Administrative expenditure and employment measures have contributed to reduce costs

The compensation of government employees as a share of GDP decreased by 1.1 percentage points between 2009 and 2013, for the same period public sector employment as a percentage of the labour force declined by 1.5 percentage points (from 22.9% to 21.5%). Following the global financial and economic crisis, the U.K adopted several measures to reduce costs through changes in human resources management practices. Compensation measures included pay freezes and reduction in performance related pay or bonuses. In addition, recruitment freezes not replacing retiring staff and increases in outsourcing and privatisation have also occurred.

The UK supports stakeholder engagement through regulatory consultation and open data

Stakeholder engagement in regulatory processes -- from drafting of legislation to conducting inspections -- is required in many cases, and the UK has demonstrated innovative practices such as using ICTs to conduct public consultations on draft regulations and on plans to change existing regulations. In terms of providing citizens with information, the UK ranks third in the OURdata Index 2014 (Open, Useful and Re-usable Government Data), with a score of 0.82. This Index looks at government efforts to make public data available and easily accessible and to pro-actively support their re-use.

Asset disclosure requirements are relatively high for the executive and legislative branches; lower than average for the judiciary

Disclosure of private interest of public officials is one of the tools for managing conflict of interest in government. In 2014, according to the OECD composite on asset disclosure across branches of government, requirements in the UK are high for the executive (59.1/100) and legislative (75/100) branches, relative to OECD averages (45/100 and 63/100 respectively). Oppositely, with a score of 12.5/100 disclosure requirements are below average (33/100) for the judicial branch. For “at risk” areas, such as tax and custom officials, procurement agents and staff of financial authorities, the UK reports a similar value to the OECD average (27/100).
GOVERNMENT PROCESSES

Institutions

Level of influence of the Centre of Government over line ministries (2013)

United Kingdom

High  Moderate  Low

30%  59%  11%

Source: OECD 2013 Survey on Centre of Government

Regulatory Governance

Stakeholder engagement and consultation (2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder engagement to inform officials about the problem and possible solutions</th>
<th>Consultation on draft regulations or proposed rules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary laws</td>
<td>Subordinate regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For major primary laws</td>
<td>For some subordinate regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD Regulatory Policy Outlook (forthcoming)

Public Procurement

Procurement expenditure (2013)

% of government expenditures

United Kingdom

31.1%  29.0%

Source: OECD National Accounts

Strategic public procurement - Objectives (2014)

Support for green public procurement  Support for SMEs  Support for innovative goods and services

United Kingdom

Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Public Procurement

Digital Gov.

OUR Data Index: Open, Useful, Reusable Government Data (2014)

Composite index from 0 lowest to 1 highest

United Kingdom

0.83  0.58

Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Open Government Data

Public Sector Integrity

Level of disclosure of private interests across branches of government (2014)

Executive Branch  Legislative Branch  Judicial Branch  “At risk” areas

United Kingdom

0.83  0.58

Source: 2014 OECD Survey on Managing Conflict of Interest in the Executive Branch and Whistleblower Protection
GOVERNMENT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Core Government Results and Service Delivery

Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2014)
% of citizens expressing confidence/satisfaction

Health care
77% 71%
National government
42% 42%
Education system
65% 67%
Judicial system
60% 54%

Access to healthcare (2012)
Out of pocket expenditure as a % of final household consumption

United Kingdom
1.3%
Source: OECD Health Statistics 2014

Equity in learning outcomes (2012)
PISA mathematics score variance by socio economic background

United Kingdom
12.5%
Source: OECD, PISA 2012 results: Excellence through equity, 2013

Changes in household disposable income, by income group (2007-2011)

United Kingdom
Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

Limited government powers (2014)

United Kingdom
0.80
Source: The World Justice Project

Notes
- Fiscal balance as reported in the System of National Accounts (SNA) framework, also referred to as net lending (+) or net borrowing (-) of government, is calculated as total government revenues minus total government expenditures.
- Structural fiscal balance, or underlying balance, represents the fiscal balance adjusted for the state of the economic cycle (as measured by the output gap which resulted as the difference between actual and potential GDP) and one-off fiscal operations.
- Government gross debt is reported according to the SNA definition, which differs from the definition applied under the Maastricht Treaty. It is defined as all liabilities that require payment or payments of interest or principal by the debtor to the creditor at a date or dates in the future. All debt instruments are liabilities, but some liabilities such as shares, equity and financial derivatives are not debt.
- Share of women ministers data for the United Kingdom refers to the cabinet ministers previous to 7th May, 2015 elections.

Government at a Glance 2015
With a focus on public administration, OECD Government at a Glance 2015 provides readers with a dashboard of key indicators assembled with the goal of contributing to the analysis and international comparison of public sector performance across OECD countries. Indicators on public finances and employment are provided alongside composite indexes summarising aspects of public management policies, and indicators on services to citizens in health care, education, and justice. Government at a Glance 2015 also includes indicators on key governance and public management issues, such as regulatory management, budgeting practices and procedures, public sector integrity, public procurement and core government results in terms of trust in institutions, income redistribution and efficiency and cost-effectiveness of governments.

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance 2015 are available via the StatLinks provided throughout the publication:
http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/gov_glance-2015-en

For more information on the data (including full methodology and figure notes) and to consult all other Country Fact Sheets: www.oecd.org/gov/govataglance.htm