

# LIFE AND WORK IN THE UK



## WORK & WAGES

- When you start work, your employer should give you a contract of employment which includes how much you will be paid, the day or date you will be paid and how you will be paid.
- You should receive a payslip to show the hours you are being paid for, as well as tax and national insurance deductions.
- In the UK you have the freedom to move between employers and you should not pay anyone for a job.



## MINIMUM WAGE

### In the UK you should receive at least:

- £8.91 an hour if you are 23 years old or over.
- £8.36 an hour if you are between 21 and 22 years old.
- £6.56 an hour if you are between 18 and 20 years old.
- If you are 25 or over, working 40 hours per week should earn you £356.40 a week - this is before any tax or national insurance deductions.



## HOUSING & RENTING

- On average, renting a room in a shared house in the UK costs between £150 - £300 per month (London is higher at £750).
- On average, renting a 2-bedroom property in the UK costs between £550 - £900 per month (London is higher at £1,500).



## BANK ACCOUNTS

- It is free to open a basic bank account and apply for a national insurance number.
- It is free to apply for a job here in the UK.
- Never give your ID Card or Bank Card to anybody else.
- You must never share your login details / passwords / PIN numbers with anybody else.



## HOLIDAY LEAVE

- Your holiday entitlement should be explained to you by your employer.
- Your employer should explain to you how to request holiday leave.
- Almost all workers are entitled to 5.6 weeks' paid holiday per year, this includes agency workers, those working irregular hours and/or those on zero-hour contracts.
- If you work 5 days a week you should get 28 days per year.



## COST OF LIVING

- In the UK it costs around £40 per week to run a car – this includes fuel, tax, and insurance.
- On average, a family of 3 spends between £49 - £63 per week on groceries.
- A weekly bus ticket should cost between £14 - £20 in South Yorkshire.

If you need advice about your employment or would like to make a complaint about your employer call **Acas** on **0300 123 1100** (Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm).

If you or someone you know is being exploited, call the **GLAA** on **0800 432 0804** (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm), or call the **Modern Slavery Helpline** anonymously on **08000 121 700** (24/7).

If you are in immediate danger always call the **Police** on **999**.



**South Yorkshire  
Modern Slavery  
Partnership**

DEVELOPED WITH:

**Staffline**



**Gangmasters &  
Labour Abuse Authority**