

## NEWS RELEASE

# UK workers looking for flexible hours, family time and a healthy work-life balance

Employers are under growing pressure from UK workers to offer flexible hours and ensure staff can fulfil family responsibilities whilst achieving a healthy work-life balance, a new study by jobs site, reed.co.uk, has found.

With the rate of employment at an historic high and record numbers of women in work, employees are increasingly seeking flexible working arrangements as their top employer benefit when looking for a new job.

Other sought-after benefits include pension schemes, private healthcare and bonuses. But it is the ability to work around commitments outside their job that workers value the most.

### **Mark Rhodes, Marketing Director for reed.co.uk comments:**

*“Work-life balance means something different to each of us. For some it may be combining hard work and dedication to the job with the pursuit of personal interests and hobbies outside of work, whilst for others it might be the fulfilment of childcare and family responsibilities.*

*For dual-income couples who both work full-time, it's little surprise that flexibility and an understanding employer rank so highly. But our research shows that work-life balance is also an important factor for millennials. They've grown up with technology that gives them access to information and allows them to be productive anywhere, and it's shaped their view of work. ”*

Other popular workplace perks include free tea and coffee, being allowed to work in jeans, a gym membership, and having your own office. The survey also revealed that the perfect job is a four day, 24 hour week, with a salary of £61,000 and only a 12 minute walk from home.

**Mark Rhodes continues:**

*“The research indicates that most of us have fairly modest expectations when it comes to finding our perfect role. For most people a dream job needn’t mean being paid hundreds of thousands of pounds for working just a few hours a week.*

*Whilst it might not be realistic to offer full-time staff a four day week and a private office with a view, there are lots of things employers can offer to help keep their teams happy, engaged and productive. Reviewing the dress code and offering simple perks, like free tea and coffee and daily fruit, don't cost the earth, but they do help staff feel valued and can make a business a more attractive proposition for prospective employees.”*

**TOP 20 DESIRABLE PERKS OF THE PERFECT JOB**

1. A good work-life balance
2. Excellent pension
3. Flexible working hours
4. A boss who understands family comes first
5. Being able to work from home if you need to
6. Bonus scheme
7. Private healthcare for you and the family
8. You're able to leave work on time everyday
9. Free tea and coffee
10. Your own office
11. A nice view from the window
12. A designated parking space
13. A boss that enjoys a pint

14. The ability to have an opinion / say
15. A boss who is a family man / woman themselves
16. A chair which is measured to you, so that you are always comfortable
17. Being allowed to work in jeans
18. You can be your own boss
19. Gym membership
20. Free fruit provision

**Notes to editors:**

Survey of 2,000 UK workers via OnePoll

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**About reed.co.uk**

- reed.co.uk is the UK's largest commercial job board, with over 250,000 job opportunities from more than 12,000 recruiters at any one time.

- reed.co.uk is part of Reed Global, the international recruitment group of companies