

The Midlands Good Work Charter: advancing employment policy and regional innovation in post-Covid Midlands

This project aims at facilitating the launch of the first ever Midlands Good Work Charter in 2022 and contributing towards a better understanding of good work initiative through knowledge exchange events and activities that will help the region to achieve sustainable, inclusive economic development in the post-Covid era. In partnership with Acas (The Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service), the project will provide crucial support to the promotion of the Charter, which advocates inclusive post-Covid recovery and growth for the Midlands in the context of the Government's Levelling Up agenda.

Good Work is a key area of policy agenda in contemporary Britain and has significant implications for securing continuous improvement on productivity, growth and employee wellbeing. The new Charter proposes to use seven key indicators to measure good work:

- a clear and fair reward structure
- secure employment
- active employee voice mechanism
- mental and physical health and wellbeing
- positive workplace behaviours and responsibilities
- meaningful job design and nature of work
- work-life balance.

Supporting the Midlands Innovation, Keele Deal Recovery and Inclusion initiatives, the project brings together government organisations, businesses, trade union bodies, and universities to facilitate the debates, dialogues and knowledge exchange on good work and employment. It addresses the significant gap on both policy and practice of good work, and provides crucial evidence to inform key stakeholders about the challenges and opportunities of the implementation of the new good work framework within the region and beyond.

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