

= Parliamentary Monitoring Services =

Parliamentary Monitoring Services is a United Kingdom @-@ based political research and publishing company . The company researches the activities of the United States Congress , European Parliament , and the Parliament of the United Kingdom . Consultants to the company have included British politicians Sir Peter Fry and William Howie , Baron Howie of Troon . The company published PMS Guide to Pressure Groups and PMS Guide to the 1997 General Election .

The company has been hired to undertake political research work by The Sunday Times and The Royal British Legion . In 2006 , the company and its sister company Political Wizard were sold to Dods Parliamentary Communications , a subsidiary of Dods (Group) PLC ? formerly Huveaux PLC . Colin Doeg , author of Crisis Management in the Food and Drinks Industry , characterized the company as a " comprehensive service " . The Independent described it as a " well @-@ known political lobbying firm " .

= = Political research = =

= = = 1979 ? 2002 = = =

Parliamentary Monitoring Services was founded in London in 1979 . The company researches the activities of the United States Congress , European Parliament , and the Parliament of the United Kingdom . Lionel Zetter became Managing Director of the company in 1986 . In 1992 the company conducted a study commissioned by The Sunday Times which " revealed that , for the first time , more Conservatives were educated in state schools than in private schools " . In 1995 , Sir Peter Fry was a paid consultant and shareholder of Parliamentary Monitoring Services . The company published the second edition of PMS Guide to Pressure Groups in 1997 , and the third edition by J. Flower in 2000 . David Boothroyd , author of The History of British Political Parties , was a researcher at the company in 2001 . Boothroyd was the principal compiler of the second edition of PMS Guide to Pressure Groups and PMS Guide to the 1997 General Election . In 2002 , the company was hired by The Royal British Legion to develop an Internet @-@ based tool to help the organization make its case for Her Majesty 's Government to recognize Gulf War syndrome .

= = = 2002 ? present = = =

William Howie , Baron Howie of Troon served as a publishing consultant to Parliamentary Monitoring Services in 2004 ; in 2007 The Times reported that Lord Howie received " regular remunerated employment " from the company . In 2005 , Zetter was Managing Director of the company 's sister firm , Political Wizard . In Public Affairs in Practice , Zetter wrote , " Without parliamentary monitoring , political news and political intelligence no public affairs campaign can hope to succeed " . Westminster lobbyist Doug Smith served as chairman of the company in 2006 ; by 2007 , Smith had left this role and his position on the company 's board of directors . In 2006 , Parliamentary Monitoring Services owned half of Political Wizard and received GB £ 1 @.@ 5 million for this share when Political Wizard was bought by Huveaux subsidiary Dods Parliamentary Communications . Zetter decided in 2006 to sell Parliamentary Monitoring Services to Dods Parliamentary Communications , and its parent Huveaux purchased the company for £ 4 @.@ 8 million . In 2007 , Huveaux owned Parliamentary Monitoring Services through the Dods brand , the parent company 's political division .

= = Commentary = =

When asked if the Department for Work and Pensions maintained profiles on Members of Parliament (MPs) , Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Andrew Smith said , " The Department does not compile personal profiles on MPs . We do have access to parliamentary

reference works such as Dods and in order to provide , in a cost @-@ effective way , such reference information to the large number of officials drafting parliamentary answers we subscribe to Parliamentary Monitoring Services Ltd . (PMS) . " Writing in the book Crisis Management in the Food and Drinks Industry , Colin Doeg characterized Parliamentary Monitoring Services as a " Comprehensive service covering the proceedings of Westminster and European Parliaments as well as US Congress " . The organization is described in Public Relations in Practice as " a political research , publishing , polling and campaigning company " . James Macintyre and Nigel Morris of The Independent called Parliamentary Monitoring Services a " well @-@ known political lobbying firm " .