

Martin Stanley

Martin is an experienced senior civil servant and public sector chief executive. He has served as

- Principal Private Secretary in (what is now) the Business Department
- Chief Executive of the Better Regulation Executive
- Chief Executive of the Postal Services Commission
- Chief Executive of the Competition Commission
- Acting Governor and interim Chief Executive of the Turks and Caicos Islands Government

Martin is now the Editor of the [Understanding Government websites](#):

- One site contains information about the British civil service and incorporates the text of *How to be a Civil Servant* - the standard text about UK Civil Servants' professional skills, duties and responsibilities:- www.civilservant.org.uk .
- Another site concentrates on the development of regulation in all its forms:- www.regulation.org.uk .
- And a third site examines policy-making in both the public and private sectors, including how to Speak Truth to Power :- www.understandingpolicymaking.org.uk

Martin is

- an Honorary Fellow of the University of Manchester, and
- an Associate Member of the Better Government Initiative.

Detail

During 2009, and again in 2011, Martin served as the Chief Executive of the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands – a British Overseas Territory in the West Indies. This followed the suspension of the country's constitution after a commission of inquiry uncovered serious corruption and incompetence on the part of the country's previous government. He was also the country's Acting Governor for some weeks in 2011.

Martin was Chief Executive of the UK's Competition Commission (now subsumed within the Competition and Markets Authority) from 2004 to 2009. The Commission was an independent body which decides whether large firms may be allowed to merge with one another, investigates whether particular markets are working satisfactorily, and acts as a Court of Appeal from certain decisions by utility regulators. High profile

inquiries included those into Sky's acquisition of shares in ITV, BAA's airports, the London Stock Exchange, and Supermarkets. The Commission was, in 2007, 2008 and 2009, awarded "5 stars" by competition practitioners polled by the Global Competition Review – the only competition authority outside the USA to achieve this recognition.

From 2000 until 2004 Martin was Chief Executive of the Postal Services Commission (Postcomm), the Government department that regulated the UK postal services industry. Martin oversaw the research and consultation that led to the opening of the whole of the UK postal market – previously a Royal Mail monopoly – to competition from other postal operators

Before Postcomm, Martin worked in the Cabinet Office where he was Director of the Regulatory Impact Unit (now the Better Regulation Executive), responsible for helping Government Ministers and Departments find the right balance between under-regulating (and so failing to protect the public) and over-regulating (and so failing to preserve freedoms, or creating excessive bureaucracy).

Martin particularly enjoys working closely with industry and, between 1992 and 1998, led a number of teams responsible for the Government's relations with, and support for, the vehicle, steel, engineering, offshore oil/gas and international projects industries.

Martin joined the UK civil service in 1971 and first worked in the Inland Revenue before moving to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) where he held a number of senior positions. After working on small firms policies, and leading a major industry-education links initiative, he was from 1990 to 1992 DTI's Principal Private Secretary, i.e. he led the teams which supported the Secretary of State and other Ministers.

Martin was born in 1948 and grew up in the North-East of England where he attended the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He then studied chemistry and economics at Oxford University.

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