



UK Government Llywodraeth y DU

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You requested information relating to staff training and absences for 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 at the Office of the Secretary of State for Wales.

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and our responses to your questions are set out Below.

Q1: How many off-site events or meetings do staff attend per month, what are their locations and when do they occur?

A1: The Office for the Secretary of State for Wales does not monitor off site meetings that happen in the course of business and we do not hold this information. However, the Office has held 1 all-staff offsite event during the period stated (in March 2016) and has attended 3 annual all-staff conferences held by the UK Government's UK Governance Group in the period stated. These meetings were all held in London.

Q2: How much time are staff given off for social events?

A2: Staff are not given time off for social events. The Office of the Secretary of State for Wales is committed to ensuring that staff achieve a suitable work-life balance as part of our commitment to implementing Smarter Working in the department.

Q3: What is the absentee/sickness rate on the following days:

15 April 2019
16 April 2019
22 April 2019
23 April 2019
29 April 2019
30 April 2019
6 May 2019
7 May 2019
13 May 2019
14 May 2019

20 May 2019
21 May 2019
18 June 2018
19 June 2018
20 June 2018
25 June 2018
26 June 2018
27 June 2018
28 June 2018
29 June 2018
2 July 2018
3 July 2018
4 July 2018
10 July 2018
11 July 2018
12 July 2018

A3: The Office of the Secretary of State for Wales doesn't hold the information in the format you have requested; sickness absence is reported every quarter for the preceding 12 months.

Q4: What was the absentee/sickness rate for the whole of 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19, and from 1 April 2019 to 15 August 2019

The average number of working days lost due to sickness (AWDL – which is the rate by which sickness absence is monitored across the civil service) in each of the last three financial years is laid out in the table below.

Financial Year	Average Number of Working Days Lost (AWDL)
2016/17	3.6
2017/18	1.4
2018/19	2.3