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## Thirty-five executives pocket a packet

Private equity, home emergency repairs and credit rating feature as the activities of the companies headed by top three executive in the latest listing of those on £1 million a year or more.

Thirty-five top executives feature in the table and their combined remuneration packages came to £77.8 million – an average package of £2.22 million.

Simon Borrows, chief executive of the private equity and venture capitalist group 3i tops the list with a package worth £7.54 million in the firm's financial year ending March 2017. On a weekly basis that works out at £145,080 a week.

Richard Harpin, founder and chief executive of home emergency repairs firm Homeserve, received package on £4.26 million in the year to March – that's £81,850 a week.

Brian Cassin has been in the top job at credit rating agency Experian since July 2014 after joining the board in 2012. His latest package came to £3.63 million – or £69,750 a week.

Year-on-year comparisons could be made for 32 of the 35 executives but only nine saw their packages grow over the past year. The increases ranged from

412.0% down to 0.9%. All but two of the increases were well in excess of the rise in average earnings for the whole economy which was running at between 1.8% and 2.4%.

Martin Bennett, chief executive of Homeserve's UK business and a group board member, tops the increases with a 412.0% rise taking him to £3.18 million a year or £61,060 a week. Bennett received a £1 million plus increase in his long-term bonus.

Christopher Bailey has now handed over the reins at luxury retailer Burberry to a new chief executive, but remains on the board as president and chief creative officer. In the year to March, his package increased by 86.4% to £3.53 million or £67,900 a week. His total package in 2017 included a £1.39 million "exceptional award" for 2014, as well as a £1.63 million long-term bonus in 2017 when none was paid the year before.

Promotion to the top job of chief executive at support service group Babcock International for Archie Bethel brought a 41.9% increase in his package to £1.85 million or £35,540 a week.

The total remuneration figure given in the table includes: basic salary, cash bonus, long-term share bonuses, golden hello, golden handshake, cash pension payments and a cash figure for other benefits that directors receive, such as use of company car, life insurance, private health benefits and housing allowance. Dividends received from their shareholdings in the company are not included.

**LABOUR RESEARCH DEPARTMENT**

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Executive	Company (financial year end)	Total remuneration (£000)	% change
Simon Borrows	3i (3.17)	7,544	29.6
Richard Harpin	Homeserve (3.17)	4,256	26.9
Brian Cassin	Experian (3.17)	3,627	-1.4
Julia Wilson	3i (3.17)	3,614	30.4
Christopher Bailey	Burberry (3.17)	3,531	86.4
Graham Roberts	Assura (3.17)	3,489	n.a
Michael Spencer	NEX (3.17)	3,468	-3.4
Martin Bennett	Homeserve (3.17)	3,175	412.0
Louise Makin	BTG (3.17)	2,932	-22.0
Peter Cowgill	JD Sports (1.17)	2,768	1.5
Adam Couch	Cranswick (3.17)	2,726	-2.7
Lloyd Pitchford	Experian (3.17)	2,652	4.8
Rolf Soderstrom	BTG (3.17)	2,357	-7.7
Andrew Williams	Halma (3.17)	2,152	-11.2
Jamie Hopkins	Workspace (3.17)	2,047	-9.5
Chris Grigg	British Land (3.17)	1,945	-46.3
Mark Bottomley	Cranswick (3.17)	1,878	0.9
Archie Bethel	Babcock Interntl (3.17)	1,848	41.9
Jim Brisby	Cranswick (3.17)	1,769	-0.2
Martin Davey	Cranswick (3.17)	1,579	-24.6
Jonathan Prentis	Booker (3.17)	1,432	-13.8
Toby Courtauld	Great Portland Est (3.17)	1,416	-46.6
Lindsley Ruth	Electrocomponents (3.17)	1,401	-32.4
Guy Farrant	Booker (3.17)	1,400	-15.7
Kevin Thompson	Halma (3.17)	1,379	-15.5
Graham Clemett	Workspace (3.17)	1,328	-12.8
Stuart Bridges	NEX (3.17)	1,302	n.a
Jonathan Murphy	Assura (3.17)	1,232	-32.0
Adam Meyers	Halma (3.17)	1,185	-8.4
Dido Harding	Talk Talk Telecom (3.17)	1,142	-59.4
Peter Rogers	Babcock Interntl (3.17)	1,100	n.a
Franco Martinelli	Babcock Interntl (3.17)	1,062	-1.6
John Davies	Babcock Interntl (3.17)	1,054	-16.1
Bill Tame	Babcock Interntl (3.17)	1,006	-27.8
Lucinda Bell	British Land (3.17)	1,005	-41.8

## Drop in inflation rates

Price inflation in June dropped from five-year highs, official figures show.

In June, the annual rate of inflation under the Retail Prices Index (RPI) dipped to 3.5% from 3.7% the previous month.

Cheaper petrol and diesel prices were the main contributors to the cut in the inflation measure favoured by union negotiators.

Inflation under the Consumer Prices Index Housing (CPIH) – now the government's preferred measure – was down to 2.6% in June from 2.7% the previous month.

TUC general secretary Frances O'Grady said: "The government must stop this cost of living squeeze. Many working people are caught in a vice as rising prices crush their pay.

"Ministers claim they are listening to struggling families. But now is the time to prove it. Britain needs a pay rise across the public and private sector."

	Price inflation			
	RPI <sup>1</sup>	RPI	RPIX <sup>2</sup>	CPIH
April 2016	261.4	1.3	1.4	0.7
May	262.1	1.4	1.5	0.7
June	263.1	1.6	1.7	0.8
July	263.4	1.9	1.9	0.9
August	264.4	1.8	1.9	1.0
September	264.9	2.0	2.2	1.3
October	264.8	2.0	2.2	1.3
November	265.5	2.2	2.5	1.5
December	267.1	2.5	2.7	1.8
January 2017	265.5	2.6	2.9	1.9
February	268.4	3.2	3.5	2.3
March	269.3	3.1	3.4	2.3
April	270.6	3.5	3.8	2.6
May	271.7	3.7	3.9	2.7
June	272.3	3.5	3.8	2.6

<sup>1</sup> January 1987=100 <sup>2</sup> RPI except mortgage interest payments

Seven of the 14 groups that make up the basket of goods used to calculate the RPI increased by more than 3.5% in June.

The household goods group posted a rise of 5.5%, but that included an 8.0% rise in furniture prices and 6.8% in furnishings.

The motoring group's rise of 5.2% included an 18.5% increase in vehicle tax and insurance, while petrol and oil was only 4.5% dearer.

A 15.0% increase in bus and coach fares contributed to the overall rise of 4.7% in the fares and other travel costs group.

The fuel and light posted an increase of 4.6%, but that included a 7.7% increase in electricity prices and a 12.0% increase in domestic oil prices.

The food group recorded a 2.3% increase, including a 10.7% increase in fish prices. Coffee was 9.2% dearer than a year ago, while tea was only up by 1.7%.

The housing group's overall increase was 2.0%. However, mortgage interest payments were down by 6.1%.

More than 3.5%	%	Less than 3.5%	%
Clothing & footwear	9.2	Alcoholic drink	3.3
Tobacco	6.1	Leisure services	2.8
Household goods	5.5	Catering	2.8
Motoring expenditure	5.2	Household services	2.5
Fares etc	4.7	Food	2.3
Fuel & light	4.6	Personal goods & services	2.2
Leisure goods	3.9	Housing	2.0

[www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/june2017](http://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/june2017)

## Deaths at work down by 10 in 2016-17

The overall number of workers fatally injured at work in Great Britain fell last year, according to the latest official figures.

The number of workers fatally injured at work in the year to March 2017 fell to a provisional figure of 137, against the revised figure of 147 for the year before. It is the second lowest year on record after 2013-14, according to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

A breakdown by main industry and the previous year's figures from the HSE shows:

- there were 27 fatal injuries to workers in agriculture in 2016-17, the same figure as the previous year but down the average of 29 for the five years to 2016. The rate of fatal injury in 2016-17 was 7.61 per 100,000 workers, compared to the five-year average to 2017 of 8.44;
- in mining and quarrying four workers were killed, against two the previous year. The rate of fatal injury in 2016-17 was 3.28 per 100,000 workers, compared to the five-year average to 2017 of 1.87;
- there were 19 fatal injuries to workers in manufacturing, against the revised figure of 28 for 2015-16; the five-year average was 20 deaths. The latest rate of fatal injury is 0.66 compared to an average

rate of 0.70 for the five years to 2017;

- there were 17 deaths in utilities and the waste and recycling industries, against eight the year before and five-year average of 49. The latest rate of fatal injury is 8.27 compared to an average rate of 4.75 for the previous five years;
- there were 30 workers' deaths in construction, against 47 the previous year and the five-year average of 39. The latest rate of fatal injury is 1.37 per 100,000 workers, compared to 2.12 for 2015-16 and 1.82 for the five-year average; and
- there were 14 deaths in transportation and storage against 13 in 2015-16 and a five year average of 12. The latest rate of fatal injury is 0.88 compared to 0.85 the previous year and an average rate of 0.83 for the previous five years.

These HSE figures are a gross understatement as around 13,000 people a year die through work-related ill-health – around 100 times the annual work fatalities toll.

[www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/pdf/fatalinjuries.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/pdf/fatalinjuries.pdf)

## New Trade Union Act for Wales

Trade unionists have welcomed the passing of a Welsh law which tears chunks out of Tory anti-strike legislation passed just a year ago.

The Senedd – the Welsh government – approved the *Trade Union (Wales) Bill* which weakens the UK's 2016 *Trade Union Act* by removing punitive restrictions on ballot thresholds in devolved public services.

The key elements of the new Welsh law for public sector workers in Wales include:

- disapplying provisions relating to the deduction of trade union subscriptions from wages (known as "check-off");
- disapplying provisions relating to the restriction and reporting of facility time for trade union reps; and
- disapplying the provision requiring a 40% ballot threshold for industrial action.

Martin Mansfield, general secretary of the Wales TUC, said: "The Welsh government ... is committed to working in partnership with unions and employers to get the very best deal for our Welsh public services and its valued workforce.

"The 'Welsh Way' works in avoiding industrial action. Our partnership approach is all about

engaging with employers and government at an early stage, allowing us to deal with disagreements before they become disputes through mature negotiation and honest debate."

[www.morningstaronline.co.uk/a-459b-Senedd-tears-up-key-parts-of-hated-Tory-Trade-Union-Act](http://www.morningstaronline.co.uk/a-459b-Senedd-tears-up-key-parts-of-hated-Tory-Trade-Union-Act)

[www.tuc.org.uk/international-issues/organising-and-representation/workplace-issues/basic-rights-work/wales-tuc](http://www.tuc.org.uk/international-issues/organising-and-representation/workplace-issues/basic-rights-work/wales-tuc)

## Right to parental leave on death of a child

Parents who are employed and have suffered the death of a child would receive statutory paid leave to grieve, under a new law being supported by the government.

The *Parental Bereavement (Pay and Leave) Bill* will seek to ensure grieving parents in employment receive paid leave to grieve away from the workplace, delivering on the government's pledge to "enhance rights and protections in the workplace". Currently there is no legal requirement for employers to provide paid leave for grieving parents.

Under the *Employment Rights Act*, employees have a day-one right to take a "reasonable" amount of unpaid time off work to deal with an emergency involving a dependant, including making arrangements following the death of a dependant. However, what is "reasonable" depends on the circumstances. In practice, the length of time off will be agreed between the employer and their employee.

Business minister Margot James said: "The loss of a child is a traumatic experience for any parent. For parents holding down a job at the same time as dealing with their grief it can be doubly stressful.

"We want parents to get the support they need at this deeply upsetting time that is why government is supporting this Private Members Bill which will introduce statutory paid bereavement leave for employed parents."

In 2014, the Acas employment service published a good practice guide for employers on managing bereavement leave.

[www.gov.uk/government/news/parental-bereavement-pay-and-leave-bill-introduced-today](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/parental-bereavement-pay-and-leave-bill-introduced-today)

<http://m.acas.org.uk/media/pdf/0/m/Managing-bereavement-in-the-workplace-a-good-practice-guide.pdf>

## Mesothelioma death toll averages 2,500 a year

The number of deaths from mesothelioma, a form of cancer that develops following the inhalation of asbestos fibres, continues to run at over 2,500 a year, official figures show.

There were 2,542 mesothelioma deaths in Great Britain in 2015, a similar number to the 2,519 deaths in 2014, and 2,560 deaths in 2013.

In 2015, there were 2,135 male deaths and 407 female deaths. And there were 2,130 new cases of mesothelioma assessed for Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) in 2015 compared with 2,215 in 2014, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) said.

According to the HSE, the latest projections suggest that there will continue to be around 2,500 deaths a year for the rest of this current decade before annual numbers begin to decline.

[www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/causdis/mesothelioma/mesothelioma.pdf?pdf=mesothelioma](http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/causdis/mesothelioma/mesothelioma.pdf?pdf=mesothelioma)

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