

The Investment Association

Communications Executive

About the Investment Association

“At the IA, we are committed to serving our members, embracing new ideas and striving for excellence. We are inclusive, considerate and act with integrity in all we do.”

The IA champions the UK investment management industry, supporting savers, investors and businesses in the UK, across Europe, and around the world. Our 253 members manage £9.4 trillion of assets and the investment management industry supports 113,000 jobs across the UK.

Our mission is to make investment better. Better for clients, so they achieve their financial goals. Better for companies, so they get the capital they need to grow. And better for the economy and society, so everyone prospers.

The money our members manage is in a wide variety of investment vehicles including authorised investment funds, pension funds and stocks and shares ISAs. 75% of UK households now use the services of our members. The UK is the second largest investment management centre in the world, after the US and manages over a third (37%) of all assets managed in Europe.

The IA seeks to be a world-class, values-driven trade association committed to being at the forefront of industry innovation, supporting members’ businesses, by delivering a positive policy and business environment for firms.

Overview of the role

We are looking for a proactive, organised, creative self-starter to fill role of Communications Executive and join a communications team focused on helping the industry better tell the story of what it does and why it matters to people.

The Communications Executive will work closely with the wider Communications team to drive and implement the IA’s communications strategy, monitor and measure success of media campaigns, and help protect, promote and enhance the reputation of the investment management industry.

Main duties

- Support the Communications team to implement a proactive communications strategy to promote the IA and the asset management industry in the media and with stakeholders; make the IA a ‘go to’ commentator on its issues of expertise.
- Support on day-to-day media relations, from handling press queries to preparing press releases and Q&As.
- Draft press plans for events and proactive stories.
- Analyse IA’s media coverage and produce reports and coverage analysis highlighting the team’s successes to share with the Board, IA colleagues, and member firms.
- Actively monitor media coverage and identify journalists and stories that the IA could leverage.



- Maintain IA's media lists, update with any relevant role changes or new journalist appointments.
- Produce the monthly 'Nexus' member newsletter.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with the media and proactively pitch stories to generate coverage for the IA.
- Build relationships with peers at IA member press teams across the IA membership.
- Create content for the IA's social media channels – LinkedIn and Twitter.
- Draft internal briefing materials in advance of meetings held by the IA CEO or senior ExCo colleagues with journalists.
- Provide an out of hours media duty service as part of a rota system within the press team.
- Work with Government Affairs colleagues in the Corporate Affairs team to ensure work is integrated across media and government relations and ensure consistency of messaging.

Required experience

- Experience of working in a media relations team in a PR agency, a political party, a government department, or a financial services firm press office with experience of:
 - o strategic and tactical PR and media relations
 - o drafting press releases and Q&As
 - o social media and digital campaigns
 - o preparing briefing materials for interviews
- Experience of generating proactive media stories delivering media coverage with a strong social media element.
- First class written and verbal communications skills
- Strong organisational and project management skills
- First class written and verbal communications skills

Desirable experience (but not essential)

- Knowledge of financial services and the sector's regulatory environment in UK and/or EU

Personal Attributes

- Excellent communicator: articulate and succinct, excellent command of written and spoken English.
- Creative and ideas-driven thinker.
- Proactive, determined, enthusiastic and 'can do' attitude who takes the initiative and works well under pressure
- 'Service' mentality – taking pride in going above and beyond for team members, colleagues and especially members to deliver great and helpful service
- Good political awareness and business judgement, and an interest in the business landscape, politics, government and media.
- Strong people skills and ability to build relationships with journalists, colleagues and members.
- Excellent time management skills, ability to juggle multiple tasks simultaneously and prioritise to deliver on time.

We welcome applications from all qualified candidates regardless of their ethnicity, race, gender, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, age, marital status or whether or not they have a disability.