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## Employment figures enjoy sharp rise: CIPD

***The latest labour market figures are the best set since the start of the jobs recession, the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development has found.***

The number of working people has shown a sharp quarterly rise, according to the Labour Force Survey from the Office for National Statistics.

It also shows fewer economically inactive people as well as a drop in both headline unemployment and jobseekers' allowance claimant count.

John Philpott, chief economic adviser for the CIPD, said: "This is easily the best set of official labour market figures since the start of the jobs recession two years ago.

"But while the jobs market was clearly much perkier in the spring quarter, with close to 2.5m people unemployed it is still far from in the pink."

The statistics update the measures of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity to the quarterly period March to May 2010.

It also shows the unemployment and Jobseekers' Allowance claimants to June 2010 and average weekly earnings for May 2010.

"A spring 2010 pick-up in employment comes as no surprise to the CIPD, since this is what our own surveys of employers' hiring intentions had shown," said Mr Philpott.

He added however that with a big public sector jobs squeeze already under way and the pace of economic recovery uncertain, things may look a lot less rosy by spring 2011.

"Worryingly more recent employer surveys suggest the jobs recovery pace has slowed since spring, placing a question mark over whether the private sector will in the short-run generate enough jobs to offset mounting public sector job cuts," he said.

"Today's good news may simply be the calm before the storm."

The net new jobs being created are either part-time, temp work or positions filled by the self-employed.

The number of full-time employees has continued to fall while the number working part-time as an alternative has increased to 1.06m.



**Paul Winter**, founder and chief executive of Corpra, a corporate restructuring firm, said these figures may be made up of companies employing people in a different way with more flexible working and part-time.

He said that the wave of redundancies during the recession has been the trigger for some people to set up their own businesses.

"We are advising advisers to hold onto their core staff with the best skillset and the best customer contact network," he said.

"IFAs should find different employment methods based on project, time and different areas, for example a flexible array of part-time positions and outsourcing."

IFAs are tending to keep their heads down and network harder, according to Mr Winter. He said it is a resilient community and most have a work ethic that will see them through.

