HR CONSULTANCY LAUNCH PROGRAMME · CHOOSE THE HR PLATFORM YOU'LL RECOMMEND

HR platform comparison matrix

Compare the main SME HR platforms on best-for size, rough monthly cost, partner/reseller option, and whether they offer a DPA.

01 Before you compare

Every price here is a rough market figure and indicative only. Confirm current pricing and any partner terms with the vendor before you quote a client. If you take a reseller commission, plan to disclose it.

What is your niche, and its typical team size?

The right platform depends on how many employees your clients run.

Partner/reseller or platform-neutral: which stance are you taking?

A partnership adds margin but ties you to one vendor. Neutral lets you fit the client, but you carry the subscription conversation.

02 What each column means

Score every platform you shortlist against the same four columns.

Best-for size

The team size the platform fits best: micro, small, or scaling SME.

Rough monthly cost

Indicative only. Flat tier or per-employee, and confirm it live.

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Partner/reseller option

Does the vendor run a partner or reseller programme, and on what terms?

Offers a DPA?

Will the vendor sign a data processing agreement for the special-category data you hold (Module 3)?

03 BreatheHR

Very small-team friendly, with flat tiers rather than per-employee pricing. Indicative small-team tiers ~£18–£24/mo.

Best-for size

Rough monthly cost

Partner/reseller option

Offers a DPA?

04 PeopleHR / Access PeopleHR

Feature-rich and priced per employee. Indicative ~£3–£9.50/employee/mo.

Best-for size

Rough monthly cost

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Partner/reseller option

Offers a DPA?

05 Sage HR

Modular and scalable, priced per employee by module. Indicative ~£4–£10/employee/mo.

Best-for size

Rough monthly cost

Partner/reseller option

Offers a DPA?

06 CharlieHR

Core HR for small teams. Indicative from ~£20/mo.

Best-for size

Rough monthly cost

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Partner/reseller option

Offers a DPA?

07 BrightHR

Bundles HR software with an employment-law advice line and an EAP. Indicative ~£16.67–£28.20/mo across tiers.

Best-for size

Rough monthly cost

Partner/reseller option

Offers a DPA?

08 Personio

The most end-to-end of the group, aimed at larger SMEs and can be heavy and costly for a micro-SME. Pricing is quote-based and higher, so confirm on a demo.

Best-for size

Rough monthly cost

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Partner/reseller option

Offers a DPA?

09 Your decision

One platform to learn deeply, one to keep as the alternative.

Which platform will you learn deeply and implement, and why?

Which second platform will you keep as an alternative?

If you take a partner commission, how and when will you disclose it to the client?

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