

# **WORKING IN POLITICS: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**PRESENTATION AT WARWICK UNIVERSITY**

**November 21st 2018**



# Today's agenda

**1. Introductions**

**2. Public and private sector roles in politics**

**3. Discussion/ Q&A**

# 1. Introductions

# My own background and experience

**Worked in Whitehall/  
Westminster as UK  
Government Special  
Adviser in heart of  
Civil Service, and also  
for MPs**

**Stood for election in  
Council and  
Parliamentary  
elections in Midlands**



**Worked in political  
and economic risk  
consultancy for  
Oxford Analytica**

**Also Visiting Fellow in  
academia (including  
Warwick University)  
focused on political  
issues, including Brexit**

# 1. Roles in public sector

# Recent trends in public sector employment



**Public sector today employs over 5 million people**



**Recent local government job cutbacks have been especially big**



**Many areas of public sector have 'fast track' streams for graduates**



**Working for MPs/ other politicians is also a popular choice**

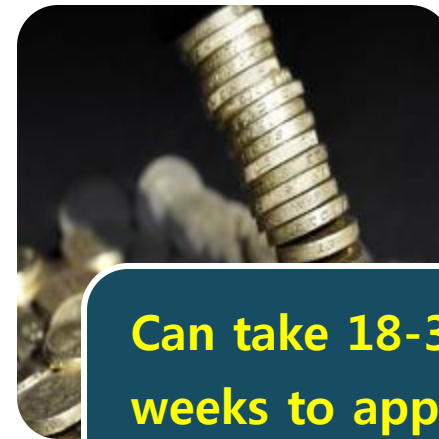
# Case study of Civil Service 'fast stream'



**Civil service is popular area for graduates with 400,000 employees**



**Fast stream has more than 20,000 applications for 1,000 jobs**



**Can take 18-31 weeks to apply with starting salaries of £28,000**



**Also now option of 2 month paid Summer internship**

## **2. Roles in private sector**



# Private sector roles focused on politics



**Growing number of politics jobs in private sector**



**Some jobs are, in effect, 'outsourced' from public sector**



**Many work in public affairs/ political risk for consultancies or 'in-house'**



**There are also opportunities working for think tanks and NGOs**

# Case study of working in political consultancy



**Estimated  
83,000 jobs in  
communications  
consultancies  
alone across UK**



**Many of these  
roles focus on  
public affairs in  
Westminster/  
Whitehall**



**Increasing  
number of  
public affairs  
roles focus on  
devolved bodies**



**Some specialist/  
niche roles look  
at international  
political risk  
beyond the UK**

## **3. Post-presentation discussion**

