

How to make flexible working more effective

What if we could ensure productivity wherever you worked?



The mass-migration to flexible working has given many people the chance to work remotely for the first time and it's raised some valuable questions.

Do we have to live that close to our place of work?



Do we need all that office space?



Is our commute having a negative impact on the environment?

45%

of workers agree they want flexible working for a better work-life balance

45%

of companies say lockdown will have a long-term impact on their business approach to flexible working

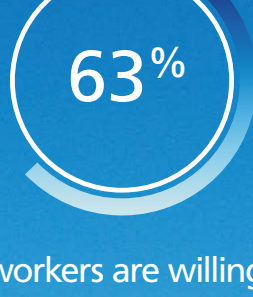
Whether your staff choose to jump online at the crack of dawn or burn the midnight oil instead, a more flexible approach to work gives them a better chance to perform at their best. All they need is the right tools.

Can we really work anywhere? The connectivity conundrum.

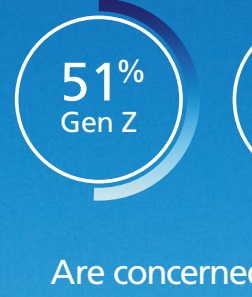
Lockdown has given workers a taste for remote working and many would like to keep this flexibility. But how and why should you build your digital and physical infrastructure around this? Can productivity really flourish with an agile approach?



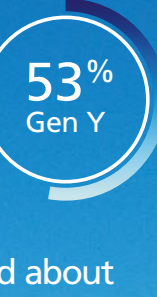
Of Millennials would leave their current organisation for a full-time remote job



Of workers are willing to live up to an hour away from the workplace



Are concerned about the impact commuting has on the environment



For many organisations, this pandemic has shown that flexible working is not only possible, it's actually better:

Workers are proven to be:

- Happier
- More productive
- More loyal

Employers can benefit from:

- Wider talent pool
- Reduced travel costs
- Reduced operational costs

The way forward seems to be the perfect blend of both office and remote working – powered by secure, reliable connections and devices. But how do we turn ideas into action?

Well, we'd start with the following:



Devices that are smart enough and tough enough



Management that works across every device



Collaboration that keeps people and customers connected



Security with a Zero Trust approach

Do we still need the office? If so, how do we adapt?

While many have embraced working from home, there are equally those who are eager to return to the familiarity of an office. When sharing accommodation or living with young children, a collaborative office space can provide the sanctuary of a focused environment.



Admit it's lonely working from home



Miss socialising informally with colleagues



So, if we still need the office, employers will need to make sure they're providing an environment that allows everyone to work in the way that suits them best.

How to make the right office environment



Re-design for optimised collaboration:

create an office environment with flexibility, mobility and collaboration in mind



Embrace cloud applications:

utilise technology that allows seamless and compliant access 24/7



Keep everyone connected:

ensure that your digital infrastructure supports your entire team, wherever they are

Take a new way to work: bundle report



You can download a full version of the report here

Report Methodology

ICM Unlimited completed a survey of 2,019 working adults, aged 16+, covering all UK nations and regions, between March 20th and 27th, 2020 (just as the UK moved into lockdown).

This was complemented by:

- Six in-depth employee case studies with people who have begun to work more from their home or non-office base, aged 30-50. 10th-17th March 2020.
- Six diaries from GenZ (18-23 years of ages) 9-14 April 2020
- Expert interview commentary from specialists in environmental transport, regional economics and the modern workplace.

A separate survey was commissioned with YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2394 workers. Fieldwork was undertaken between 22nd-26th April 2020. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all GB adults (aged 18+)