

Wellbeing support for small businesses in the rail sector

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Parental Choice has launched a new service to support the wellbeing of SMEs in the rail industry.

PC Employee Care offers SMEs with up to 100 employees a simple, yet comprehensive online wellbeing platform of support for their staff.

A website and resources have been developed with subject matter experts.

The unique portal is self-service, so once an employer buys a package all their employees can individually access the portal with its vast library of information, resources, and advice on a range of topics based on the four pillars of wellbeing:

- Mental
- Physical
- Social
- Financial

Sarah-Jane Butler, CEO and founder of Parental Choice, said: “It is vital that organisations in the rail industry put the wellbeing of their staff at the forefront of everything they do.

“Recent statistics have revealed that more than £300 million a year is lost through illness-related absenteeism and the sickness absence rate is 3.9 per cent in the rail sector – more than double the rate reported across the private sector as a whole.

“All SME employers can actively help and support their employees, whatever their age or stage of life and that is what we are trying to help with, with the launch of PC Employee Care.”

The content includes factsheets, videos, podcasts, signposting, and blogs which are split into six navigable categories:

- Adult wellness, wellbeing & happiness.
- Child wellness, wellbeing and happiness.
- Childcare & schooling.
- Elder & dependent care.
- Family matters & employee financial wellbeing.
- Work: life wellbeing.

Sarah-Jane added: “Employees can find information and help on anything from mental health to musculoskeletal issues, fertility to financial wellbeing, smoking to stress management, drugs and alcohol to diabetes, eldercare to exercise, wills to working under pressure.

“The aim is to support employees on their life journey and ensure that they are as supported and happy as can realistically be. After all happy employees mean a productive workforce.

“We also understand that how SMEs allocate their expenditure can often be tricky, with margins tight and demonstrable ROIs for every penny needed for investors. The PC Employee Care wellbeing programme has been designed with this in mind.”

There are three levels of service, with different price points for up to 25, 50 and 100 employees:

- Thrive, the most comprehensive package, provides benefits for employees and employers, costing from £4 per employee each month.
- Enrich, from £3 per employee each month.
- Enhance, from £2 per employee per month.

For more information visit www.pcemployeecare.co.uk or email info@pcemployeecare.co.uk

Parental Choice has organised an event on Thursday (October 22) at 1pm titled ‘The Importance of Employee Wellbeing in SMEs’.

The panellists are:

- Julie Baker – Head of Enterprise and Community Finance, NatWest
- Kevin Daniels – Professor of Organizational Behaviour, UEA
- Paul Devoy – CEO, Investors in People
- Jane van Zyl – CEO Working Families

The experts will be discussing:

- What are the steps SMEs are taking to support their employees and why wellbeing support has to be an essential part of every organisation's culture, values and strategy.
- Strategically, looking at the detrimental cultural and financial impact of SMEs not supporting their employees' wellbeing, and the ROI of having a wellbeing strategy in place
- The barriers for SMEs to implementing a wellbeing programme and ways to overcome them.
- Why investing in wellbeing matters.

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