

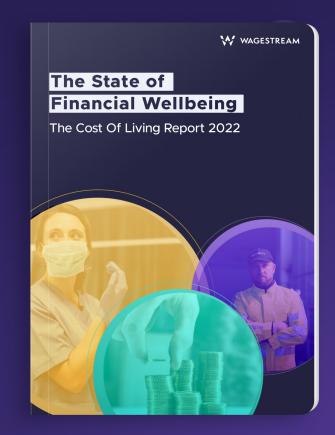
# The State of Financial Wellbeing. And what YOU need to do about it!

Jamie Lawrence, Insights Director, Wagestream

#### Wagestream research report

#### The State of Financial Wellbeing The Cost of Living Report 2022

- Independent research
- 300 senior HR professionals
- 2,500 employees
- Data collected: May 2022
- Report released: July 2022



## Part 1 What's the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on UK employees?

Energy bills: British consumers quoted up to £3,500 a year for fixed rates The Guardian

Petrol prices: No let-up for UK motorists as average cost hits new record 165p a litre sky news

Cost of living crisis leaves workers £2,922 worse off Spiralling costs and tax hikes will hit every household The Telegraph Supermarkets Grocery prices in UK rise at fastest rate in eight years, data shows The Guardian

providers will hike costs the most in 2022? Which?

Living costs rising at their fastest rate for 30 years BEC ...and inflation may hit 11%.

## 70%

of UK employees are now worrying more about money, with 76% of these **suffering worse mental health as a result**  28%

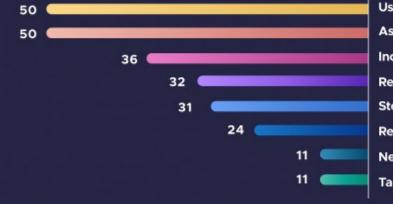
now **worry about money daily**, up from 24% in November 2021. **52%** 

say financial concerns are worrying them most over the next three months, **up from 40% in November 2021** 

| What actions      |  |
|-------------------|--|
| employees have    |  |
| taken in response |  |
| to rising costs   |  |

| Reduced my spending                                 | 70% |
|---|-----|
| Reduced the amount I save                           | 39% |
| Taken steps to switch providers/reduce bills        | 28% |
| Used my savings to make ends meet                   | 27% |
| Increased use of credit e.g credit cards/overdrafts | 20% |
| Asked friends and family for help                   | 13% |
| Negotiated new rates with supplier                  | 11% |
| Stopped/reduced pension contributions               | 7%  |
| I haven't taken any steps                           | 6%  |

## Increase in annual days of worry, based on actions taken in response to rising living costs



Used my savings to make ends meet Asked friends and family for help Increased use of credit, such as overdrafts or credit cards Reduced the amount I save Stopped or reduced pension contributions Reduced my spending Negotiated new rates with a supplier Taken steps to switch providers to reduce bills

## Change in wellbeing associated with dipping into savings to meet rising costs

10% increase in anxiety felt on the day before they responded to our research

50 extra days of worry each year 5% reduction in how worthwhile they feel the things they do in life are 8% reduction in selfreported life satisfaction

# Part 2 Are organisations helping staff to better cope with rising costs?

### There's an 'impact gap.'

# 81%

of employers say they've introduced new forms of financial support in the last three months



### There's an 'impact gap.'

81%

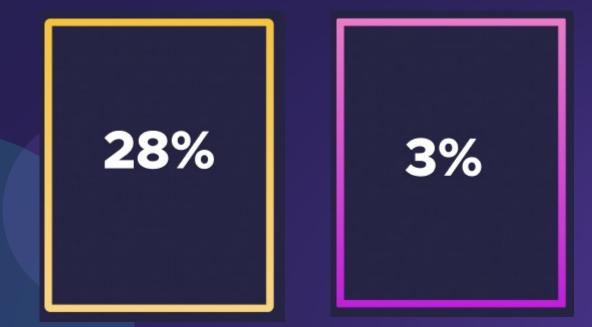
of employers say they've introduced new forms of financial support in the last three months 19%

of employees say their employer has introduced new forms of financial support in the last three months

# Employers underestimate how bad the problem actually is.



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### Money stigma an obstacle to success

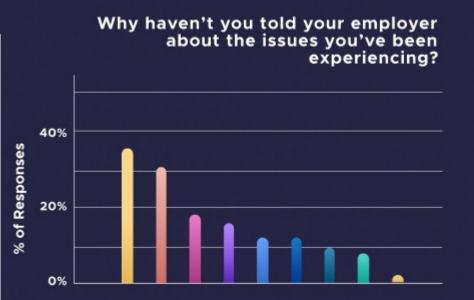
76%

of employees negatively affected by the cost of living crisis have not told their employer

### Money stigma an obstacle to success

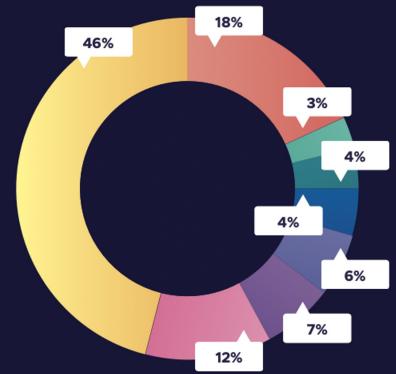


- Fear of discrimination
- Fear of dismissal
- Other, please specify



What's the main reason, if any, you don't think your employer can help with the cost-of-living crisis?





#### Part 3

# What two things can you do to better support your people as living costs rise?

# 1. Be relentless in communicating what you're doing

1. Ensure channels and messaging reflect employee base

2. Use hooks to help direct attention

3. Use money champions to spread the word

# 2. Do your bit to help destroy the money stigma

#### 1. Focus on sharing accessible, meaningful stories

#### 2. Consistently use & reinforce non-judgemental language

### 3. Nurture a culture of trust to encourage sharing

### What's Wagestream?

We're the only Financial Wellbeing app founded with charities, designed for frontline workers and built around pay - with no change to payroll.

#### **Flexible pay**

Financial flexibility to reduce money worries and avoid high-cost credit

**Vouchers** Savings off essential purchases like weekly groceries

**Tracking and budgeting** Real-time visibility of shifts, earnings and outgoings

#### Savings

Simplifying the process of creating a buffer to cover unexpected expenses

#### Coaching

Improved long-term financial health through tailored advice

#### **Plus more**

Fair financial products and services launching soon, including Insurance and Credit



## Thanks! Any questions?