

We were asked:

- Q1. How many people are employed in the communications department of your department?
How many of these employees are considered press officers?
- Q2. Please provide any guidance the department has for press officers and communications staff dealing with journalists.

We replied:

- A1. The Wales Office is not an employer in its own right. Ministry of Justice provide employment services on our behalf. There are four members of staff in the communications unit, all of whom deal with press queries amongst their other duties.
- A2. Press Officers and communication staff employed at the Wales Office have to be members of the Government Communications Network, which provide guidance to government communication specialists.
Guidance for Press Officers is contained in the Government Communication Service Handbook which is accessible at:

https://gcn.civilservice.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/GCS-Handbook_April14.pdf