

'We are here to steal your workers': Londoners to be offered new life Down Under

The Australians are coming to [London](#) – and they want to take Britons back with them to solve a shortage of key workers Down Under.

[Teachers](#), [police officers](#), [nurses](#) and [doctors](#) are among the targets of government officials from Western [Australia](#) who have over 30,000 job vacancies left open by a booming [economy](#). And they are not shy about their intentions.

“We are here to steal your workers,” said Paul Papalia, the police and defence industry minister, who will lead a delegation that arrives in the UK on February 25.

The mission's timing comes toward the end of a winter in which [strikes](#) have ravaged Britain, closing [schools](#) and taking [healthcare](#) workers off wards in the biggest wave of industrial action in decades.

With double-digit inflation looking stubborn and high energy bills leaving the cost-of-living crisis in full swing, the prospect of a better-paid life in a sunnier climate could be an easy sell. The post-Brexit free trade agreement between the UK and Australia, due to take effect this year, could also help via simplified visa arrangements.

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Nurses are able to earn almost three-fifths more in Western Australia than in the UK, according to the politicians from [Perth](#), with average workers in the state taking home some of the highest average [wages](#) in the country. Car industry staff could double their income, they claimed, while secondary school teachers are on the equivalent of £52,567.