

Your weekly update of the key topics making the headlines.

Based around the seven characteristics of the Good Employment Charter

17 MARCH – 28 MARCH 2025

SECURE WORK

[British Council accused of forcing gig economy teachers into 'feeding frenzy' for work](#)

The Guardian

... UK employment law and committed to treating contingent workers fairly." The Foreign Office said: "The British Council is operationally independent ...

FLEXIBLE WORK

[German space company to open first UK office in major coup for SW's aerospace sector](#)

The Business Desk

The space economy in the UK spans a wide range of capabilities employing around 50,000 people ... Trio of additions to Dorset wealth management firm.

[AI helping NHS staff be more skilled and flexible - Your Thurrock](#)

Your Thurrock

The platform supports staff by making it easier to swap shifts, find learning opportunities and improve work-life balance. ... UK tour in celebration of ...

[UK tech firms set to trial four day work week - DIGIT](#)

DIGIT

We are long overdue an update," said Sam Hunt, 4 Day Week Foundation. Tech firms in the UK are being encouraged to consider the work-life balance of ...

[How BT & Cisco's Better Workplace Programme Cuts Emissions - Energy Digital Magazine](#)

Energy Digital Magazine

BT and Cisco's Better Workplace programme aims to reduce office environmental impact and enhance employee wellbeing with technologically advanced ...

[How Vodafone's 80/20 policy is helping new parents](#)

Vodafone

... workplace policies could unlock more than £10 billion for the UK economy ... workers in the UK have quit their job due to poor parental leave support.

[Campaign for fair and flexible working backed by Wales conference](#)

Public and Commercial Services Union

Findings that hybrid working boosts retention rates while maintaining productivity and promotion opportunities. Data from the UK Office for ...

PAY

[The Perfume Shop reports 0% median gender pay gap in 2024 - Retail Bulletin](#)

Retail Bulletin

The Perfume Shop, the UK's largest ... career development, offering learning programmes and apprenticeships to support employee progression.

[Call for fair pay agreements to extend to childcare and housebuilding - YourMoney.com](#)

YourMoney.com

... recruit workers. Researchers said fair pay agreements can solve recruitment and retention problems among staff in these sectors. A new report from ...

[Tesco to lift shopworker wages by 5.2% but scrap extra Sunday pay | The National](#)

The National

The fresh pay increase comes with the UK national minimum wage set to rise to £12.21 an hour on April 1. ... living wage rate outside of London and meet ...

[20,000 government credit cards to be frozen - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

Before writing about HR and employment he ran news and feature desks on publications serving the global optical and eyewear market, the UK ...

[Boost to National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage - GOV.UK](#)

GOV.UK

This change is another step towards creating a genuine living wage that supports millions of families across the country.

[New rules from April on neonatal leave and pay – what HR needs to know](#)

Personnel Today

The UK government is enacting new legislation on 6 April 2025 that will give employees a statutory right to neonatal leave and pay for babies born ...

[Teachers blocked from swapping big pensions for higher wages - MSN](#)

MSN

... recruitment in the public sector. It was suggested the Government was ... This savings bond would go down a storm with UK savers - why won't.

[Sports broadcast and production companies fined £4 million in freelancer pay investigation](#)

WiredGov

The UK's No.1 government & public sector news alerting service ... Good recruitment and employment practices help people access the right jobs ...

[Barnet to face London's first local authority equal pay claim, union says](#)

Local Government Lawyer

The Employment Appeal Tribunal (EAT) has ruled in a case involving a local authority that it would not be in the interests of justice to allow a ...

[Major UK investors join push for retail giants to pay workers 'real living wage'](#)

The Guardian

"Companies whose workforce earn less than a real living wage are ultimately harming the vitality and growth of the UK economy, with business models ...

[Asda invests £80m in retail pay and unveils enhanced family leave policies](#)

Asda corporate

... real Living wage for our members in Asda Express, Food services and LEON. The cost of living continues to be a key concern, so the business ...

ENGAGEMENT AND VOICE

[Second union announces strike at Scottish Water as pay talks break down - The Irish News](#)

The Irish News

UK. Second union announces strike at Scottish Water as pay talks ... New right to ask for flexible working from first day in job comes into force ...

[Striking Heathrow British Airways cleaners protest at airline's HQ over poverty pay](#)

Unite the Union

... real living wage of £12.60 an hour and £13.85 an hour in London. OCS' BA workers, however, are being paid the legal minimum wage of £11.44 an hour ...

[Royal Academy of Arts staff to stage protest over redundancies - Yahoo News UK](#)

Yahoo News UK

... redundancies in just five years. The RA is moving forward with its plans for job cuts, having announced 60 potential redundancies earlier this ...

[Pharmacies prepare to cut opening hours in protest over contract - BBC News](#)

BBC

About 6,000 community pharmacies in England are, for the first time, being advised to start "working to rule", in two weeks, unless an agreement ...

[Housing firm accused of 'union-busting' as pay row escalates - Yahoo News UK](#)

Yahoo News UK

... pay award deal, increase in holiday entitlement and a salary review process. ADVERTISEMENT. Advertisement. "Our proposal provides a potential ...

[University faces potential strike action over plans to cut jobs | TheBusinessDesk.com](#)

The Business Desk

... jobs and our communities." A University of Bradford spokesman told the BBC: "Like many UK universities, we are facing significant financial ...

[University of Liverpool Uni staff to vote on hybrid working strike action - BBC News](#)

BBC

You can also send story ideas via Whatsapp to 0808 100 2230. Related topics. Flexible working ... Cocaine being dropped at sea for UK drug gangs to ...

[Robert Gordon University lecturers to take strike action | The Herald](#)

The Herald

Lecturers at Robert Gordon University (RGU) in Aberdeen have voted in favour of industrial action in a dispute over cuts and redundancies.

[Sheffield Hallam University staff strike over pay rise deferral - BBC News](#)

BBC

Although he accepted some staff members were "reasonably well-paid", he said some staff members were not, particularly those on zero-hour contracts.

[Finance workers to stage fresh strikes in dispute over pay](#)

Yahoo Finance

UK markets closed. UK US Europe Asia Rates Commodities Currencies Cryptocurrencies. FTSE 100. 8,663.80 +25.79 (+0.30%) · GBP/USD. 1.2946 +0.0023 (+ ...

[RIBA and Fawcett Society survey: tell us your views about gender equity in architecture](#)

Royal Institute of British Architects

... uk who can support you to participate in a way that works for you. ... From remote working to profound changes to practice culture, architects ...

[WNO chorus members renew strike mandate - Nation.Cymru](#)

Nation.Cymru

Redundancies. Equity's Wales Official Simon Curtis said: "We have ... redundancies. "This would equate to a career-ending scenario if they ...

RECRUITMENT

[Mayors reboot Kickstart scheme for employment score - FE Week](#)

FE Week

The Institute for Employment Studies (IES), which analysed several past youth employment subsidy schemes in the UK and Europe, said they have a "low ...

[£4.5m funding boost to support Greater Manchester skills training | Insider Media](#)

Insider Media

GM Business Growth Hub has launched a new programme with the support of £4.5m funding from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority

[New organisation launches to boost Black representation in Scotland's tech sector](#)

Yahoo Finance

... career progression work. Following an inaugural event in Aberdeen at ... Among all UK workers, 10 per cent are currently actively considering ...

[RecCircle Launches First-of-Its-Kind Anonymous Recruitment Platform in Collaboration with ...](#)

Onrec

... recruitment trends and best practices. His deep understanding of ... UK recruitment agencies. With decades of experience in web development ...

[Hire for Skills, Not Vibes—Textio Launches Interview Feedback - Silicon UK](#)

Silicon UK

Creating a better candidate experience and employer brand with a structured hiring process people trust. Textio's Talent Optimization Platform ...

[Brilliant Breakfasts to provide platform for women career progression - MSN](#)

MSN

In addition to the event in Liverpool, Realise is running more Brilliant Breakfast activities in two other locations across northern England where it ...

[Schneider Electric To Double Veteran Talent Intake To Tackle UK Skills Gap](#)

Process and Control Today

... personnel for management and operational roles; Builds on success by partnering with specialist veteran talent technology platform Redeployable.

[SGF launches first D&I Conference - Talking Retail](#)

Talking Retail

Adam Shields, senior customer manager at Heineken commented: "Inclusion and Diversity ... equality, diversity, and inclusion in the UK and why it ...

[New Report reveals young people nearly fives time more likely to be put out of work](#)

GOV.UK

There are 8.7 million people in the UK with a work-limiting health ... These figures show young people (16 to 34-year-olds) with mental health ...

[Bakkavor Salads announce 200 job opportunities at it's Bo'ness plant - MSN](#)

MSN

The firm, which has been in the town for over four decades and already employs around 1200 people, is also offering flexible work opportunities ...

[Plans to boost skills and diversity in UK cyber backed by tech giant IBM - GOV.UK](#)

GOV.UK

The move to boost cyber skills is part of the government's wider work ... The 2025 Cyber Security Sectoral Analysis shows the UK cyber security ...

[Council hiring 350 'frontline' staff to improve look and feel of city - STV News](#)

STV News

More than 350 jobs are now up for grabs at Glasgow City Council as the local authority launches a huge hiring spree. The 359 posts being advertised ...

[WFTV opens production management scholarship - Televisual](#)

Televisual

This bespoke programme will support more women in the North of England with their own career progression, following in Julie's outstanding legacy.

[Charity offers free autism acceptance toolkits for schools and businesses - Yahoo News UK](#)

Yahoo News UK

The employers' toolkit provides insights into equality legislation, guidance to make reasonable adjustments, and tips on making workplaces more ...

[Plymouth's first Neurodiversity Conference is a success | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK](#)

Plymouth City Council

... neurodiversity, and empowering neurodiverse talent. Understanding and celebrating neurodiversity is crucial for employers and managers. It not ...

[Manchester Business Tackles Skills Shortage by Offering Rare Behind-the-Scenes Tour to ...](#)

About Manchester

Global leader in engineered steel solutions, William Hare invited young people from Bury behind the scenes of its manufacturing facility to ...

[New Scottish apprenticeship initiative builds confidence in future career choices](#)

Yahoo News UK

... workplace experience and career progression for minority ethnic apprentices. ... My London. West London woman rented her outbuilding for £1,300 a month ...

[Amey and Hays join Prince William's youth homelessness employment initiative](#)

Scottish Housing News

UK infrastructure support company Amey and recruitment firm Hays have partnered with Prince William as part of his Homewards programme.

[Hydrogen Skills Framework for Greater Manchester Launches to Support Regional Ambition ...](#)

Insider Media

Interested in advertising with Insider? Contact us on: Andy Rogers, Business Development Manager T: 0161 686 2413. E: andy.rogers@newsco.com. Why ...

PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

[EHRC warns McDonald's of legal action against harassment - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

... HR team. This role can offer hybrid working of 4 days office and 1 home per week. Recruiter: Michael Page Human Resources.
Apply for this job · More ...

[High street chain shutting 23 stores on Saturday having already closed 35 - Birmingham Live](#)

Birmingham Live

New Cadbury Dairy Milk bar set to launch in UK for first time tomorrow ... reduced from £50 to £20 Next's new 'flattering' £52 linen trousers are ...

[Schuh confirms job cuts - Drapers](#)

Drapers

"This restructure includes a combination of voluntary and compulsory redundancies across our stores and head office locations in the UK, Ireland and ...

[University of Nottingham to lease out parts of £36m new campus as more job cuts possible](#)

Yahoo News UK

The university is facing the possibility of industrial action after refusing to rule out compulsory redundancies.

[UK's Tate art galleries cut jobs to tackle pandemic deficit - Bilyonaryo](#)

Bilyonaryo

UK's Tate art galleries cut jobs to tackle pandemic deficit. BILYONARYO.COM. 11 hours ago. Share this story! Britain's prestigious Tate institution ...

[EY planning senior partner mass layoffs - reports - City AM](#)

City AM

Big four firm EY is set to lay off dozens of senior partners in its biggest **redundancy** plan in decades amid a slowdown in spending.

[Working families launch new family-friendly certification | London Daily News](#)

London Daily News

... employers and families in the UK. ... These changes underscore the critical role that workplace policies play in shaping a fairer and more inclusive ...

[Germany: Auto giant Audi to slash 7,500 jobs from workforce - Yahoo News UK](#)

Yahoo News UK

Management board chairman Gernot Döllner said that "there will be no compulsory redundancies up to the end of 2033. In difficult economic times ...

[South Ayrshire Council drops 'no compulsory redundancy' pledge - Yahoo News UK](#)

Yahoo News UK

Opposition councillors have expressed dismay over South Ayrshire Council's decision to remove a pledge of 'no compulsory redundancies' for its workers ...

[Santander branch closures put 750 jobs at risk - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

Flexible working · Legal timetable · Maternity ... Santander has announced plans to close 95 branches across the UK, putting 750 jobs at risk.

[Google agrees \\$28m payout to settle racial bias claims - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

The technology giant had been accused of giving white and Asian workers better pay and career progression opportunities than those from other ethnic ...

[UK's largest bus and coach company offers suppliers free sustainability training](#)

Environmental Journal

Stagecoach UK will upskill staff at 300 companies across the country as ... About Environment Journal Recruitment Advertising.
Search Close.

[Press release: New report highlights gendered impacts of cheap clothing in UK fashion supply chains](#)

Labour Behind the Label

... jobs, and detail how this is a common experience for women workers in garment factories in the UK. The report – From Exploited to Unemployed: The ...

[Council and union agreement averts 'fire and rehire' scheme - Local Government Lawyer](#)

Local Government Lawyer

... Employment Tribunal's written reasons were copied from the council's witness evidence or written submissions. ... England and Wales. Featured ...

[Group 1 continues UK business restructure with 370 jobs at risk - AM-online](#)

AM-online

... management. New vehicle retailing · Used vehicle retailing · Finance ... Approximately 2,500 people moved across from Inchcape to Group 1. The ...

[More redundancies at Big Four firm EY's legal practice - The Law Society Gazette](#)

The Law Society Gazette

In January last year, the firm revealed that 24 employees from its UK financial services legal advisory business had become subject to a redundancy ...

[Stockport businesses urged to become Fostering Friendly](#)

Stockport Council

... employers in order for them to provide the highest possible standard of care. ... Greater Manchester the UK's first fostering friendly city-region. For ...

[BBC Sport offers 'accelerated voluntary redundancy' to majority of staff as it prepares for ... - MSN](#)

MSN

MIKE KEEGAN: The majority of BBC Sport staff will be permitted to seek what has been described as 'accelerated voluntary redundancy' amid a wider ...

[Siemens to cut some 6,000 jobs worldwide, including 2,850 in Germany - MSN](#)

MSN

Russian double agent Oleg Gordievsky dies at Surrey home · 5 things to know if you're facing redundancy · World Athletics Indoor Championships: Schedule ...

[Civil service cuts will see 10,000 jobs go, says Reeves - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

Sectors such as human resources, communications and office management could be set to lose headcount. Last week, the Cabinet Office instructed ...

[Parent-friendly policies could unlock £10bn for UK economy - Vodafone](#)

Vodafone

Vodafone UK has partnered with online parenting community Peanut to highlight the benefits ... Vodafone UK employee case studies. Derek, a Talent ...

[365 jobs at risk as Morrisons plans wave of closures | TheBusinessDesk.com](#)

The Business Desk

Hundreds of staff at Bradford-headquartered supermarket chain, Morrisons, face potential redundancy. The business, which has been carrying out a ...

[The Employment Rights Bill: Upcoming changes to the UK's unfair dismissal regime](#)

Linklaters

The UK government is proposing to make unfair dismissal a day one right. What are the proposals and what impact will they have on employers and ...

[British Steel to shed 2,700 jobs at Scunthorpe plant - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

The company said it had sought support from the UK government for a major capital investment in two new electric arc furnaces. However, following ...

[UK government releases updated guidance on modern slavery in supply chains | Walk Free](#)

Walk Free

Modern slavery is an umbrella term, which encompasses several types of exploitation, including forced labour, human trafficking and forced marriage.

[Sky to close call centres cutting 2,000 jobs - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

Three Sky call centres in the north of England are to be closed and another two reduced in size, with around 2000 job cuts.

[RSA job losses loom in Peterborough as Nationwide switches to Aviva](#)

Insurance Business America

Unite the union, which represents employees at both RSA and Aviva, said that across RSA's UK operations, more than 300 jobs could be affected. The ...

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

[Researcher calls for shared experiences with suicidal ideation in construction - PBC Today](#)

PBC Today

... mental health and suicide literacy. This lack of research in the UK comes in spite of existing research demonstrating a real problem with the ...

[Hospitality Action's Walk for Wellbeing welcomes five new UK cities onboard](#)

Hospitality & Catering News

Liverpool hosted by Liverpool Hospitality Association London hosted by mum. Manchester hosted by The Manchester Hoteliers Association. Hosted 20km ...

[New UK lab will connect industry with emerging tech developers to boost worker safety](#)

The Chemical Engineer

A NEW initiative has been launched to accelerate the adoption of emerging technologies that could help prevent work-related deaths. The OSHX Lab, ...

[EIDA launches new HR Charter against domestic abuse - HRZone](#)

HRZone

... UK employers committed to taking effective action on domestic abuse. Whilst EIDA membership is for organisations, the HR Charter was developed by ...

[Finland's workplaces the key to top spot in World Happiness Index - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

Work-life balance. The risks of return-to-office mandates · Flexible working and health insurance top employee priorities – poll ...
“This flexibility ...

[A day at the dog spa - HECK! extends health & wellbeing perks to staff's furry friends](#)

Yorkshire Post

HECK! has become the first company in the UK to appoint a Head of Pooch Pampering and Canine Liaison Officer to put the welfare of their workers' ...

[JCDecaux and Reiss introduce pregnancy loss friendly workplace package](#)

Employee Benefits

JCDecaux and Reiss have introduced a pregnancy loss friendly workplace package for its UK employees ... Employee Benefits is the UK's leading free-to- ...

[Uber expands free childcare support to over 100,000 UK drivers in industry-first move](#)

Business Matters

Ari Last, CEO and co-founder of Bubble, said: "Flexible work requires flexible childcare. With this partnership, Uber is setting a new standard — one ...

[Support for new campaign focused on police suicide prevention - Police Federation](#)

Police Federation

"We do our bit by trying to educate line managers about early intervention and how matters could be dealt with in other ways, other than formal ...

[Deliveroo launches funded virtual GP consultations for riders | Article - Employee Benefits](#)

Employee Benefits

Online food delivery service Deliveroo has introduced free access to 24/7 virtual GP consultations for its UK riders.

[Digital technology and AI can support workers with dementia – new research - University of Bath](#)

University of Bath

The study was published as the UK government announced its welfare reform plans, part of which is to encourage more disabled people into work. Dr ...

[£3 million fund announced to support Port Talbot steel workers - Nation.Cymru](#)

Nation.Cymru

A fund of more than £3 million will be created by the UK Government in partnership with Neath Port Talbot Council to support the mental health and ...

GENERAL

[Industry Figureheads Meet for First UK Bus Manufacturing Panel | Bus-News](#)

Bus-News

Greater Manchester's Bee Network has introduced its first repowered electric bus through a collaboration with Go North West and Wrightbus. 13 Mar 2025 ...

[Companies House launches registration of Authorised Corporate Service Providers](#)

GOV.UK

... company. For example, ACSPs will be required to: be based in the UK; register with Companies House, providing opportunities for oversight; be ...

[Green Light for Pioneering £19m Project to 'Future Proof' North Wales Tourism Sector](#)

Business News Wales

... UK. It's an important step and ... All of this will be underpinned by comprehensive business and school engagement across the North Wales region.

[Rail industry collaborates to minimise cyber security risks to rolling stock](#)

Rail UK

RailwayPeople.com – the largest rail job board in the UK. EVENTS ... secure by design. Nicole Jennings, Chief Delivery Officer at Rail ...

[Evidence-based approach vital as people professionals lead post-pandemic workplace ... - CIPD](#)

CIPD

More workers now have flexibility around the hours they work. In February-March 2023, 60% of UK workers had flexible working arrangements in their ...

[FRC releases updates to reflect company size threshold amendments](#)

Financial Reporting Council

In response to the Government's changes to UK company size thresholds, due to come into effect from 6 April 2025, the Financial Reporting Council ...

[Keep Britain Working review urging employers to 'tell us what works' - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

It highlighted research from the Business Disability Forum that suggested only 22% of disabled employees and 25% of managers said occupational health ...

[SIA gathers leaders of top security businesses for action on labour exploitation - GOV.UK](#)

GOV.UK

EMPOWER involves a dedicated multi-disciplinary team that includes intelligence specialists and criminal investigators working closely with HMRC. The ...

[Employment tribunals: can you help us with a major new project? | TBIJ](#)

Bureau of Investigative Journalism

We are investigating the barriers faced by UK workers trying to assert their rights through the employment tribunal.

[Thriving Investments launches £200m essential worker housing fund - The Intermediary](#)

The Intermediary

"In the Greater Manchester Pension Fund, Better Society Capital and Greater Manchester Combined Authority, we have partners that share our responsible ...

[Government Launches Cyber Security Review in Care Sector - The Carer](#)

The Carer

The project was conducted by Ipsos UK in partnership with the Institute of Public Care at Oxford Brookes University between July 2023 and May 2024.

[New online business hub helps Greater Manchester enterprises thrive](#)

Business Live

This impactful business model found its roots in Manchester 180 years ago when the Rochdale Pioneers formed the co-operative movement - and people are ...

[FCA debuts AI Lab to promote safe use of AI in UK financial sector - FinTech Futures](#)

FinTech Futures

... work will guide "safe and responsible AI development" for the UK government, and "deepen our understanding of potential AI risks and opportunities ...

ABOUT THE GREATER MANCHESTER GOOD EMPLOYMENT CHARTER

The Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter is a voluntary membership and assessment scheme which has been created to improve employment standards across all GM employers, regardless of size, sector or geography. Organisations within the private, public and third sectors are welcome to [join the movement](#).

CONTACT US AT:



SUPPORTED BY:

