government*, available at last in paperback, uniquely presents a history of local government in Britain from 1800 until the present day. The study explains how the institution evolved from a structure that appeared to be relatively free from central government interference to, as John Prescott observes, 'one of the most centralised systems of government in the Western world'. The book is accessible to A level and undergraduate students as an introduction to the development of local government in Britain but also balances values and political practice to provide a unique explanation, using primary research, of the evolution of the system.

As early pioneers in the use of digital geographic data, many local governments in the UK were ahead of their counterparts in central government and the private sector in the application of GIS technology. To meet current challenges, local authorities must coordinate the latest technology with effective information management strategies, human and cultural issues, and organizational structures and processes. *Geographic Information Management in Local Government* examines the factors that are necessary to ensure that real benefits are delivered from the improved availability of geographic information. Written by two practitioners with extensive government experience, this four-part

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book examines supporting technology, the data that fuels it, and the human factors that help or hinder successful GIS implementation. Exploring the history of geographic information management in local government, this volume offers a pragmatic overview of the subject and what local authorities need to do in order to be successful. The Introduction covers the emergence of Geographic Information Management (GIM) and GIS in local government and explains why they are important. Part 2 explains the key elements of human and organizational issues, data, the technology toolbox, GIS selection and implementation, and coordinating mechanisms. Part 3 provides in-depth analyses of nine case studies on the use of technology by local UK authorities. Part 4 looks forward to the prospects and challenges for further GIM by local governments.

The book explores the claim that English local government exists in one of the most centralised relationships with national government. Such a position fundamentally undermines any notion of local self-government and makes the term 'government' in local government a misnomer. The book will examine how the erosion of the autonomy, powers, roles, functions and responsibilities of English local government came about, the arguments of centralisers and localisers to support their view of the constitutional status of local government, and its overall role in the government of England. The book offers an antidote to the onward march of centralisation by offering a new vision of local government which emphasises both 'local' and 'government'.

Now a vital part of the British system of government, the 2005 Freedom of Information Act also plays an important role in developing local democracy. This detailed review explores the need for freedom of information in modern liberal democracies, and addresses how the accountability of local authorities may best be ensured.

Originally published in 1966 and written at a time when UK housing policy was undergoing major changes, this volume provides a substantial historical introduction which outlines the development of housing policy in the UK from the mid 19th – mid 20th Centuries. Discussion of the administrative framework, the powers of local housing authorities, housing standards, finance and the improvement of older housing follows. Other issues covered include the social aspects of housing and the role of the state and the objectives of state action.

This second edition provides a basic, straightforward and up-to-date introduction to British local government. Recent years have seen local government become an issue of high political salience and continuing financial and structural changes promise to keep it centre stage for some time to come. Placing recent events in context, Local Government in the United Kingdom provides a text for students encountering local government for the first time.

This book evaluates the validity of a key proposition of public choice theory: that competition is associated with superior performance by governmental organisations. Three forms of competition in local government are identified: competition between local authorities, competition between councils and private contractors, and competition between parties for political power. The extent and consequences of competition are assessed in both the UK and USA. The analysis is used to draw conclusions on the effects of competition and the validity of public choice theory.

Based on the author's unparalleled in-depth knowledge and experience, this major new book provides a systematic

assessment of the diversity and common features of British local government today, set in a clear historical context. During its 13 years of office, Labour's modernization agenda transformed the world of UK local government. Amidst a starkly altered political and economic climate the coalition government formed in 2010 pledged to implement equally radical changes to the system. Taking account of the coalition's programme for government and its first round of spending cuts, the completely revised and updated fifth edition of this popular and established text is timed to take full advantage of this historic juncture. David Wilson and Chris Game provide readers with systematic coverage of the UK's local government. The book examines its defining features, its history, changing structure, operations, functions, financing, and its relations with central government. The fifth edition gives additional emphasis to local government in the devolved regions of the UK, and provides more extensive analysis of centre-local government relations. The authors deliver a thorough critique of Labour's third term in office. Looking ahead, the book anticipates the future of local government under the coalition government. Two themes look likely to dominate policy making: decentralization and cuts to public spending. With its clear, accessible, non-technical style and popular illustrations, *Local Government in the United Kingdom* will be essential reading for students, practitioners, and anyone with an interest in local politics. This accessible text summarizes and explains the structure of British local government, focusing on key changes introduced during the Thatcher/Major years and initiatives implemented by the current Labour administration. While offering a detailed discussion of these policies, the book examines how local government has sought to respond in a proactive way to a range of important social, political and economic changes. Readers are introduced to local government as a lively and complex site of political engagement. British local government is set in a wider political, social and theoretical context. Throughout, the authors argue that the attempt by the Thatcher and Major administrations of 1979-97 to push local government into the role of merely administering centrally defined policies was largely short-circuited. While outlining and explaining these changes and their effects, the authors argue that far from being defenceless victims of central government, local authorities devised numerous strategies to protect their independent policy-making role. The authors go on to examine the proposals for change introduced by the Labour government and assess their implications for local government in the twenty-first century. This book will be essential reading for lecturers and students of local government, politics, public policy and urban policy, as well as practitioners. Local government innovation has become one of the most important topics on China's policy agenda in recent decades. This book explains why some local governments are more innovative than others. This book uses a novel theoretical framework and points out that in China's multi-level government structure, the administrative hierarchy and the span of control could shape local governments' innovation motivation, innovation capability, and innovation opportunity, thus

influencing local government innovativeness. The author systematically analysed the 177 winners and finalists of the biennial Innovations and Excellence in Chinese Local Governance (IECLG) Awards Programme from 2001 to 2015 to provide convincing empirical evidence to support this theory. This book adopts an institutional approach to explaining local government innovativeness in China and may be a useful reference to help us learn more about local government decisions and behaviours.

Challenges to Local Government offers a timely discussion of how local governments have implemented public policies during the last decade. Concentrating on Britain and the United States (but with essays on Scandinavia, France and Canada) the authors document, explain and analyze the implications of these policies for local autonomy, focusing especially upon local economic initiatives.

What is the current state of local government in Britain and where is it going? Edited by two leading experts and with an all-star cast of contributors, *British Local Government into the 21st Century* brings together a set of specially-commissioned and tightly-edited chapters to provide a comprehensive assessment of the issues and challenges facing local authorities as they search for a new role in a new century.

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The Committee has produced its own code, included in this report, for relations between central and local government. The code is intended to replace the estimated 1,293 duties imposed on local government today. The Committee concludes that the balance of power between central and local government is skewed in favour of the centre and needs to be addressed. The devolution of power to Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland has been successful and is an evolving process - there is no apparent reason why local government in England is not capable of using similar powers. Power and finance must go together, if local government is to become an equal partner it should have own source of revenue. Local authorities in England could also have a share of the existing income tax take and local councils freed to raise additional revenue, with the consent of their electorates. English local government lacks some of the most basic constitutional protections that are available to some of its counterparts in a number of other mature European democracies. The Government should examine the possibilities of a stronger constitutional status for local government, through an entrenched statutory code, or a similar proposal. A code for relations between central and local government, enforced by statute, could be beneficial to both tiers of government for several reasons. First, it could help set out exactly where powers do, and should, lie, thereby increasing transparency for the electors. Secondly, it could help redress the overcentralisation of England. Thirdly, it could provide an economic boost that the country sorely needs.

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The Routledge Handbook of International Local Government conducts a rigorous, innovative and distinctive analysis of local government within a comparative, international context. Examining the subject matter with unrivalled breadth and depth, this handbook shows how different cultures and countries develop different institutions, structures and processes over time, yet that all have some features in common – the most obvious of which is the recognition that some decisions are better made, some services better delivered, and some engagement with the state better organised if there is structured organisational expression of the importance of the local dimension of all these factors. Thematically organised, it includes contributions from international experts with reference to the wider context in terms of geographies, local government modes, recent developments and possible further lines of research. It has a wide academic appeal internationally and will steer a course between the two dimensions of mono-jurisdictional studies and ‘cataloguing’ forms of comparison. The Routledge Handbook of International Local Government will be essential reading and an authoritative reference for scholars, students, researchers and practitioners involved in, and actively concerned about, research on local government.

Explores how fiscal decentralisation takes place alongside administrative decentralisation. This book considers the revenue sources available, systems of intergovernmental transfers between central and local government, and the procedures necessary to ensure that local governments use their financial resources appropriately.

Local government in the UK has undergone rapid change since 1996. This new edition discusses and analyses these changes, including the complete restructuring of the local government system in England, and the Local Government Bill. Local Government Economics progresses on from the author's earlier book, Public Sector Economics, addressing many of the same themes but at a more advanced level, and specifically within the context of local government. Suitable for both UK and international readerships, it reflects the multidisciplinary nature of local government and is aimed at final year and postgraduate students on economic or multidisciplinary degrees.

Modern Local Government fills an important gap by combining an examination of the origins of modern local government in the UK with the changes which have taken place in recent years. The book traces the development of local government from the nineteenth century to the present day, examining the growth of local authorities' functions as a response to problems posed by urbanisation and industrialisation. The study looks at the gradual increase of services in the period before the Second World War and examines the qualitative and quantitative changes which occurred as a result of the establishment of the welfare state. Finally, it analyses the changes which have taken place as a result of the radical shift in government policy since 1979 and notes the decline in the scope and status of local government which have occurred.

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Local Government in the United Kingdom Macmillan International Higher Education

This book takes a comparative approach to local government across 14 European countries, looking at processes of decentralisation, regionalisation and reforms of local government. Examining second levels of government, such as UK Counties, French Départements, Italian and Spanish Provinces, and German Landkreise, this book reveals both the specific characteristics of particular countries, and also similarities across Europe. As the first book focussing on the second level of local governments, this monograph combines comparative analysis of institutional trends and reforms of local government with examination of country-specific features to provide an original and insightful evaluation of European governance. Organised along common thematic lines, leading experts in their field outline the historical development of local government, and analyse recent or current reform debates. The book argues democratic quality and effectiveness of this territorial level of government is in the focus of on-going debates about the rescaling of statehood and a shift from 'government to governance'. The Second Tier of Local Government in Europe will be of interest to students and scholars studying local government, public administration and multi-level governance.

Seminar paper from the year 2007 in the subject Politics - Political Systems - Germany, grade: A, Ryerson University (Canada Toronto Ryerson University), course: Public Administration and Governance, 25 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: While frontrunners like the United Kingdom (UK) under Thatcher, the United States under Reagan and the New Zealand began New Public Management (NPM) reforms in the 1980s, Germany's federal government level only showed movement toward modernization in the late 1990s, and efforts still have not gone far enough to be evaluated with confidence. The most notable government reforms were, undertaken by the local governments, which engaged in incremental reforms in the 1980s, and only began engaging in NPM after a ten-year delay in the 1990s, when the UK and other countries had started concentrating government reform efforts on engaging multi-stakeholder networks through local and public governance measures. Focusing on the local level of government I attempt to explain the puzzle as to why Germany was a decade behind in adopting NPM measures, and why the initiative to reform public management started primarily at the local level and remains mainly limited to the local level of government. Subsequently, the purpose of this paper is to illustrate to what extent local government reforms in Germany vary from those perused by the NPM pioneer, the UK. A focus will be on institutional and ideological particularities of the German NPM response, and detailed information about the NPM contents implemented in the Federal Republic will only be mentioned if they support comparative claims. Further, I will provide a broad assessment to what extent German reform feature can be ascribed directly to international NPM influences. Relevant information about the UK, its governmental structure and reform efforts will be given. Moreover, the structure of the German government system, and local government reforms since the 1960s will be el

Local Government is an area where management skills are tested to the extreme. With political considerations evident both locally and nationally, managing resources can be complex and subject to change. This book introduces new concepts and new ways of doing business that can greatly enhance the value of the services a local government provides to its citizens, without putting a greater financial burden on taxpayers. Padovani and Young present out-of-the-box thinking based on solid research and experience to discuss topics such as:

Incorporating outcome indicators into strategic planning and budgeting Building a LG's budget with 'cost drivers' Expanding the concept of 'enterprise funds' Assessing and better managing the risk associated with outsourcing Using the concept of 'shadow pricing' to compare public with private sector costs for services This book is a must-read for students of public administration and management, senior and middle managers in local governments around the world, and citizens who are concerned with more effective management of their local

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government's programs and services. A list of suggested extra case studies for each chapter, and a description of the process to follow for ordering them, may be obtained by sending an email to [CrimsonCenter@cs.com](mailto:CrimsonCenter@cs.com). You should request the document "Case Study Suggestions for Managing Local Governments".

This text provides a systematic review of the reform of local government since the election of New Labour in 1997. Modern Local Government: " provides the relevant historical context for the predicted 'death of local government' in the Thatcher era " explains the New Labour agenda for local government and the components which make up local governance in England today " offers substantive discussion of: decision-making; community strategies; performance measures; procurement, privatization, partnerships; the role of e-government; and standards and corruption " analyzes the implications of reform at different spatial scales - from the local to the regional - and offers a rich discussion of the 'new localism' " presents an overview of the role of European Union legislation in areas like employment, environment and competition. " concludes with a consideration of the possible futures for local government including local area agreements, local public service boards and choice. Modern Local Government is a unique assessment of local government reform from the perspective of both local and central government, which is fully informed by an analysis of the role of the European Union. It will be the key resource for all students of local government in planning and related disciplines.

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