

Contents

Foreword and acknowledgements iv

- 1 The parliamentary building 1
- 2 Who is in Parliament? 8
- 3 Officers, officials and helpers 21
- 4 Parliament's powers: theory and practice 37
- 5 Day-to-day organisation of business 70
- 6 Legislation 107
- 7 Financial control and accountability 161
- 8 The inquisitorial function: parliamentary questions,
MPs' letters and petitions 181
- 9 Debates 206
- 10 Select committees 217
- 11 Parliament and the European Community 232
- 12 Parliamentary reform 240

Bibliography 264

Index 266