

Corporate Watch

MODULE 3:

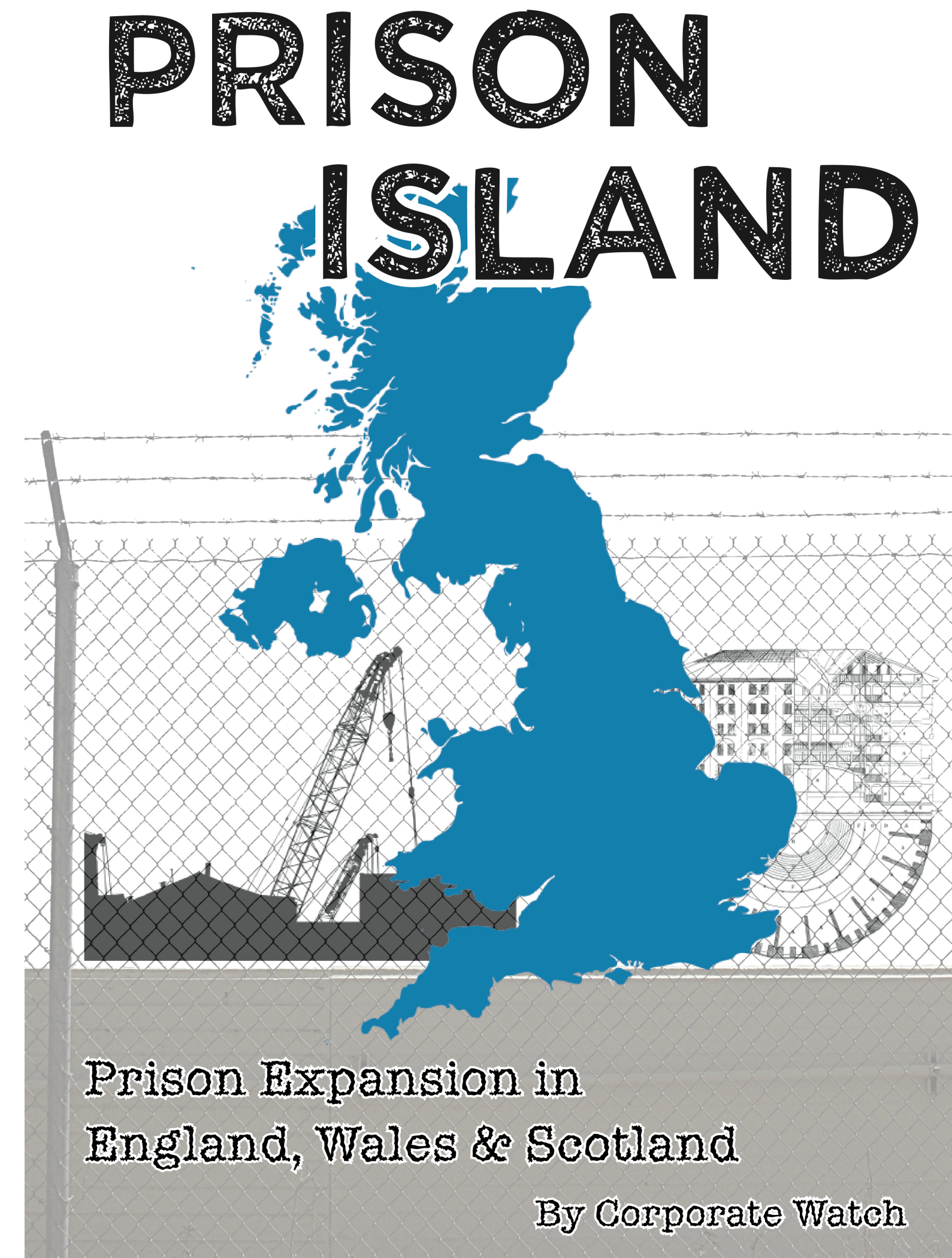
STATE SOURCES OF INFORMATION

AIMS OF THIS SECTION

- ▶ To give an overview of the various governmental sources of information.
- ▶ To gain an understanding of why these sources may be useful for campaign research.

EXAMPLE: PRISON ISLAND REPORT

- ▶ <https://corporatewatch.org/product/prison-island/>




GOVERNMENT NEWS WEBSITE

- ▶ Don't underestimate what is right in front of you e.g. easy to find information.
- ▶ <https://www.gov.uk/search/news-and-communications>
- ▶ Utilise the toolbar.
- ▶ Remember your research goals to prevent info overwhelm.

GOVERNMENT NEWS WEBSITE

News and communications

Search



Show only transition period results

✓ Topic

✓ Person

✓ Date

103,219 results

 [Get email alerts](#)  [Subscribe to feed](#)

Sort by Updated (newest)

Campaign launched to ready businesses for points-based immigration system

The nationwide marketing campaign will ensure businesses are ready for the introduction of the system as free movement ends.

Updated: 30 September 2020

UK Statement for the WTO Trade Policy Review of Zimbabwe

The UK's Ambassador to the WTO and UN in Geneva, Julian Braithwaite, delivered this statement at the WTO Trade Policy Review of Zimbabwe on 30 September 2020.

Updated: 30 September 2020

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

- ▶ Scrutinises public spending for Parliament.
- ▶ <https://www.nao.org.uk/>
- ▶ Reports often have useful information.
- ▶ Be aware of state propaganda.

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE




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Find

Publications


Showing 41 - 50 of 2,259 results. Order by:



Immigration enforcement Published: 17 Jun 2020

This report assesses whether the Home Office's activities for enforcing immigration rules are achieving its vision.

Sector(s): [Borders and immigration](#)
Performance Improvement area(s): [Performance measurement](#)
Department(s): [Home Office](#)



Readying the NHS and adult social care in England for COVID-19 Published: 12 Jun 2020

This report sets out the facts about government preparing the NHS and adult social care in England for COVID-19.

Sector(s): [Health and social care](#)

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- ▶ Available on Local Authority websites.
- ▶ If you don't know the LA name you can search via postcode at: <https://www.gov.uk/search-register-planning-decisions>
- ▶ Planning application documents are useful!
- ▶ Worth reading in detail.
- ▶ Company names, logos, contact details.
- ▶ Project timelines and plans.



GOVERNMENT TRADING ARMS

- ▶ The State will often have trading arms for specific purposes.
- ▶ One example is One3One Solutions which manages prisoner labour.
- ▶ They will have their own websites and useful data.




GOVERNMENT DATA

- ▶ <https://data.gov.uk/>
- ▶ Come back to your research goals to prevent information overwhelm.

Find open data

Find data published by central government, local authorities and public bodies to help you build products and services

Business and economy

Small businesses, industry, imports, exports and trade

Crime and justice

Courts, police, prison, offenders, borders and immigration

Defence

Armed forces, health and safety, search and rescue

Education

Students, training, qualifications and the National Curriculum

Environment

Weather, flooding, rivers, air quality, geology and agriculture

Government

Staff numbers and pay, local councillors and department business plans

Government spending

Includes all payments by government departments over £25,000

Health

Includes smoking, drugs, alcohol, medicine performance and hospitals

Mapping

Addresses, boundaries, land ownership, aerial photographs, seabed and land terrain

Society

Employment, benefits, household finances, poverty and population

Towns and cities

Includes housing, urban planning, leisure, waste and energy, consumption

Transport

Airports, roads, freight, electric vehicles, parking, buses and footpaths

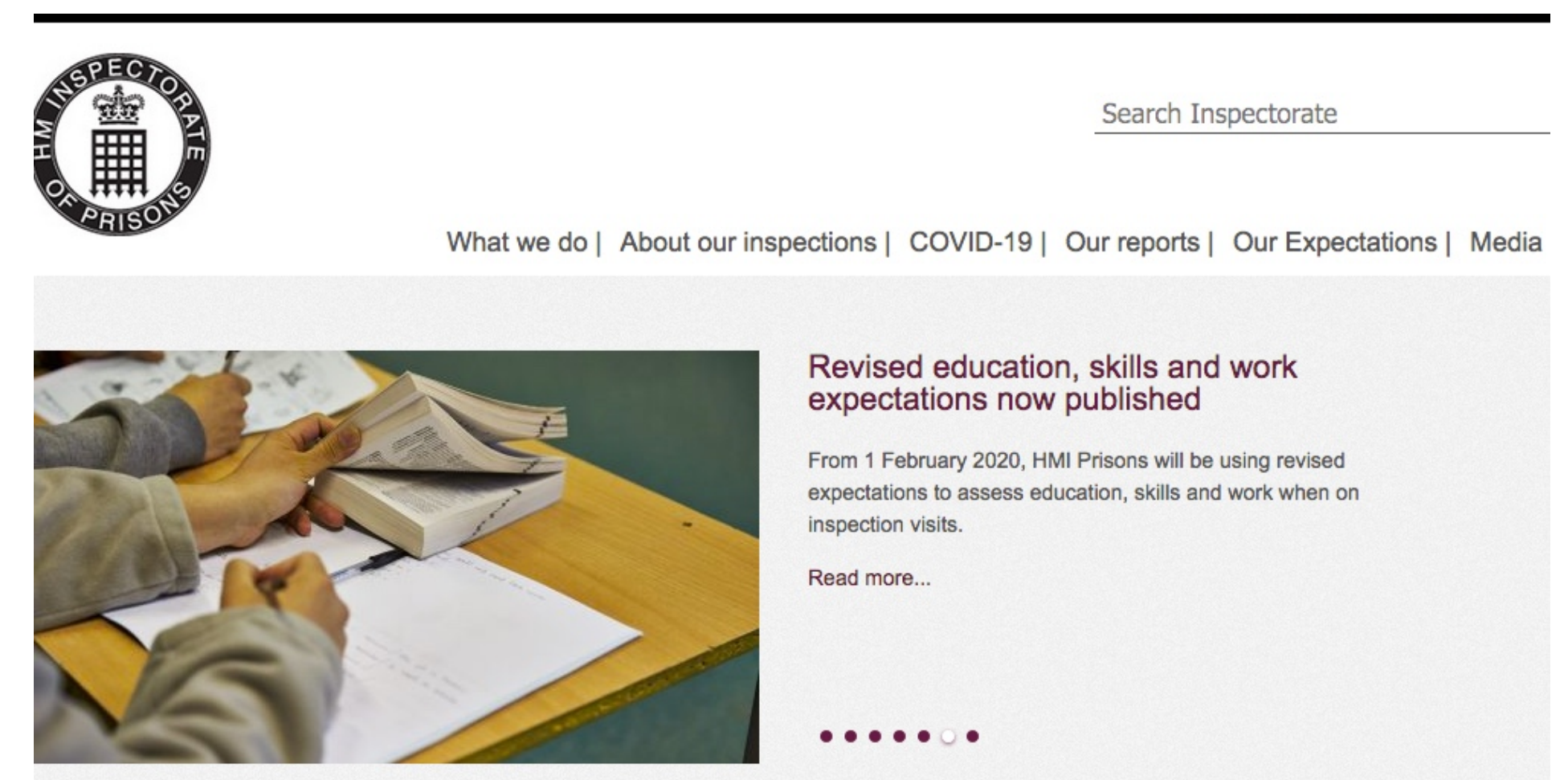
OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

▶ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/>

The screenshot shows the Office for National Statistics website. At the top left is the logo and name "Office for National Statistics". To the right are language options: "English (EN) | [Cymraeg \(CY\)](#)". Below this is a navigation menu with links: "Release calendar", "Methodology", "Media", "About", and "Blog". A secondary menu contains: "Home", "Business, industry and trade", "Economy", "Employment and labour market", "People, population and community", and "Taking part in a survey?". A search bar is present with the placeholder text "Search for a keyword(s) or time series ID" and a green search icon. The main content area is titled "Release calendar" and has a breadcrumb "Home > Release calendar". There are two tabs: "Published releases" and "Upcoming releases", with the latter being active. Below the tabs, it says "3,375 releases" and provides options for "RSS feed", "Email alerts", and "Add to your calendar (ICS)". On the left, there is a "Refine results" sidebar with a "Clear all" button, a "Search keywords" field with the placeholder "Keywords", and a "Published after" section with fields for "Day", "Month", and "Year". The main content area lists several releases, including "Quarterly economic commentary: April to June 2020" (30 September 2020 (confirmed)), "Economic statistics sector classification - classification update and forward work plan: September 2020" (30 September 2020 (confirmed)), and "Alignment between public sector finances and national accounts:".

INSPECTORATES

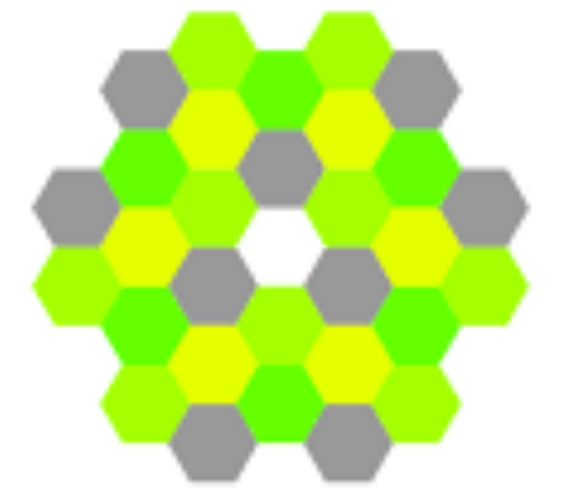
- ▶ There are various Inspectorate Bodies that often publish useful information.
- ▶ For example:
- ▶ Ofsted - Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills
- ▶ Care Inspectorate
- ▶ Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons



LAND REGISTRY

- ▶ Search for property information
e.g. ownership, boundaries.
- ▶ Fees.
- ▶ Paid-for portal to search for
business ownership.

HM Land
Registry



LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEBSITES

The screenshot shows the top section of the Lambeth website. On the left is the Lambeth logo, which includes a stylized bird icon above the word "Lambeth". To the right of the logo is a search bar with the text "Search" and a magnifying glass icon. Below these elements is a horizontal navigation menu with several items: "Popular pages" with a dropdown arrow, "Council services" with a dropdown arrow, "Better, fairer Lambeth", "Events", "Consultations", and "mylambeth" which is highlighted in a purple box. Below the navigation menu are two news items. The first item is titled "Coronavirus information" and features a purple background with a white question mark icon. Below this title is a teal box with the text "Advice on coronavirus" and "Information on changes to council services, ways you can help, and support for residents and businesses." The second item is titled "Coronavirus: get urgent help, including food and medicine" and features a red background with a white icon of a person being supported by two hands. Below this is another news item titled "A new website for Lambeth" which includes a small thumbnail of the website's header and a "BETA" notice.

THE COMPETITION AND MARKETS AUTHORITY (CMA)

- ▶ The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) is a non-ministerial government department in the United Kingdom, responsible for strengthening business competition and preventing and reducing anti-competitive activities.

- ▶ <https://www.gov.uk/cma-cases>

- ▶ Has database of cases.

Competition and Markets Authority cases

From: [Competition and Markets Authority](#)

Search

2,092 cases

[Get email alerts](#) [Subscribe to feed](#)

▼ Case type

▼ Case state

▼ Market sector

▼ Outcome

▼ Date

Mitie / Interserve merger inquiry

Case type: Mergers Case state: Open Market sector: Distribution and service industries
Opened: 15 September 2020

Ardonagh Group / Bennetts Motorcycling Services merger inquiry

Case type: Mergers Case state: Open Market sector: Financial services
Opened: 2 July 2020

viagogo / StubHub merger inquiry

Case type: Mergers Case state: Open Market sector: Recreation and leisure
Opened: 13 December 2019

RESOURCES

- ▶ Government and Parliament sources: [https://
corporatewatch.org/sources-government-and-parliament/](https://corporatewatch.org/sources-government-and-parliament/)
- ▶ Public procurement and privatisation: [https://
corporatewatch.org/sources-public-procurement-and-
privatisation/](https://corporatewatch.org/sources-public-procurement-and-privatisation/)
- ▶ International Institutions: [https://corporatewatch.org/sources-
international-institutions/](https://corporatewatch.org/sources-international-institutions/)

REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT DATABASES

- ▶ **Financial Conduct Authority** (not including deferred prosecution agreements e.g. Tesco) <https://www.fca.org.uk/news/news-stories/2019-fines>
- ▶ **Serious Fraud Office** <https://www.sfo.gov.uk/our-cases/#aza>
- ▶ **European Commission competition and cartel enforcement database:** <http://ec.europa.eu/competition/cartels/cases/cases.html>
- ▶ **Food Standards Agency:** prosecution database does not name companies (local authority holds this data); same for environmental health breaches; housing landlord breaches and some health and safety at work offences.
- ▶ **Environment Agency** (all enforcement action): <https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-enforcement-action>
- ▶ **Health and Safety Executive** (prosecutions only): <http://www.hse.gov.uk/enforce/prosecutions.htm>
- ▶ **Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority** prosecutions: no database

LEGAL DATABASES

- ▶ Employment Tribunal judgements: <https://www.gov.uk/employment-tribunal-decisions>
- ▶ **General legal case sources**
- ▶ British & Irish Legal Information Institute: <https://www.bailii.org/>
- ▶ LexisNexis: <https://libguides.liverpool.ac.uk/library>
- ▶ **Specialist international sources:**
- ▶ Business and Human Rights Centre 'find companies' database: <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/find-companies>
- ▶ OECD Guidelines National Contact Point cases: <https://complaints.oecdwatch.org/cases>
- ▶ International Arbitration database: <https://arbitration.org/>