

# WHAT IS WORKFARE?

A workfare scheme forces people into **unpaid work placements** against the threat of a benefits sanction. There are currently six workfare schemes operating in the UK. Under these schemes job seekers are **forced to work for between four weeks and six months for up to 30 hours a week or lose their benefits.**

Unlike regular employees these job seekers **don't receive the minimum wage** and they don't have a safety net to catch them if things go wrong at work.

# IT'S EVERYONE'S PROBLEM

Workfare doesn't just exploit unemployed people, it makes pay and conditions worse for people on wages too. A free labour pool unregulated by standard employment laws is an attractive prospect for many employers. Why would they pay someone the minimum wage if they can get someone else to do it for free?

Workfare schemes have also seen paid employees losing overtime altogether and zero hour contracts are becoming commonplace. This has forced many paid employees into claiming working tax credits just to survive. Taxpayers end up footing the bill, paying for the claimants' jobseekers allowance, the work programme's bonuses and the paid workers' working tax credits.

*Workfare exploits the most vulnerable members of our society.*

*It takes paid work away from existing workers.*

*It ends up costing the taxpayer more.*

## Boycott Workfare



Say **NO** To Slavery

**WORKFARE DOESN'T WORK**

[www.unitetheunion.org/community](http://www.unitetheunion.org/community)

Tel: 07711 375 536

# Scrap Zero Hours ! Abolish Workfare!

The rise of zero hours contracts in the workplace is the latest attack on workers' rights and dignity. Put simply, zero hours contracts cover a range of arrangements that mean workers have no guaranteed weekly hours or income, and are only being paid for the hours that they do work. Unite wants to challenge employers to end the exploitation.

**NO TO** zero hours holiday sick pay

Employers use zero hours contracts to cut wages, avoid holiday pay, pensions, and other benefits enjoyed by employees and agency staff. Workers are also unable to take on other work, as they are obliged to be available for work at the whim of the employer. And with the high level of insecurity comes the risk of bullying, harassment and stress. It's time to end the exploitation.

Zero hours contracts are on the rise having almost doubled in the last five years. The latest data shows some 208,000 people are now 'employed' on zero hours contracts, and these figures underestimate the reality as many people do not know they are on them.

Organize Against exploitation Join Unite!

<https://www.unitetheunion.org/join-unite/>

# WHAT IS WORKFARE?

A workfare scheme forces people into **unpaid work placements** against the threat of a benefits sanction. There are currently six workfare schemes operating in the UK. Under these schemes job seekers are **forced to work for between four weeks and six months for up to 30 hours a week or lose their benefits.**

Unlike regular employees these job seekers **don't receive the minimum wage** and they don't have a safety net to catch them if things go wrong at work.

# IT'S EVERYONE'S PROBLEM

Workfare doesn't just exploit unemployed people, it makes pay and conditions worse for people on wages too. A free labour pool unregulated by standard employment laws is an attractive prospect for many employers. Why would they pay someone the minimum wage if they can get someone else to do it for free?

Workfare schemes have also seen paid employees losing overtime altogether and zero hour contracts are becoming commonplace. This has forced many paid employees into claiming working tax credits just to survive. Taxpayers end up footing the bill, paying for the claimants' jobseekers allowance, the work programme's bonuses and the paid workers' working tax credits.

*Workfare exploits the most vulnerable members of our society.*

*It takes paid work away from existing workers.*

*It ends up costing the taxpayer more.*

## Boycott Workfare



Say **NO** To Slavery

**WORKFARE DOESN'T WORK**

[www.unitetheunion.org/community](http://www.unitetheunion.org/community)

Tel: 07711 375 536

# Scrap Zero Hours ! Abolish Workfare!

The rise of zero hours contracts in the workplace is the latest attack on workers' rights and dignity. Put simply, zero hours contracts cover a range of arrangements that mean workers have no guaranteed weekly hours or income, and are only being paid for the hours that they do work. Unite wants to challenge employers to end the exploitation.

**NO TO** **Zero** hours holiday sick pay

Employers use zero hours contracts to cut wages, avoid holiday pay, pensions, and other benefits enjoyed by employees and agency staff. Workers are also unable to take on other work, as they are obliged to be available for work at the whim of the employer. And with the high level of insecurity comes the risk of bullying, harassment and stress. It's time to end the exploitation.

Zero hours contracts are on the rise having almost doubled in the last five years. The latest data shows some 208,000 people are now 'employed' on zero hours contracts, and these figures underestimate the reality as many people do not know they are on them.

Organize Against exploitation Join Unite!

<https://www.unitetheunion.org/join-unite/>