

# Biography



## **Richard Allan**

### **Government Affairs Director, Europe**

Richard Allan is Government Affairs Director for Cisco in Europe. He is responsible for a wide range of policy and regulatory issues in the UK and Ireland as well as leading Cisco's European Government Affairs team. As part of the wider Cisco Global Policy and Government Affairs team, Richard contributes to Cisco's global policy thought leadership.

Richard joined Cisco in September 2005. Immediately prior to joining Cisco, Richard was an academic visitor at the Oxford Internet Institute.

Between 1997 and 2005, Richard was a member of the House of Commons representing the Sheffield Hallam constituency. During his time in Parliament Richard specialised in information technology issues. He was a leading spokesman on legislation including the Data Protection Act, Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act and Communications Act. He chaired the House of Commons Information Select Committee from 1997 to 2001. And he was a member of several other Select Committees including serving on the Public Accounts Committee between 2003 and 2005.

Prior to entering Parliament Richard had worked between 1991 and 1997 as an information technology professional designing and implementing information systems within the National Health Service. This followed several positions working as a field archaeologist in the UK, France, the Netherlands and Ecuador.

Richard has a degree in Archaeology and Anthropology and an MSc in Information Technology. Richard was born in Sheffield and is currently based in London.