

Your weekly update of the key topics making the headlines.

Based around the seven characteristics of the Good Employment Charter

13 APRIL – 17 APRIL 2026

FLEXIBLE WORK

[Conservatives vow to outlaw councils working four-day week - BBC News](#)

BBC

... reducing staff hours. In its alternative 2026-27 budget proposals ... Reform UK did not respond to a request for comment but a leaflet ...

[Remote working tribunals drop by 13% - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

"Most employees prefer a mix of office and home working, so companies that embrace hybrid working will benefit from their pick of the best workers," ...

[Switching to a four-day week 'could save councils £1bn a year' - Big Issue](#)

Big Issue

It's time the UK government listens to evidence not ideology. ... For critics, the concern is whether councils can maintain service levels with reduced ...

PAY

[Government amends mandation power in Pension Schemes Bill](#)

Pensions Age Magazine

Pensions UK, which has opposed the inclusion of mandation powers, said the amendment addressed its "most serious concern" and brought the ...

[UK county launches free bus travel for veterans and Armed Forces members - MSN](#)

MSN

Bus With British Army Recruitment Advertisement In Newcastle Upon Tyne ...

[Town Hall Rich List 2026 - The TaxPayers' Alliance](#)

The TaxPayers' Alliance

[3] Stowers, S., Explainer: Local government in England, Scotland and Wales, UK ... The number of people in Wales claiming personal independence ...

[Standard Life buys Aegon UK for £2bn - Professional Pensions](#)

Professional Pensions

Deal will create UK's second largest workplace pensions platform by assets and customers ... Schemes 'underprepared' for support needed following ...

[New mechanism for calculating AfC mileage reimbursement - NHS Employers](#)

NHS Employers

... Health and Social Care (DHSC) to renegotiate a new mechanism to calculate the reimbursement rates for AfC NHS staff that must be sustainable for ...

[Group of employers launch coalition to expand workplace savings access](#)

Professional Pensions

It argued participation in workplace savings boosts employees' financial wellbeing ... UK, Travelodge, Travis Perkins and Wolseley UK. Economic ...

[V&A faces calls to become living wage employer on eve of Stratford opening - The Guardian](#)

The Guardian

Frankie Webster, a community organiser at Citizens UK, said: "At its heart, the real living wage is about dignity. Everyone deserves to earn enough so ...

ENGAGEMENT AND VOICE

[Employee engagement falls worldwide as AI investment fails to deliver productivity gains](#)

Workplace Insight

Only 12 percent of employees strongly agree that AI has fundamentally changed how work is done in their organisation, despite widespread deployment.

[University staff walk out as ten-day strike action begins over job cut threat - STV News](#)

STV News - STV Player

"Staff want management to rule out using compulsory redundancies ... A University spokesperson said: "It's clear that much of the UK higher ...

[Manchester critical care workers striking over fair pay say 'We can all do this'](#)

Socialist Party

It also forces them to a secondary employer because the bosses are putting overtime out to agencies. A striking worker said management is "not meeting ...

[University of South Wales staff ballot on industrial action - Nation.Cymru](#)

Nation.Cymru

The letter states: "UCU has responded with deep disappointment to USW's announcement of 200 redundancies. "Although the voluntary redundancy ...

RECRUITMENT

[Hub launched for internationally qualified dentists | British Dental Journal - Nature](#)

Nature

... UK. This includes access to employment contract checking, dentolegal advice, complaints support, a range of resources on Dental Protection's The ...

[OpenAI to expand UK workforce with new London site - Perspective Media](#)

Perspective Media

The US technology giant's new office in King's Cross will have capacity for 544 workers and is set to open next year.ChatGPT developer OpenAI ha .

[British Airways' fully-funded pilot training programme opens for applications for fourth year running](#)

British Airways Media Centre

The scheme comes as new research reveals significant untapped interest in aviation careers, with almost one in four (24%) UK adults saying they would ...

['Right to work' draft code of practice for employers: avoiding unlawful discrimination](#)

GOV.UK

Foreign nationals working in the UK. Open consultation. 'Right to work' draft code of practice for employers: avoiding unlawful discrimination. From ...

[Revolut Business launches latest new bet GlobalHire to accelerate international expansion ...](#)

Revolut

... Business ecosystem, enabling UK-based businesses to hire, onboard and pay international talent without the traditional barriers to hypergrowth.

[Apprenticeship unit funding rules, April 2026 to 31 July 2026 - GOV.UK](#)

GOV.UK

1 Learning support funding is not deducted from the employer's apprenticeship service account. 35.3 If the cost of the reasonable adjustments exceeds ...

PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

['Career-changing' Cumbrian mentorship programme open to applicants | In Cumbria](#)

in-Cumbria

Following the success of the launch of the She Leads mentor programme last year, NRL has announced the 2026 cohort open for mentee applications.

[Deloitte's CFO Survey | UK finance leaders' confidence drops as geopolitical risk dominates agenda](#)

Deloitte

Business optimism among UK CFOs has fallen to a six-year low; ... News. Let's connect. Get in touch · Explore careers · View locations · Learn about ...

[IBM to pay \\$17m in anti-DEI settlement with US - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

USAEquality, diversity and inclusionLatest NewsPositive actionTech sector ... UK electrical industry, and energy markets in Asia and the Middle East.

[20,000 NHS jobs at risk as £1.1bn deficit grows, says UNISON - Open Access Government](#)

Open Access Government

... workforce reductions across hospital, community and mental health services. ... Must Read >> NHS announces first 27 neighbourhood health centres across ...

[The complexity crisis: Why UK leadership needs a reset | Blogs | Insider Media](#)

Insider Media

At Alliance Manchester Business School (AMBS), we recently commissioned independent research involving 500 senior decision-makers across the UK. The ...

[EHRC amends code of practice ready for approval - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

The EHRC said it will update its guidance for employers in due course to reflect developments in the law. HR business partner opportunities on ...

[200 jobs at risk as Morrisons announces cuts - Kent Live](#)

Kent Live

... at risk of redundancy. "We understand this will be difficult news for these colleagues and will be offering them our full support, including ...

[Victims of workplace abuse will no longer be silenced - GOV.UK](#)

GOV.UK

Government consults on new rules to stop NDAs being used to pressure workers and silence victims of harassment and discrimination at work.

[Franco Manca shuts 16 restaurants, blames 'disproportionate' tax - City AM](#)

City AM

The privately-owned restaurant chain said it is suffering from high VAT and “significant” hikes to national insurance and minimum wages, with the site ...

[Ulster University to axe up to 450 jobs - The Irish News](#)

The Irish News

@UlsterUni - Announces intention to make 450 colleagues redundant ... “Ulster University has sought to hold off on making redundancies while ...

[BBC to cut almost one in 10 jobs - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

Interim HR Manager - 8 M FTC Media. Hays Human Resources. London, England; £60000.0 - £65000.0 per annum + 60-65k pro rata · 360 Recruitment Manager.

[Use of AI tools triggers job cuts at Snapchat - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

Company executives have either pointed to increased use of AI tools, meaning they need fewer workers, or noted that plans to spend hundreds of ...

[Hays cuts consultancy staff by 14% in tough recruitment market - Yahoo Finance UK](#)

Yahoo Finance UK

Recruiter Hays has revealed further hefty cuts to its workforce as it ramped up cost cutting in the face of a difficult jobs market.

[Poor retention of diverse staff poses major threat to NHS - University College London](#)

University College London

... Health Plan for England. ... Research suggests that intentions to leave are closely linked to workplace discrimination, poor mental health, feeling ...

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

[Still no plans for statutory menstrual leave after Commons debate - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

In the debate, Davis argued that the government's Keep Britain Working workplace health reform's needed to include and encompass menstrual health and ...

[E.ON UK champions fertility support at launch of new workplace guide - E.ON News](#)

E.ON News

By fostering an inclusive workplace where people feel seen, supported and valued, the organisation is not only improving employee wellbeing, but also ...

[Firefighters to benefit from bespoke health support - GOV.UK](#)

GOV.UK

... work impacts their health. That is because for too long ... mental health to musculoskeletal health, and from cancer to cardiovascular disease.

[Life Leisure becomes the first UK leisure centre to launch 'Ask for Angela' - Marketing Stockport](#)

Marketing Stockport

Life Leisure is a new national standard for safety in the health and wellbeing industry as the first leisure centre in the UK to launch 'Ask for ...

GENERAL

[LGA launches Sector Support offer for 2026/27 | WiredGov Newswire \(news from other organisations\)](#)

WiredGov

... employment law reforms. With local elections fast approaching, LGA regional teams and expert member peers are on hand to provide support members ...

[AI cyber threats: open letter to business leaders \(HTML\) - GOV.UK](#)

GOV.UK

For years, the most serious cyber attacks have relied on a small number of highly skilled criminals. That is now shifting. A new generation of AI ...

[UK launches £500m 'Sovereign AI' fund to scale homegrown tech champions](#)

THINK Digital Partners

Rather than distributing funding across multiple programmes, the new unit will focus resources on firms with the potential to become globally ...

[REC's Neil Carberry to head up CIPD - Personnel Today](#)

Personnel Today

... people management. "Neil brings a wealth of experience as a CEO in both ... Carberry said many of the biggest challenges the UK faced came back to " ...

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](#).

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