

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008 - CBI & Government Comment

**WORKING TIME SOLUTIONS RESPONDS TO GOVERNMENT FLEXIBLE  
WORKING PLANS**

Following this week's statement from the CBI on the rights of temporary workers and the Temporary Worker Directive, Kevin White, Managing Director of Working Time Solutions and one of the UK's leading authorities on working time change responds.

Kevin said: "Once again the CBI and Government seem to be fiddling at the edges of a subject of which they clearly have little understanding. We believe that the equal treatment of agency or temporary workers will significantly limit a key flexible resource for British industry.

"Given the EU determination for change in this area, however, the solutions to the problems created will be provided by more moves towards flexible working for permanent employees, this will improve productivity and service delivery, as well as create empowered and productive working environments.

Of the link between the Temporary Worker Directive and the 48-hour Opt-out, White said:

"Continuing to defend the UK 48-hour opt-out is neither critical nor vital. When will John Cridland and Government ministers realise that sustained, long working hours and the consequent over-time cultures that develop, are not healthy, safe, productive or family friendly. Now, employers will be forced take a more flexible approach to their permanent workforce contracts and ways of working instead of relying on agency or temporary workers to meet the fluctuating demands of their business. This will include moves away from expensive overtime and long-hours dependent environments"

Working Time Solutions provides workforce forecasting, scheduling and management consultancy, underpinned by robust, innovative software applications, which enable organisations to match workforce supply to business demand at the lowest cost.

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