

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party				
	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other

Do you think that the Whitehall civil service is working well or working badly?

Unweighted base	100	72	16	6	2	4
Base	100	63	19	11	3	4
Very well	1%	-	5%	-	-	-
Fairly well	39%	46%	5%	51%	37%	53%
Fairly badly	44%	42%	56%	31%	63%	47%
Very badly	8%	4%	16%	17%	-	-
Don't know	8%	7%	19%	-	-	-

From what you have seen and heard about Dominic Cummings's opinion on the Whitehall civil service, do you think he is right or wrong?

Unweighted base	100	72	16	6	2	4
Base	100	63	19	11	3	4
Entirely right	2%	1%	5%	-	-	-
Mostly right	29%	24%	32%	49%	63%	29%
Mostly wrong	30%	31%	18%	51%	37%	-
Entirely wrong	9%	10%	14%	-	-	-
Don't know	14%	18%	9%	-	-	17%
N/A - I have not seen or heard anything about Dominic Cummings's opinion on the Whitehall civil service	16%	15%	24%	-	-	53%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party				
	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other
	100	72	16	6	2	4
	Base	63	19	11	3	4
1 - Has too many generalists and not enough staff with deep expertise in specific areas	11%	12%	9%	-	63%	17%
2	33%	32%	45%	31%	-	29%
3	25%	28%	-	34%	37%	53%
4	15%	16%	14%	17%	-	-
5 - Has an appropriate number of staff with deep expertise in specific areas	5%	2%	18%	-	-	-
Not sure	12%	11%	14%	17%	-	-

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other
	100	72	16	6	2	4
	Base	63	19	11	3	4
1 - Work is produced slowly	29%	24%	45%	49%	-	-
2	33%	38%	27%	-	100%	29%
3	22%	25%	9%	17%	-	71%
4	9%	7%	5%	35%	-	-
5 - Work is produced quickly	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not sure	6%	6%	14%	-	-	-

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party				
	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other
	100	72	16	6	2	4
	Base	63	19	11	3	4
1 - Work is produced to a poor standard	1%	-	7%	-	-	-
2	17%	14%	26%	31%	-	-
3	38%	39%	40%	17%	37%	64%
4	31%	35%	9%	34%	63%	36%
5 - Work is produced to a high standard	5%	3%	5%	17%	-	-
Not sure	9%	10%	14%	-	-	-

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other
	100	72	16	6	2	4
	Base	63	19	11	3	4
1 - Civil servants typically seek to block ministerial directions and/or find reasons why things cannot be done	24%	14%	52%	31%	-	29%
2	33%	35%	25%	35%	63%	17%
3	19%	21%	5%	17%	-	53%
4	16%	20%	5%	17%	37%	-
5 - Civil servants typically seek to fulfil ministerial directions and proactively seek to overcome obstacles to their fulfilment	2%	3%	-	-	-	-
Not sure	6%	6%	14%	-	-	-

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party				
	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other
	100	72	16	6	2	4
	Base	63	19	11	3	4
1 - Civil servants are too reliant on established procedures and are unable to adapt to new challenges	25%	23%	18%	49%	63%	17%
2	37%	40%	43%	17%	-	29%
3	24%	24%	20%	17%	37%	53%
4	9%	10%	5%	17%	-	-
5 - Civil servants are dynamic in the face of challenges and proficient in adapting and improving processes as the need arises	1%	1%	-	-	-	-
Not sure	4%	3%	14%	-	-	-

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other
	100	72	16	6	2	4
	Base	63	19	11	3	4
1 - The Whitehall civil service is too risk averse and closed to new ideas	30%	28%	40%	35%	-	17%
2	34%	35%	23%	31%	63%	65%
3	14%	15%	5%	17%	37%	17%
4	15%	15%	18%	17%	-	-
5 - The Whitehall civil service is willing to try new ideas and take calculated risks where necessary	1%	2%	-	-	-	-
Not sure	6%	5%	14%	-	-	-

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party				
	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other
	100	72	16	6	2	4
	Base	63	19	11	3	4
1 - Civil servants do not face appropriate repercussions for failing to perform	28%	20%	41%	35%	63%	47%
2	18%	23%	13%	14%	-	-
3	29%	31%	13%	34%	37%	53%
4	13%	13%	18%	17%	-	-
5 - Whitehall is effective at improving or weeding out underperforming civil servants	2%	3%	-	-	-	-
Not sure	9%	11%	14%	-	-	-

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other
	100	72	16	6	2	4
	Base	63	19	11	3	4
1 - Whitehall is too prone to groupthink and tends to hire, retain and promote civil servants with orthodox views	29%	22%	50%	31%	63%	17%
2	31%	28%	26%	51%	37%	36%
3	22%	30%	5%	-	-	47%
4	9%	10%	5%	17%	-	-
5 - Whitehall is open to a wide range of ideas and seeks out and encourages civil servants with a range of perspectives	1%	2%	-	-	-	-
Not sure	8%	9%	14%	-	-	-

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party				
	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Democrats	Scottish National Party	Other
	100	72	16	6	2	4
	Base	63	19	11	3	4
1 - Leadership within the Whitehall civil service is very poor	10%	4%	29%	17%	-	-
2	24%	21%	29%	14%	100%	29%
3	34%	42%	28%	17%	-	17%
4	19%	19%	-	51%	-	36%
5 - Leadership within the Whitehall civil service is very good	1%	2%	-	-	-	-
Not sure	11%	12%	14%	-	-	17%

Cell Contents (Column Percentages)

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Region						
	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM

Do you think that the Whitehall civil service is working well or working badly?

Unweighted base	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
Base	100	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
Very well	1%	-	7%	-	-	-	-	-
Fairly well	39%	45%	38%	36%	27%	82%	32%	27%
Fairly badly	44%	32%	47%	50%	73%	18%	68%	48%
Very badly	8%	12%	7%	9%	-	-	-	5%
Don't know	8%	11%	-	5%	-	-	-	20%

From what you have seen and heard about Dominic Cummings's opinion on the Whitehall civil service, do you think he is right or wrong?

Unweighted base	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
Base	100	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
Entirely right	2%	2%	-	4%	-	-	-	3%
Mostly right	29%	23%	61%	41%	46%	-	29%	8%
Mostly wrong	30%	29%	39%	19%	-	58%	22%	42%
Entirely wrong	9%	8%	-	12%	-	-	11%	16%
Don't know	14%	25%	-	5%	27%	11%	14%	12%
N/A - I have not seen or heard anything about Dominic Cummings's opinion on the Whitehall civil service	16%	13%	-	19%	27%	32%	25%	20%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Region						
	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
	Base	100	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
1 - Has too many generalists and not enough staff with deep expertise in specific areas		11%	4%	7%	23%	27%	-	19%	10%
2		33%	23%	44%	37%	46%	18%	32%	43%
3		25%	25%	29%	15%	27%	71%	11%	29%
4		15%	22%	13%	16%	-	11%	11%	4%
5 - Has an appropriate number of staff with deep expertise in specific areas		5%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Not sure		12%	16%	7%	8%	-	-	28%	7%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
	Base	100	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
1 - Work is produced slowly		29%	27%	15%	35%	-	18%	25%	44%
2		33%	28%	29%	55%	46%	-	40%	19%
3		22%	20%	44%	5%	54%	82%	11%	20%
4		9%	16%	7%	-	-	-	11%	13%
5 - Work is produced quickly		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not sure		6%	8%	6%	5%	-	-	14%	3%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Region						
	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Total	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM
	100	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
		Base	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
1 - Work is produced to a poor standard	1%	1%	-	7%	-	-	-	-	3%
2	17%	17%	22%	15%	22%	-	18%	14%	4%
3	38%	38%	33%	39%	27%	100%	40%	46%	45%
4	31%	31%	26%	39%	32%	-	42%	40%	29%
5 - Work is produced to a high standard	5%	5%	9%	-	2%	-	-	-	8%
Not sure	9%	9%	10%	-	17%	-	-	-	11%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Total	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM
	100	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
		Base	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
1 - Civil servants typically seek to block ministerial directions and/or find reasons why things cannot be done	24%	24%	20%	15%	27%	46%	18%	11%	37%
2	33%	33%	33%	52%	33%	27%	-	54%	20%
3	19%	19%	22%	7%	13%	27%	82%	-	16%
4	16%	16%	14%	26%	19%	-	-	22%	16%
5 - Civil servants typically seek to fulfil ministerial directions and proactively seek to overcome obstacles to their fulfilment	2%	2%	2%	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Not sure	6%	6%	8%	-	8%	-	-	14%	3%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Region						
	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM
	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
	Base	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
1 - Civil servants are too reliant on established procedures and are unable to adapt to new challenges	25%	19%	15%	38%	27%	18%	57%	13%
2	37%	29%	63%	39%	46%	-	21%	48%
3	24%	39%	10%	2%	27%	82%	22%	21%
4	9%	8%	7%	17%	-	-	-	9%
5 - Civil servants are dynamic in the face of challenges and proficient in adapting and improving processes as the need arises	1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	3%
Not sure	4%	6%	6%	3%	-	-	-	7%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM
	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
	Base	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
1 - The Whitehall civil service is too risk averse and closed to new ideas	30%	22%	15%	46%	27%	18%	25%	40%
2	34%	40%	56%	22%	46%	32%	19%	34%
3	14%	11%	7%	6%	27%	51%	32%	12%
4	15%	21%	22%	19%	-	-	11%	-
5 - The Whitehall civil service is willing to try new ideas and take calculated risks where necessary	1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Not sure	6%	6%	-	6%	-	-	14%	7%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Region						
	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM
	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
	Base	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
1 - Civil servants do not face appropriate repercussions for failing to perform	28%	30%	15%	33%	73%	-	29%	25%
2	18%	8%	21%	30%	-	29%	11%	25%
3	29%	30%	39%	15%	27%	71%	36%	25%
4	13%	21%	18%	17%	-	-	-	4%
5 - Whitehall is effective at improving or weeding out underperforming civil servants	2%	2%	-	-	-	-	-	9%
Not sure	9%	10%	7%	5%	-	-	25%	11%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM
	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
	Base	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
1 - Whitehall is too prone to groupthink and tends to hire, retain and promote civil servants with orthodox views	29%	25%	33%	31%	27%	-	19%	46%
2	31%	33%	47%	31%	-	49%	32%	14%
3	22%	21%	20%	19%	73%	51%	11%	17%
4	9%	11%	-	14%	-	-	11%	9%
5 - Whitehall is open to a wide range of ideas and seeks out and encourages civil servants with a range of perspectives	1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Not sure	8%	10%	-	5%	-	-	28%	7%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Region						
	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	E, SE, SW	L	NE, NW, YH	NI	Wales	Scotland	EM, WM
	100	29	10	27	3	4	8	19
	Base	32	12	24	3	5	9	16
1 - Leadership within the Whitehall civil service is very poor	10%	10%	7%	7%	-	-	-	25%
2	24%	9%	42%	33%	46%	18%	40%	19%
3	34%	51%	22%	16%	27%	51%	35%	33%
4	19%	20%	22%	31%	-	32%	11%	4%
5 - Leadership within the Whitehall civil service is very good	1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Not sure	11%	10%	7%	13%	27%	-	14%	11%

Cell Contents (C)

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Year Elected					Gender	
	Pre 2010	2010 -2019	2019 - 2024	2024	MPs re-elected in 2024 General Election	Male	Female

Do you think that the Whitehall civil service is working well or working badly?

Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
Very well	1%	-	-	7%	-	2%	1%	-
Fairly well	39%	36%	49%	23%	39%	40%	33%	48%
Fairly badly	44%	36%	43%	46%	46%	42%	44%	45%
Very badly	8%	28%	-	-	9%	6%	13%	-
Don't know	8%	-	8%	24%	6%	10%	9%	7%

From what you have seen and heard about Dominic Cummings's opinion on the Whitehall civil service, do you think he is right or wrong?

Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
Entirely right	2%	10%	-	-	2%	2%	3%	-
Mostly right	29%	31%	21%	62%	26%	33%	30%	28%
Mostly wrong	30%	30%	22%	15%	36%	22%	40%	14%
Entirely wrong	9%	-	21%	-	6%	11%	3%	17%
Don't know	14%	16%	13%	23%	12%	16%	10%	20%
N/A - I have not seen or heard anything about Dominic Cummings's opinion on the Whitehall civil service	16%	13%	22%	-	18%	15%	13%	21%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Year Elected					Gender	
	Pre 2010	2010 -2019	2019 - 2024	2024	MPs re-elected in 2024 General Election	Male	Female

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
	Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
1 - Has too many generalists and not enough staff with deep expertise in specific areas		11%	10%	-	31%	13%	10%	17%	4%
2		33%	43%	44%	18%	30%	37%	35%	31%
3		25%	23%	27%	23%	24%	25%	18%	34%
4		15%	25%	11%	15%	15%	15%	15%	14%
5 - Has an appropriate number of staff with deep expertise in specific areas		5%	-	10%	7%	2%	7%	2%	8%
Not sure		12%	-	8%	6%	17%	6%	13%	10%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
	Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
1 - Work is produced slowly		29%	9%	25%	28%	35%	22%	26%	34%
2		33%	71%	40%	38%	22%	46%	34%	32%
3		22%	21%	27%	20%	21%	24%	20%	26%
4		9%	-	-	7%	15%	2%	12%	5%
5 - Work is produced quickly		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not sure		6%	-	8%	6%	7%	6%	8%	3%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Year Elected					Gender	
	Pre 2010	2010 -2019	2019 - 2024	2024	MPs re-elected in 2024 General Election	Male	Female

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
	Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
1 - Work is produced to a poor standard		1%	9%	-	-	1%	2%	2%	-
2		17%	9%	10%	15%	22%	11%	15%	19%
3		38%	36%	46%	40%	33%	42%	33%	44%
4		31%	46%	36%	21%	27%	35%	34%	26%
5 - Work is produced to a high standard		5%	-	-	7%	7%	2%	6%	2%
Not sure		9%	-	8%	17%	10%	8%	9%	8%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
	Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
1 - Civil servants typically seek to block ministerial directions and/or find reasons why things cannot be done		24%	35%	25%	33%	19%	29%	24%	23%
2		33%	19%	21%	54%	37%	29%	33%	34%
3		19%	-	36%	7%	16%	21%	19%	18%
4		16%	46%	11%	-	17%	15%	15%	18%
5 - Civil servants typically seek to fulfil ministerial directions and proactively seek to overcome obstacles to their fulfilment		2%	-	-	-	4%	-	2%	2%
Not sure		6%	-	8%	6%	7%	6%	7%	5%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Year Elected					Gender	
	Pre 2010	2010 -2019	2019 - 2024	2024	MPs re-elected in 2024 General Election	Male	Female

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
	Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
1 - Civil servants are too reliant on established procedures and are unable to adapt to new challenges		25%	9%	11%	47%	31%	20%	28%	22%
2		37%	42%	35%	23%	40%	33%	36%	37%
3		24%	36%	36%	17%	18%	31%	22%	27%
4		9%	13%	11%	7%	7%	10%	6%	13%
5 - Civil servants are dynamic in the face of challenges and proficient in adapting and improving processes as the need arises		1%	-	-	-	1%	-	1%	-
Not sure		4%	-	8%	6%	3%	6%	7%	-

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
	Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
1 - The Whitehall civil service is too risk averse and closed to new ideas		30%	19%	26%	43%	31%	29%	30%	31%
2		34%	22%	38%	31%	36%	33%	39%	27%
3		14%	10%	8%	7%	19%	8%	15%	12%
4		15%	49%	21%	12%	6%	25%	9%	24%
5 - The Whitehall civil service is willing to try new ideas and take calculated risks where necessary		1%	-	-	-	2%	-	1%	2%
Not sure		6%	-	8%	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Year Elected					Gender	
	Pre 2010	2010 -2019	2019 - 2024	2024	MPs re-elected in 2024 General Election	Male	Female

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
	Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
1 - Civil servants do not face appropriate repercussions for failing to perform		28%	41%	19%	57%	23%	33%	33%	20%
2		18%	10%	18%	17%	20%	16%	17%	20%
3		29%	27%	34%	7%	32%	26%	30%	28%
4		13%	22%	21%	12%	9%	19%	8%	22%
5 - Whitehall is effective at improving or weeding out underperforming civil servants		2%	-	-	-	4%	-	1%	4%
Not sure		9%	-	8%	6%	12%	6%	11%	7%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
	Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
1 - Whitehall is too prone to groupthink and tends to hire, retain and promote civil servants with orthodox views		29%	28%	27%	39%	28%	30%	34%	22%
2		31%	34%	47%	15%	26%	36%	31%	30%
3		22%	29%	8%	40%	23%	20%	17%	30%
4		9%	9%	11%	-	10%	8%	8%	10%
5 - Whitehall is open to a wide range of ideas and seeks out and encourages civil servants with a range of perspectives		1%	-	-	-	2%	-	1%	2%
Not sure		8%	-	8%	6%	10%	6%	9%	6%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Year Elected					Gender	
	Pre 2010	2010 -2019	2019 - 2024	2024	MPs re-elected in 2024 General Election	Male	Female

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	9	11	11	69	31	68	32
	Base	100	10	25	12	54	46	60	40
1 - Leadership within the Whitehall civil service is very poor		10%	9%	15%	-	10%	10%	13%	5%
2		24%	42%	10%	46%	23%	26%	27%	20%
3		34%	49%	40%	37%	29%	41%	27%	45%
4		19%	-	28%	-	23%	15%	21%	17%
5 - Leadership within the Whitehall civil service is very good		1%	-	-	-	2%	-	1%	2%
Not sure		11%	-	8%	17%	13%	8%	12%	10%

Cell Contents (C

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party x Electoral cohort				
	Returning MPs	Returning Labour	Returning Conservative	New MPs	New Labour

Do you think that the Whitehall civil service is working well or working badly?

Unweighted base	100	31	15	13	69	57
Base	100	46	24	17	54	39
Very well	1%	2%	-	5%	-	-
Fairly well	39%	40%	66%	5%	39%	34%
Fairly badly	44%	42%	26%	60%	46%	53%
Very badly	8%	6%	4%	10%	9%	5%
Don't know	8%	10%	5%	20%	6%	8%

From what you have seen and heard about Dominic Cummings's opinion on the Whitehall civil service, do you think he is right or wrong?

Unweighted base	100	31	15	13	69	57
Base	100	46	24	17	54	39
Entirely right	2%	2%	4%	-	2%	-
Mostly right	29%	33%	27%	34%	26%	22%
Mostly wrong	30%	22%	28%	19%	36%	33%
Entirely wrong	9%	11%	11%	15%	6%	9%
Don't know	14%	16%	24%	9%	12%	14%
N/A - I have not seen or heard anything about Dominic Cummings's opinion on the Whitehall civil service	16%	15%	5%	23%	18%	21%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party x Electoral cohort				
	Returning MPs	Returning Labour	Returning Conservative	New MPs	New Labour

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	31	15	13	69	57
	Base	46	24	17	54	39
1 - Has too many generalists and not enough staff with deep expertise in specific areas	11%	10%	9%	5%	13%	14%
2	33%	37%	33%	45%	30%	31%
3	25%	25%	41%	-	24%	19%
4	15%	15%	17%	15%	15%	15%
5 - Has an appropriate number of staff with deep expertise in specific areas	5%	7%	-	20%	2%	3%
Not sure	12%	6%	-	15%	17%	18%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	31	15	13	69	57
	Base	46	24	17	54	39
1 - Work is produced slowly	29%	22%	14%	41%	35%	31%
2	33%	46%	54%	29%	22%	28%
3	22%	24%	32%	10%	21%	20%
4	9%	2%	-	5%	15%	11%
5 - Work is produced quickly	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not sure	6%	6%	-	15%	7%	9%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party x Electoral cohort				
	Returning MPs	Returning Labour	Returning Conservative	New MPs	New Labour

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	31	15	13	69	57
	Base	100	46	24	17	54	39
1 - Work is produced to a poor standard		1%	2%	-	5%	1%	-
2		17%	11%	4%	25%	22%	20%
3		38%	42%	46%	40%	33%	34%
4		31%	35%	45%	10%	27%	28%
5 - Work is produced to a high standard		5%	2%	-	5%	7%	5%
Not sure		9%	8%	5%	15%	10%	13%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	100	31	15	13	69	57
	Base	100	46	24	17	54	39
1 - Civil servants typically seek to block ministerial directions and/or find reasons why things cannot be done		24%	29%	14%	50%	19%	15%
2		33%	29%	31%	24%	37%	39%
3		19%	21%	30%	5%	16%	16%
4		16%	15%	26%	5%	17%	16%
5 - Civil servants typically seek to fulfil ministerial directions and proactively seek to overcome obstacles to their fulfilment		2%	-	-	-	4%	5%
Not sure		6%	6%	-	15%	7%	10%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party x Electoral cohort				
	Returning MPs	Returning Labour	Returning Conservative	New MPs	New Labour

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	31	15	13	69	57
	Base	46	24	17	54	39
1 - Civil servants are too reliant on established procedures and are unable to adapt to new challenges	25%	20%	20%	15%	31%	24%
2	37%	33%	27%	43%	40%	49%
3	24%	31%	37%	22%	18%	16%
4	9%	10%	16%	5%	7%	5%
5 - Civil servants are dynamic in the face of challenges and proficient in adapting and improving processes as the need arises	1%	-	-	-	1%	1%
Not sure	4%	6%	-	15%	3%	4%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	31	15	13	69	57
	Base	46	24	17	54	39
1 - The Whitehall civil service is too risk averse and closed to new ideas	30%	29%	29%	36%	31%	28%
2	34%	33%	27%	24%	36%	41%
3	14%	8%	12%	5%	19%	17%
4	15%	25%	33%	20%	6%	4%
5 - The Whitehall civil service is willing to try new ideas and take calculated risks where necessary	1%	-	-	-	2%	3%
Not sure	6%	6%	-	15%	6%	8%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party x Electoral cohort				
	Returning MPs	Returning Labour	Returning Conservative	New MPs	New Labour

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	31	15	13	69	57
	Base	46	24	17	54	39
1 - Civil servants do not face appropriate repercussions for failing to perform	28%	33%	25%	37%	23%	17%
2	18%	16%	21%	14%	20%	24%
3	29%	26%	32%	14%	32%	30%
4	13%	19%	22%	20%	9%	7%
5 - Whitehall is effective at improving or weeding out underperforming civil servants	2%	-	-	-	4%	5%
Not sure	9%	6%	-	15%	12%	17%

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	31	15	13	69	57
	Base	46	24	17	54	39
1 - Whitehall is too prone to groupthink and tends to hire, retain and promote civil servants with orthodox views	29%	30%	17%	46%	28%	24%
2	31%	36%	42%	28%	26%	20%
3	22%	20%	30%	5%	23%	30%
4	9%	8%	11%	5%	10%	9%
5 - Whitehall is open to a wide range of ideas and seeks out and encourages civil servants with a range of perspectives	1%	-	-	-	2%	3%
Not sure	8%	6%	-	15%	10%	14%

MP polling

Internal

Fieldwork Dates: 6th - 26th March 2025

Total	Party x Electoral cohort				
	Returning MPs	Returning Labour	Returning Conservative	New MPs	New Labour

When it comes to the Whitehall civil service, on the below scale please indicate which answer comes closest to your own view.

	Unweighted base	Returning MPs	Returning Labour	Returning Conservative	New MPs	New Labour
	100	31	15	13	69	57
	Base 100	46	24	17	54	39
1 - Leadership within the Whitehall civil service is very poor	10%	10%	-	26%	10%	6%
2	24%	26%	16%	29%	23%	24%
3	34%	41%	56%	30%	29%	33%
4	19%	15%	22%	-	23%	17%
5 - Leadership within the Whitehall civil service is very good	1%	-	-	-	2%	3%
Not sure	11%	8%	5%	15%	13%	16%

Cell Contents (C)