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Managing Remote Teams: 9 June 2020

During Covid-19 and beyond

www.escalla.co.uk

Speaker

"Managing a remote team brings its own challenges but there is no reason to fear it because it is different to what we are used to."

Lou Mooney, FLPI

My name is Lou Mooney, Digital Workplace Director at escalla. I am a seasoned remote worker myself and I have led some of the UK's biggest workplace transformation change programmes.

Agenda and content – 45 mins

- Different types of remote worker
- Tips for effective remote working – getting the most from your people
- The importance of good communication
- Building a resilient workforce
- Leadership style

The biggest barrier to digital workplace transformation isn't the technology or the cost generally, it's the people

Question – How often did you work remotely before lockdown?

- Never
- Rarely – once or twice per month
- Regularly – at least once per week
- Mostly – Just a few days in the office
- Always

Managing remote teams

Is it a permanent change of behaviour?

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*"Unfortunately, we might get misty-eyed about it but I think the office in the form it used to be is probably now a thing of the past. I was chatting to someone who works at a major media outlet last week, and he said we used to have 1,400 people coming into this office every day. **For the last eight weeks we've had 30 people and the product hasn't changed.***

"He said anyone who thinks things are going to go back to the way things were is bananas."

Bruce Daisley – Author of the The Joy of Work

A stylized illustration of two hands holding a smartphone. The hand on the left is green, and the hand on the right is blue. The phone is a light blue color. The background is dark blue with some green and blue abstract shapes.

Managing Remote Teams

Tips to help your staff adjust

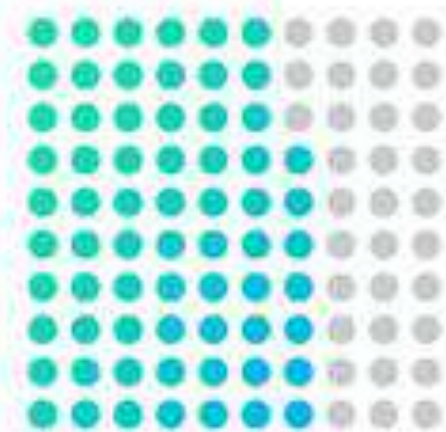
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- Get Dressed!
- Establish Boundaries
- Take breaks
- Make a dedicated workspace
- Pick up the phone!

Tips to help your staff adjust: Stress & Anxiety

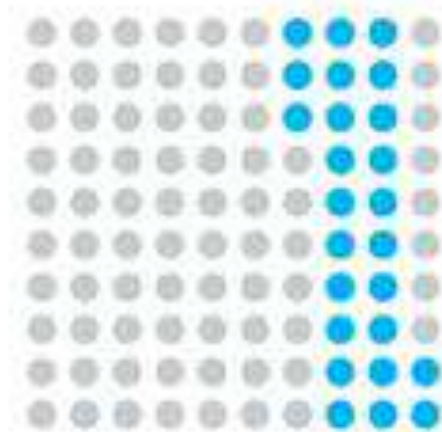
Level of stress since the coronavirus outbreak

66.9%



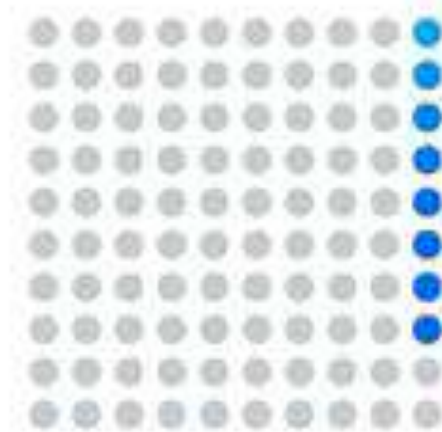
report **higher**
stress levels since
the outbreak

24.8%



report
somewhat equal
stress levels

8.2%



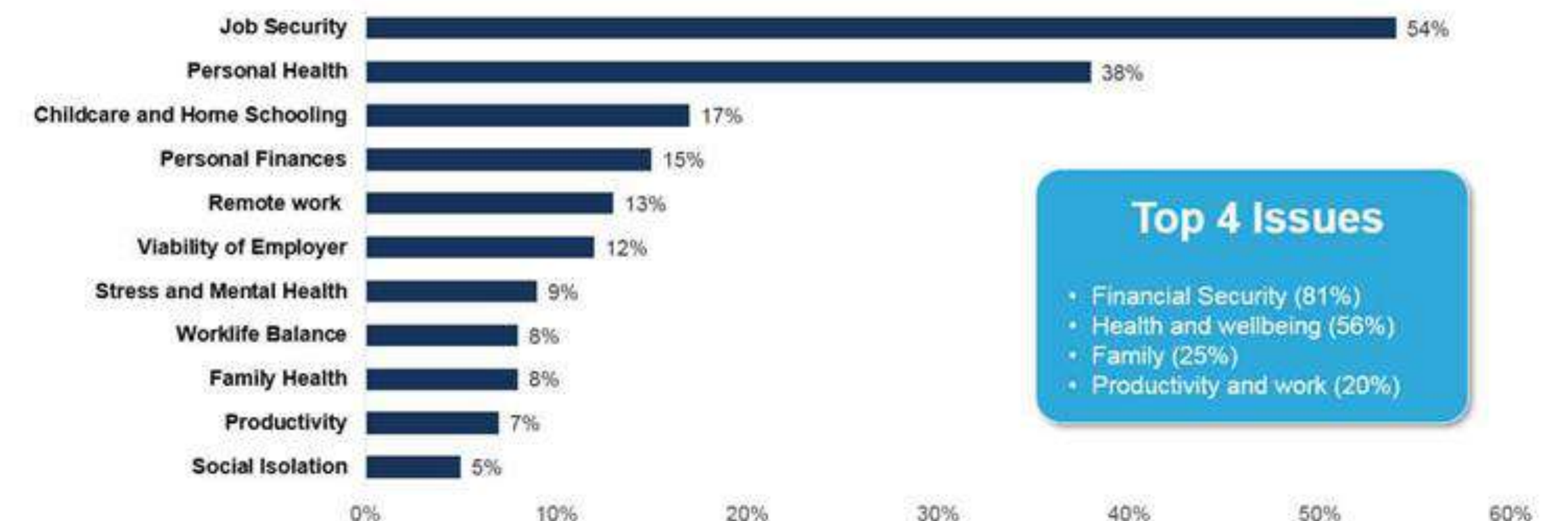
report **lower**
stress levels since
the outbreak

Top Issues On Employees' Minds

COVID-19
PULSE OF HR

johnbernin
cultureX
by design

Top Issues Week of April 7, 2020



Top 4 Issues

- Financial Security (81%)
- Health and wellbeing (56%)
- Family (25%)
- Productivity and work (20%)

Online survey conducted by CultureX and Josh Bersin between March 11 through April 7. By role, the sample consisted of CEOs (11%), HR VPs, directors, or managers (12%), HR specialists or business partners (14%). Organizations with more than 10,000 employees represented 21% of the sample, 1,000-10,000 (21%), 200-1,000 (23%), and fewer than 200 employees (24%). Information technology (17% of responses), professional services (14%), and financial services (9%) were the most common of 15 sectors represented in the sample.

Managing remote teams

Importance of good communication

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- Make the most of collaborative tools
- Set up regular 1-1 catch ups with staff
- Get used to Instant Messaging
- Regular conferencing
 - Test and make sure everything works ok
 - Turn the camera on
 - Mute yourself when not speaking
 - Focus like you're actually there
 - Try and keep pets and distractions away
 - Be organised
 - Don't be late!

Managing remote teams

Importance of good communication: Pyramid of Engagement

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Engagement
Level

Purpose

Needs met

Video Call/
In Person



High

Understanding,
clarity, questioning,
engaging

Social bonding,
trust, alignment

Audio Call



Moderately
High

Answers to quick
questions, relevant
info, new ideas

Community, access,
influence,
momentum

Instant
Messaging



Medium

Clarifying, adjusting
direction, small
decisions

Validation,
assurance,
productivity

Email



Low

Document actions,
sign off & approval,
sensitive info,
official documents

Security, safety,
confidence,
compliance



Managing remote teams

Building resilience in your teams

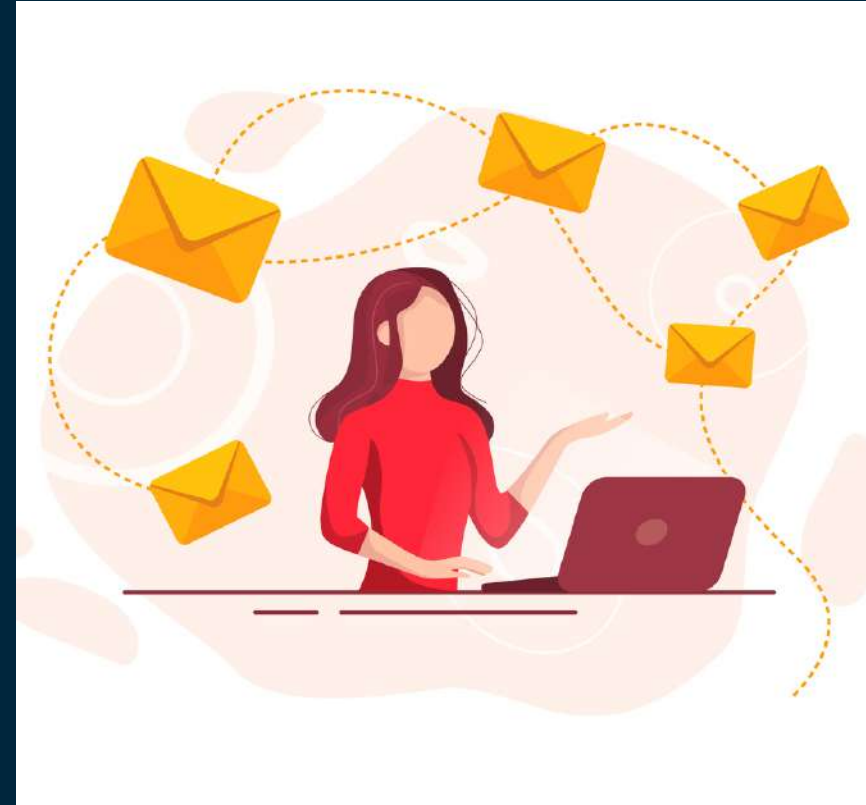
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- Encourage Interaction
- Keep people up to date
- Model positive behaviour
- Address and action issues immediately
- Continually nurture your team



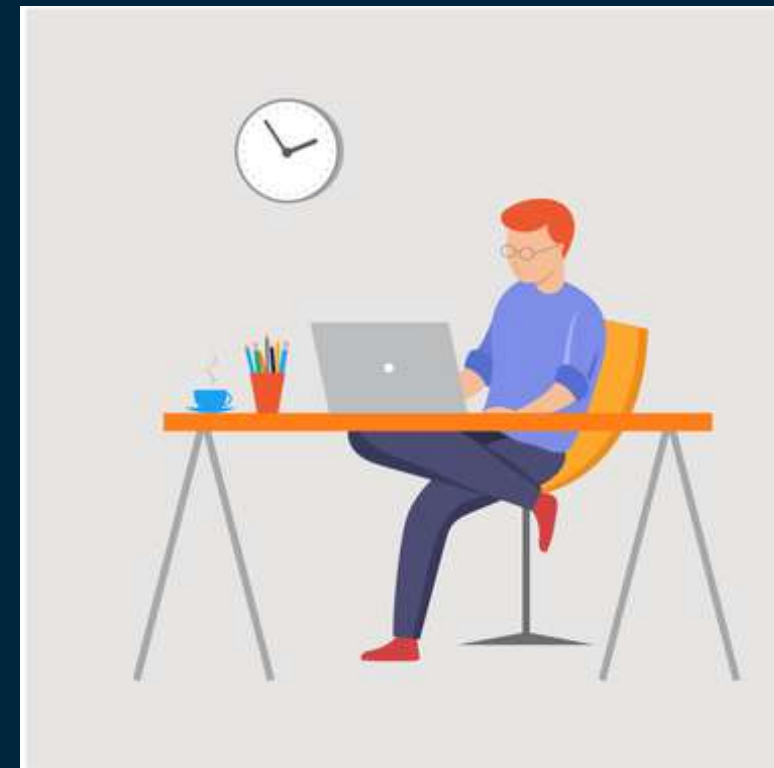
Types of Remote Workers

The Natural



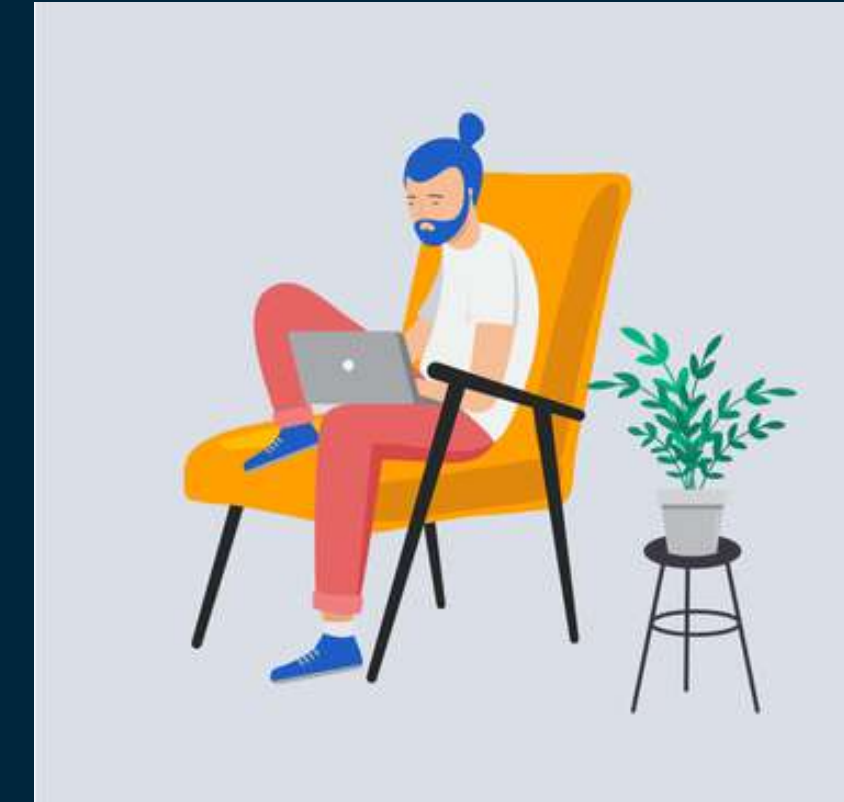
- Works well independently
- BUT needs good resources & communication

The Over-Achiever



- Highly focused
- BUT needs help finding work-life balance

The Introvert



- Reserved but often more productive WFH
- Needs extra instant messaging as they can be easily forgotten

The Honeymooner



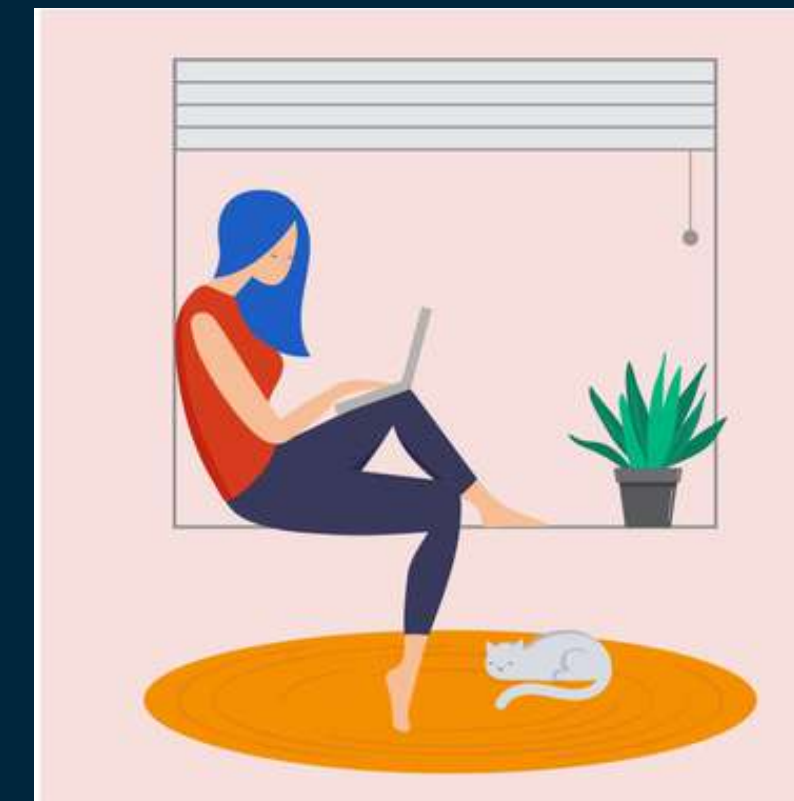
- Experienced worker but remote working is novelty
- Needs support from seasoned home worker

The Solo Act



- Strong independent worker
- BUT needs encouragement to collaborate

The Creature of Habit



- Likes structure & organizes work well
- BUT can feel stressed by unannounced meetings

Kilmann's Model of Conflict & Interaction



Kilmann's Model of Conflict & Interaction

A few tips:

- Involve the team but act as the final decision maker.
- When a decision has been made, let's move forward.
- Don't let resentment seep in, let individuals know why decisions have been made – especially at this time when you can't see people face to face.
- Don't create virtual vacuums.

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‘Delivering skills, changing behaviour’

Questions and Answers

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