

Why paying an extra £1 a day can make all the difference to your business

Employers could save themselves thousands of pounds by spending no more than an extra £1 a day, claims Helen Stacey, Director of Smart Recruitment.

Employers within the manufacturing, agriculture and food industries are increasingly finding a deficit in the availability of workers and this is causing problems in the run up to Christmas. A combination of plentiful job roles and the need for better conditions has resulted in a fast turnover of migrant workers in the South West of England. Helen comments, "A lot of these companies currently pay the minimum wage of £5.52 per hour, however we believe that a small increase in this rate would be beneficial to all parties."

Co-opted onto the Migrant Workers Task Force, which advises the government on migration issues, Helen is an expert in this field and keen for local employers to benefit from the loyalty and conscientious approach of Eastern European staff.

Helen continues, 'As one of the team on the Migrant Worker's Taskforce, I am keenly aware of the strain on the local economy that the influx of migrant workers can have. We are keen to secure jobs for these workers to reduce the strain on the local economy ensuring those posts unwanted by British workers are filled to the mutual benefit of migrants and south west employers. I am convinced if employers raise their wages by a minimal amount this will inspire increased loyalty within the workforce and ensure many vacant jobs are filled. Furthermore, the likelihood is that any additional disposable income will be spent locally, boosting the UK economy.'

There is a clear positive contribution to the economy from migration. Helen continues, 'The opportunity for many to fulfil seasonal manufacturing, agricultural and food processing works should be taken advantage of for the benefit of all. If employers treat staff well they will doubtlessly reap the rewards of a loyal staff base, which can't be underestimated in its contribution to productivity and savings in avoiding absenteeism and the potential knock on re-recruitment costs.'

For more advice on how to fill your vacant positions and keep them filled in the run up to Christmas and beyond, please contact Helen and her team at Smart Recruitment on 0845 600 800. Alternatively visit www.smartgroup.co.uk

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Caption: - Helen Stacey,
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