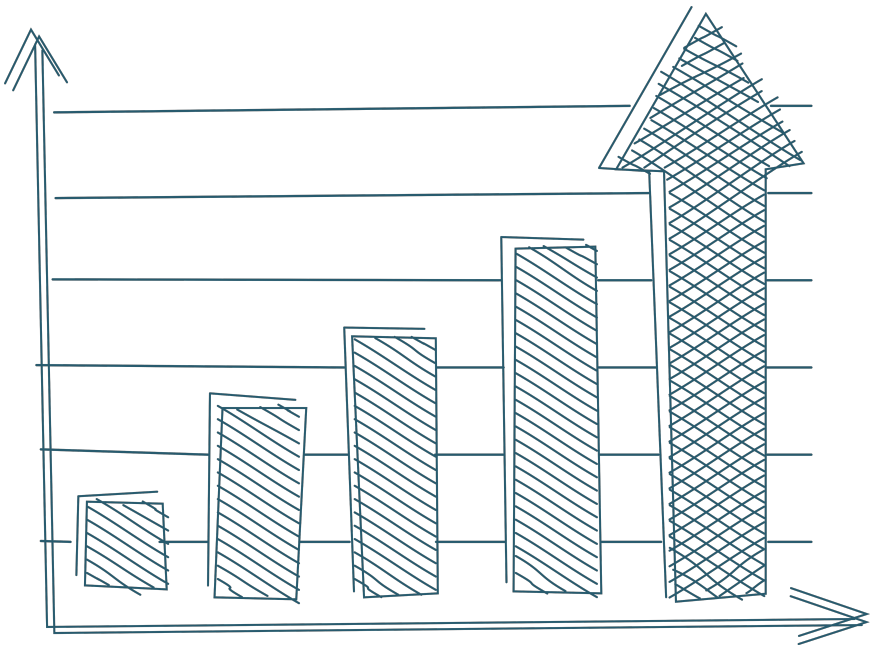


# Employment Law

Facts & Figures April 2026



**A leading law firm for businesses and individuals throughout the South East, our employment team advises both employers and employees on all aspects of employment law. Our lawyers give straightforward legal advice, find proactive solutions and achieve results with speedy response times to enquiries and requests for help.**

*“They are reassuringly unfazed when presented with a complex case, and their ability to grasp the complexities quickly always impresses.”*

Chambers UK 2026



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## Services

At Thomson Snell & Passmore, we take pride in offering tailored legal advice, as well as our strong communication skills. When representing our clients, we make it a priority to fully understand their unique circumstances in order to determine the most effective way to assist them.

### Services for businesses

- Restrictive covenants, confidentiality & competition
- Employment disputes & tribunals
- Employee exits & settlement agreements
- Contracts, policies & staff handbooks
- TUPE, outsourcing and M&A
- Projects, redundancy & restructuring
- Managing people (disciplinary, grievances & discrimination)
- Employment status and IR35
- Employee data protection
- Discrimination in goods & services
- Data subject access requests
- Employment advice service

### Services for individuals

- Employment disputes & tribunals
- Settlement agreements
- Discrimination & harassment
- Redundancy & termination
- Disciplinary, grievances & performance management
- Restrictive covenants & confidentiality agreements
- Data subject access requests & data breaches
- Employment status

## Compensation limits from 6 April 2026

Complaint	Maximum award
Discrimination	Unlimited
Unfair dismissal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic award</li> <li>Compensatory award</li> </ul>	£22,530 £123,543* - No Limit (for dismissals on or after January 2027)
Additional award for failure to reinstate	26 to 52 weeks' pay (£19,527 to £39,054)
A week's pay used to calculate basic awards and statutory redundancy payments	£751
Statutory redundancy pay	£22,530
Dismissal for union or employee representative or pension trustee reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic award</li> <li>Compensatory award</li> </ul>	£22,530 (minimum £9,153) £118,223 (Uncapped from 1 January 2027)
Dismissal for health and safety reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic award</li> <li>Compensatory award</li> </ul>	£22,530 (minimum £9,153) No limit
Dismissal for making a protected disclosure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic award</li> <li>Compensatory award</li> </ul>	£22,530 No limit
Contract claims	£25,000 in the Employment Tribunal (no limit in the High or County Courts)
Failure to conduct collective consultation	From 6 April 2026, 180 full days pay per employee (roughly 26 weeks)
Failure to inform or consult over a TUPE transfer	From 6 April 2026, 180 days per employee (roughly 26 weeks)
Breach of right to be accompanied	2 weeks' pay (up to £1,502)
Breach of flexible working regulations	8 weeks' pay (up to £6,007)
Failure to give statement of employment particulars	£1,502 (2 weeks' pay) or £6,008 (4 weeks' pay)
Statutory guarantee pay if no work is provided	£41 per day up to a maximum of £205 in respect of 5 days in any 3 month period.
Aggravated breach of a worker's rights	£20,900 (minimum £105)

\*Capped at 52 weeks' pay (if less)

## Qualifying periods and time limits

Complaint	Qualifying period	Time limit to bring claim (may be extended by Acas early conciliation)
Discrimination	None	3 months from the date of the act complained of
Equal pay	None	6 months from the last day of employment in the Employment Tribunal (6 years from breach in the High Court or County Court)
Written reasons for dismissal	2 years (none if pregnant or on maternity leave or adoption leave)	3 months starting from EDT*
Unfair dismissal	2 years	3 months starting from EDT*
Automatically unfair dismissal e.g.: pregnancy, health & safety and whistle blowing	None	3 months starting from EDT*
Statutory redundancy payment	2 years	6 months from relevant date
Failure to conduct collective consultation	None	3 months starting with the date the last dismissal takes effect
Failure to pay a protective award	None	3 months starting with the last day in respect of which the complaint is made
Failure to consult under TUPE	None	3 months from the date of the transfer
Failure to provide written particulars of employment	None	3 months starting from EDT*
Contract claim	None	3 months from EDT* in the Employment Tribunal (6 years from breach of contract in the High Court or County Court)

\*EDT means effective date of termination

## Sick pay

Payment	From 6 April 2026
Statutory sick pay	£123.25 per week

## National minimum wage / living wage

Category of worker	From 1 April 2026
Aged 21 and over	£12.71 per hour
Aged 18-20	£10.85 per hour
Aged 16-17	£8 per hour
Apprentice	£8 per hour
Accommodation Offset	£11.10 per day

## Calculating statutory redundancy pay

1 1/2 week's pay	Each year in employment aged 41+
1 week's pay	Each year in employment aged 22-40
1/2 week's pay	Each year in employment aged 21 and under
Maximum week's pay	£719
Maximum number of years	Last 20 worked

## Statutory minimum notice for employees

Length of employment	Notice required
Under 1 month	No statutory notice requirement
1 month or more	1 week

## Statutory minimum notice for employers

Category of worker	From 6 April 2026
Under 1 month	No statutory notice requirement
1 month to 2 years	1 week
2 years to 12 years	1 week for each completed year of employment
12 years or more	12 weeks

## Working time

Type of leave	Minimum amount
Paid annual leave	5.6 weeks
Rest break after 6 hours	20 minutes (30 minutes after 4 1/2 hours for 16-17 year olds)
Daily rest period	11 hours in each 24 hour period (12 hours for 16-17 year olds)
Weekly rest period	24 hours in each 7 day period (48 hours for 16-17 year olds)
Maximum average working time	48 hours per week (in last 17 weeks)

## Family friendly payments

	From 6 April 2026	Max period
Statutory maternity pay (higher rate)	90% of normal weekly earnings (before tax)	6 weeks
Statutory maternity pay (basic rate)	£187.18 a week or 90% of normal weekly earnings (before tax) if lower	33 weeks
Statutory paternity pay	£187.18 a week or 90% of normal weekly earnings (after tax) if lower	2 weeks
Statutory adoption pay (higher rate)	90% of normal weekly earnings	6 weeks
Statutory adoption pay (basic rate)	£187.18 a week or 90% of normal weekly earnings if lower	33 weeks
Shared parental pay	£187.18 a week or 90% of normal weekly earnings if lower	39 weeks less any time taken by the mother or adopter
Parental bereavement pay	£187.18 a week or 90% of normal weekly earnings if lower	2 weeks
	From 6 April 2026	Max period
Maternity allowance	£187.18a week or 90% of normal weekly earnings if lower	39 weeks

## Family friendly leave

	Maximum entitlement
Statutory maternity leave	52 weeks (26 weeks ordinary and 26 weeks additional)
Statutory paternity leave	2 weeks leave
Statutory adoption leave	52 weeks (26 weeks ordinary and 26 weeks additional)
Shared parental leave	52 weeks less any time taken by the mother or adopter including statutory maternity leave
Parental leave	18 weeks unpaid per child in respect of each child and adopted child aged under 18
Time off for dependents	'Reasonable' amount (unpaid)
Carers leave	One week per year (unpaid)

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