Notes on Contributors

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Colin Copus is Professor of Local Politics and Director of the Local Governance Research Unit in the Department of Public Policy, De Montfort University. His main research interests are local party politics, local political leadership, the changing role of the councillor and small party and independent politics. He also researches and writes on English national identity and English governance. He has recently concluded two major research projects: the first a Leverhulme funded project exploring the role and impact of small political parties, independent politics and political associations in local government; the second, a Nuffield funded comparative project examining the roles, responsibilities and activities of councillors across Europe. Colin is the author of two major books: *Leading the Localities: Executive Mayors in English Local Governance* (Manchester University Press, 2006) and *Party Politics and Local Government* (Manchester University Press, 2004). He has also served as a councillor on a London Borough council, a county and a district council and three parish councils.

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