

MPs' staff survey questions

Q1 How many paid members of staff work in the constituency office?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

Q2 How many paid members of staff work in the Westminster office?

- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5
 - 6
 - 7
 - 8
 - 9
 - 10
-

Q3 Please enter your email address

For your answers to be valid we need to confirm that you have a parliament.uk email address or one from your MPs domain e.g., yourname@MPsname.com. This is so that we can verify that you work for an MP. We will send a verification email to you once you have completed the survey. *Your email address will be stored securely and separately from your responses so your responses will be anonymous. We will not pass on your email address or use it for further correspondence, unless you state that you are happy to be contacted for an interview or for updates on the project at the end of this survey.*

DEMOGRAPHICS

Q4 In this section we're going to ask some questions about you and your background. Answers to these questions will help us understand who works for MPs and how different MPs offices are staffed. How would you describe your gender? (please choose one)

- Female
- Male
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Q5 What age were you on your last birthday? (please write in)

Q6 Which option below best describes your ethnic group or background? (please choose one)

- White or White British
 - Black or Black British
 - Other
 - Asian or Asian British
 - Mixed or Multiple
 - Prefer not to say
-

Education

Q7 What type of school did you attend for secondary education?

(please choose one)

- State comprehensive
- State grammar
- Secondary modern
- City Technical College
- Independent (fee paying)
- Other (write in) _____
- Not educated in the UK

Q8 What is your highest qualification? (please choose one)

- Further postgraduate degree (e.g. PhD, DPhil)
- Postgraduate degree (e.g. MSc, MA, MPhil)
- First degree (e.g. BA, BSc)
- Further education below degree (e.g. Higher National Diploma, Higher National Certificate)
- A/AS levels or equivalent
- GCSE/ O Level or equivalent
- Trade apprenticeships
- Other qualification (please specify)

- No qualifications

Display This Question:

If What is your highest qualification? (please choose one) = Postgraduate degree (e.g. MSc, MA, MPhil)

Or What is your highest qualification? (please choose one) = First degree (e.g. BA, BSc)

Or What is your highest qualification? (please choose one) = Further postgraduate degree (e.g. PhD, DPhil)

Q9 What was the name of the university you attended and the subject area you studied? (please write in)

	Name of university	Degree subject
Undergraduate		
Undergraduate second (if applicable)		
Postgraduate (if applicable)		
Further postgraduate (if applicable)		

Past Experience

Q10 This section covers your past political and work experience. What was your job immediately before you first started working for an MP? (please write job title and organisation. E.g. Admin Assistant, NHS; Policy Adviser, Department of Health and Social Care; Caseworker, Jobcentre Plus) In reporting this data we will aggregate job types and types of offices to ensure responses remain anonymous.

Job title _____

Organisation _____

Q11 Regarding your past political experience, have you ever...?

(select all that apply)

- ...worked in another MP's office
- ...held party office at the local level
- ...been an elected local councillor
- ...held party office at the national level
- ...worked for the UK government in a political role
- ...worked in the offices of a member of a devolved legislature or a government minister in the Scottish, Welsh or Northern Irish devolved governments
- ...volunteered for the local party in another capacity. E.g. canvassing
- ...worked in local government in a political role
- ...been a candidate for the UK or European Parliament or elected as an MP or MEP
- None of these

Q12 Are you currently, or have you previously undertaken any of the following internships or placements? (select all that apply)

- Formal school aged placement/ internship. *E.g. Parliamentary Academy Scheme*
- Formal degree level placement / internship. *E.g. House of Commons Student Sandwich Scheme; University of Hull / Leeds / QMUL / etc. parliamentary placement*
- Formal post-graduate placement/ internship. *E.g. London School of Economics (LSE) Parliamentary Internship Programme; Political Studies Association (PSA) Parliamentary Internship*
- Paid internship with an IPSA contract
- Other formal placement/ internship. *E.g. Speaker's Parliamentary Placement Scheme; House of Commons or House of Lords Apprenticeship Scheme*
- Other informal placement. *E.g. recruited directly by the MP*
- None of these

Current role

Q13 This next section is about your current job and your day to day role. The job of an MP's staffer can be incredibly varied, this will help to give us a sense of the type of work involved. Do you currently work for more than one MP? (please choose one)

- Yes, more than one
- No, only one

Q14 If you currently work for more than one MP please answer the next questions based on the position you consider to be your primary role.

Which MP do you work for?

(please write in)

We will NOT use the names of individual MPs when reporting our findings. We ask this question so we can link the responses to characteristics of the MP - e.g. what type of constituency they represent and how long they have served as an MP.

Q15 How long have you been employed by this MP?

(please write in)

Q16 Some people have worked for several MPs over their career, how many MPs have you worked for in total?

(please choose one option)

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 or more

Q17 And how long in total over you career have you been employed in any MP's office? (please write in)

Q18 What is your current job title?

(These job titles are taken from IPSA and are arranged in order of job family, please choose one. If you feel none of these accurately reflect your role please pick the one closest and at the next question you will be able to write in a job title.

- Principal Secretary
- Office Manager
- Executive Office Manager
- Chief of Staff
- Senior Secretary
- Senior Executive Officer
- Senior Administrative Officer
- Administrative Manager
- Secretary
- Personal Assistant
- Executive Officer
- Administrative Officer
- Senior Caseworker
- Constituency Communications Manager
- Constituency Support Manager
- Senior Communications Officer
- Caseworker
- Communications Officer
- Constituency Assistant
- Support Officer
- Constituency Support Officer
- Senior Parliamentary Assistant
- Senior Researcher
- Research Manager
- Parliamentary Assistant
- Researcher
- Research Officer
- Paid intern

Q19 If you feel that none of these job titles adequately reflect your role please state your job title in the box below.

(please write in)

Q20 What is your employment status?

(please choose one)

- Employed more than 32 hours per week
- Employed 15-32 hours a week
- Employed less than 15 hours per week
- Other (please write in) _____

Q21. What is your current approximate salary?

(please write in)

Q22 Do you have any other paid employment outside of this role? (please choose one)

- Yes (please give details) _____
- No

Q23 Roughly what percentage of your time do you spend on constituency focussed work and Westminster focused work? (should add to 100)

_____ Constituency
_____ Westminster

Q24 And which office do you primarily work in?

(please choose one)

- Constituency office
- Westminster office

Skip To: Q19b If And which office do you primarily work in? (please choose one) = Constituency office

Skip To: Q19c If And which office do you primarily work in? (please choose one) = Westminster office

Display This Question:

If And which office do you primarily work in? (please choose one) = Constituency office

Q25 Thinking about communicating with your colleagues, how often on average do you...?

(please choose one for each statement)

	At least once a day	Several times a week	Once a week	Several times a month	Once a month	Less than once a month	Never	Not applicable
Have contact with the MP (phone, email etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
See the MP face to face	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Have contact with the Westminster office (phone, email etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
See colleagues in the Westminster office face to face	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Display This Question:

If And which office do you primarily work in? (please choose one) = Westminster office

Q26 Thinking about communicating with your colleagues, how often on average do you...?

(please choose one for each statement)

	At least once a day	Several times a week	Once a week	Several times a month	Once a month	Less than once a month	Never	Not applicable
Have contact with the MP (phone, email etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
See the MP face to face	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Have contact with the constituency office (phone, email etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
See colleagues in the constituency office face to face	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q27 Thinking about the various tasks you do in your role, please indicate how often you do the following:
(please choose one option for each activity)

	Often (a key part of the role)	Sometimes (occasionally help out with)	Never
Office management (e.g. managing or supervising office staff.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Office support work (e.g. secretarial support, ordering office supplies, data protection)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Budget and finance (e.g. admin support for the expenses scheme)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diary management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Events organising	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Correspondence on behalf of the MP	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Liaising with external stakeholders (e.g. government agencies, key community stakeholders)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Casework	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Campaigning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Media & Comms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Briefing the MP (e.g. preparing briefing notes for committees or PQs)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Speech writing,
drafting parliamentary
questions

Attending meetings
on behalf of the MP

Personal (e.g.
running errands)

Q28 Which three words would you use to describe your job? (examples might include "fun", "inspiring", "stressful", "draining")
(please write in)

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

Hiring

Q29 How did you hear about the job you are currently in? (select all that apply)

- Job advertised on general jobs website e.g. w4mp.org
- Job advertised through a political party
- Through a personal connection to the MP
- Through a personal connection with a staff member
- Through a personal connection with another MP
- By directly contacting the MP's office
- Through prior unpaid work/ internship with an MP
- Through a school or university work experience programme
- Other (please write in) _____

Q30 Thinking back to when you were hired for the job you are currently in... Did you have an interview? (please choose one option)

- Yes
- No

Q31 Did you receive an induction?

(please choose one option)

- Yes
- No

Q32 Are you currently a member of any of the following?

(select all that apply)

- Trade Union (e.g. Unite)
- Staff Association (e.g. MAPSA)
- Parliamentary Workplace Equality Network (e.g. ParliReach)
- Other parliamentary staff organisation (please write in) _____
- None of the above

Q33 Thinking about the facilities available to you, how do you rate your experience of the following; (please choose one option for each service)

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know/ don't use
Your office space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The House of Commons Library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your party research services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Parliamentary Digital Service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
IPSA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HR services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Pass Office	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
House Catering Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Houses of Parliament Travel Office	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Training and courses booked through Parliament	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q34 If you would like to comment further on these services or other parliamentary services you use please comment below

Q35 Which of the statements below best reflect why you chose to work for an MP?
(please pick up to three)

- I have a keen interest in politics
 - I see this job as a stepping stone to a career in politics
 - Working for an MP will help me get a job elsewhere in the future
 - I wanted to work on a specific issue that the MP works on (e.g. defence, climate change etc.)
 - The flexible working suits my lifestyle
 - The pay is good
 - I wanted to gain experience working in parliament
 - I wanted to gain experience working in an office
 - I liked the MP and what they stand for
 - I wanted to support my party
 - I wanted to make a difference in my local community
 - I wanted to make a difference to the country
 - I needed a job
 - Other (please write in) _____
 - Don't know
-

Q33 Below are a list of jobs that MPs' staff often work in after they leave. Thinking about the future are you interested in working in any of these areas?

(select all that apply)

- A similar role in another MP's office
- Elsewhere in parliament (e.g. committee clerk, the House of Commons Library)
- Local government
- Think tank
- PR/consultancy
- Journalism
- Academia
- Teaching
- Special adviser
- Political party
- Charity or campaign organisation
- Public Affairs Agency
- The law
- Media - TV, Radio etc.
- Further education
- None of these

Q34 Are there any other areas not listed here that you would be interested in working in? (please write in)

Q35 Finally, on a scale from 0-10, how likely are you to run as a candidate for parliament in the foreseeable future?

(please choose one)

0

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Q36 If there is any additional information that you would like us to know about the job of working for an MP or any comments you have about this survey please let us know in the space provided below.
