

COMMAND PAPERS

Government papers presented to Parliament.

- White Papers
- Green Papers
- Government Responses
- Draft Bills
- Royal Commission Reports
- Independent Inquiry Reports
- Government Organisational Reports

KEY IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS OF COMMAND PAPERS

Always look at the PDF!

1. Paper Title
2. Name of Author or Committee
3. Date
4. Paper Number

The image shows the front cover of a UK Command Paper. At the top left is the HM Government logo. The main title is 'COVID-19 RESPONSE - SPRING 2021'. Below the title, it says 'Presented to Parliament by the Prime Minister by Command of Her Majesty' and 'February 2021'. At the bottom left, the paper number 'CP 398' is visible. Four grey callout boxes with white text and arrows point to these specific elements: '1. Paper Title' points to the main title, '2. Author' points to the text 'Presented to Parliament...', '3. Date' points to 'February 2021', and '4. Paper Number' points to 'CP 398'.

HM Government

**COVID-19 RESPONSE -
SPRING 2021**

Presented to Parliament
by the Prime Minister
by Command of Her Majesty

February 2021

CP 398

1. Paper Title

2. Author

3. Date

4. Paper Number

COMMAND PAPER SERIES PREFIXES AND DATES

| Series | Prefix/Abbreviation | Date Range |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| First Series | 1 - 4222 | 1833 - 1869 |
| Second Series | C 1 - C 9550 | 1870 - 1899 |
| Third Series | Cd 1 - Cd 9239 | 1900 - 1918 |
| Fourth Series | Cmd 1 - Cmd 9889 | 1919 - 1956 |
| Fifth Series | Cmnd 1 - Cmnd 9927 | 1956 - 1986 |
| Sixth Series | Cm 1 - Cm 9756 | 1986 - 2018 |
| Seventh Series | CP 1 - | 2019 - current |



FINDING COMMAND PAPERS



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Law Subject Page -
Published Government
Documents





HOW TO CITE COMMAND PAPERS

Outline:

Name of the Department or Other Body, *Title* (Command Paper Number, Year) pinpoint (if necessary).

Example:

Home Office, *Report of the Royal Commission on Capital Punishment* (Cmd 8932, 1953) para 53.

This falls under **Section 3.4.3 Command papers** of the OSCOLA guide, **so the reference goes in the footnotes and bibliography.**