

94% OF PEOPLE THINK 'FIDDLING' MP'S SHOULD FACE CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

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According to a new survey by global research specialists Hall & Partners, 94%* of people believe that the MPs caught in 'expenses-gate' – the abuse of expenses scandal - should face criminal proceedings. The survey, released today, also reveals that 40% of people think a General Election should take place in the next three months.

Findings from the nationally representative survey by Hall & Partners of 2000 people also shows that faith in politicians is low; 24% of people believe Alan Sugar would do the 'best job of running the country', followed by US President Barack Obama (23%) and actress Joanna Lumley (17%). Esther Rantzen – the TV presenter proposing to stand as an independent 'anti-sleaze' candidate - polled 6% of the vote. Meanwhile Conservative party leader David Cameron received 16% of the vote and beleaguered Prime Minister Gordon Brown just 7%.

In light of these findings, Hall & Partners European CEO, Deborah Mills, said: "The results suggest that a dark shadow is looming over Westminster. Thanks to ukNOW, Hall & Partners can give a valuable insight and illuminating snapshot of what people think of the popular culture and political issues of the day."

Hall & Partners new polling tool UKNow keeps its finger on the pulse of the social and cultural context we live in, right now.

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For further information, please contact:

Ali Jones, Head of Media Relations, Hall & Partners
Tel: +44 207 1734635 E: a.jones@hall-and-partners.co.uk
www.hall-and-partners.com

Notes to editors:* 2000 people were asked 'How much do you agree/disagree with the following statement: 'MP's caught fiddling expenses should face criminal proceedings'. 73% said they 'strongly agreed' and 21% said they 'slightly agreed'.

About Hall & Partners:

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