



## People and organisation

### People

MI5 currently employs around 4,000 people. 41% of staff are women, just over half are less than 40 years old, 8% are from black or ethnic minority backgrounds and 3% have a disability.

Around 330 staff currently work in MI5 on secondment or attachment from other government departments and agencies.

Staff roles cover a number of areas including investigations, languages, technology, surveillance, communications, information, protective security, administration, building services and catering.

### Organisation

MI5 operates under the statutory authority of the Home Secretary, but it is not part of the [Home Office](#) .

The head of MI5 is the [Director General](#) (DG), currently Andrew Parker. He is supported by a Deputy Director General (DDG) and Assistant Director General (ADG).



The DDG is responsible for intelligence and security advice, [counter-terrorism](#), [counter-espionage](#), [counter-proliferation](#) and matters concerning MI5's operational capabilities. These responsibilities are organised across five branches:

- international counter-terrorism (also monitors domestic extremism);
- Northern Ireland counter-terrorism;
- counter-espionage, counter-proliferation, cyber threat and security advice;
- technical and surveillance operations; and
- ethics and review.

The ADG is responsible for the Service's finance and strategy, people and security, and information and technology capabilities. These responsibilities are organised across four branches:

- finance and strategy;
- people and security;
- technology capability; and
- information capability.

The legal branch, which supports all parts of MI5's work, reports directly to the Director General.

### Management Board

The [Director General](#), the Deputy Director General, the Assistant Director General, the Directors and the Legal Advisor constitute the Management Board and meet regularly to consider policy and strategic issues. The Board decides how the priorities and organisation of MI5 should adapt to reflect changes to the threats. Its decisions are subject to the external validation processes described in [how MI5 is governed](#).

### Royal Patronage

MI5, the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) and Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) are delighted to announce that His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales has agreed to become Royal Patron of the Intelligence Services.

#### Key points

- Around 4,000 people work for MI5, in a variety of roles.
- MI5 is headed by Director General Andrew Parker.
- JTAC and CPNI also report to the Director General.

#### Related links

- **Careers at MI5**