

Artificial intelligence and employment

15 October 2024

Mary Connaughton
CIPD Ireland

The CIPD

A partner
and voice for
people
professionals

Influencing work
and workplace
practices, policies
and insights

Championing
better work
and working
lives

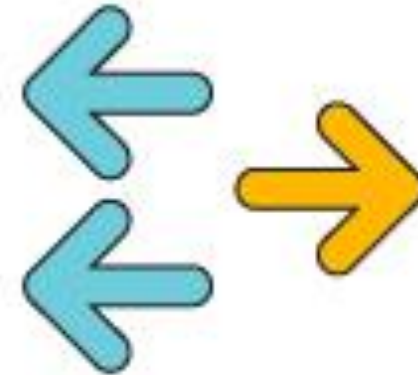
Building
standards,
capability and
professionalism

Growing our reach
and impact
internationally

HR Practices survey 2024

Top external drivers of change

- Workforce expectations
- Availability of key skills
- Cost increase and inflation
- Automation, technology and AI



Most concerning capability gaps



Leadership
and
influencing
skills



Technology
design,
programming
and AI



Collaboration
and
teamworking



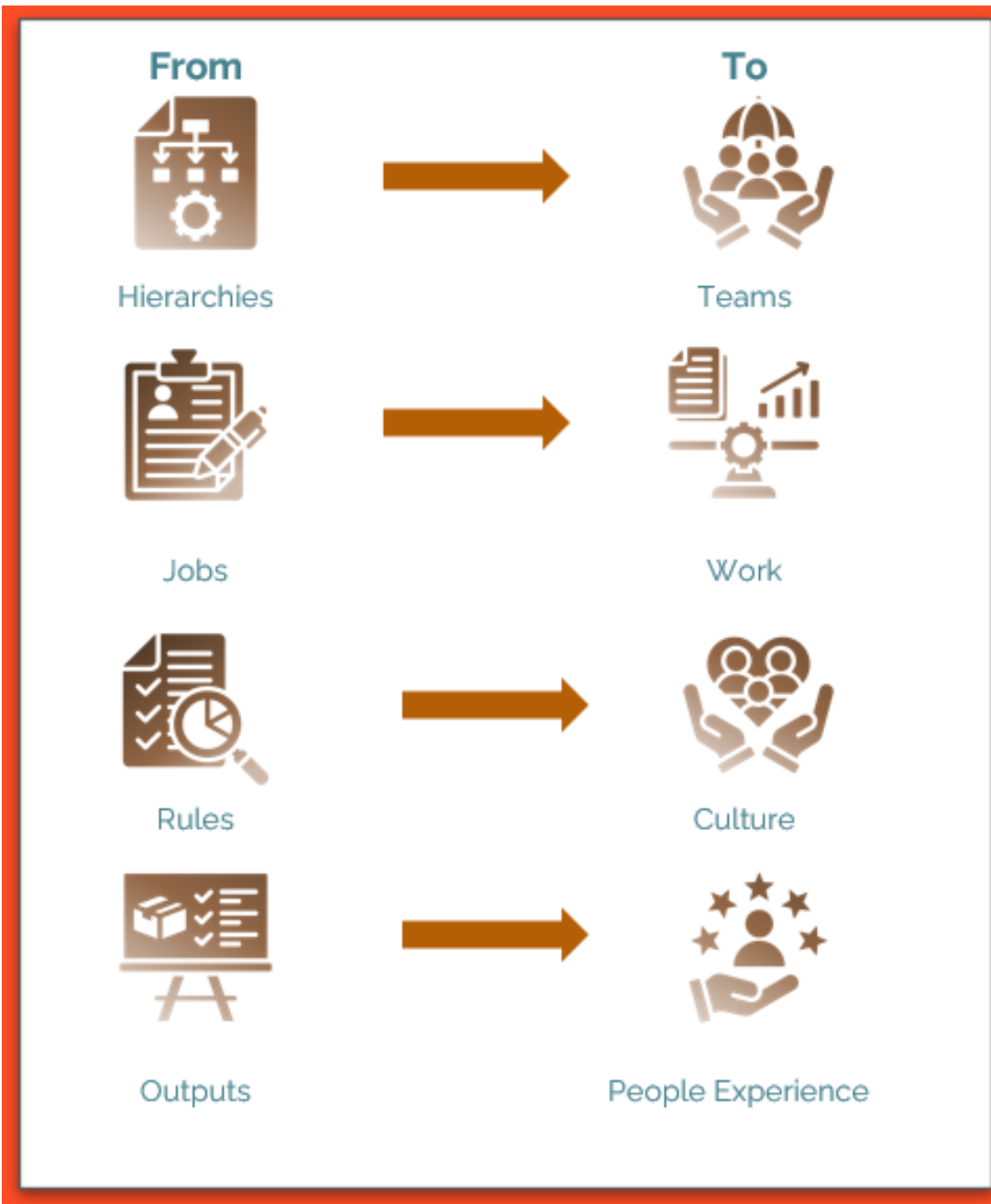
Complex
problem-
solving



AI & technology transformation

- Varying organisational response to change
 - Redesigning work: are we in the room?
 - Are we developing skills for a digital world
 - Opportunity for good data and better efficiency
 - Do we understand the impact: learning, inclusion, performance
 - Trust and culture
 - Ethical concerns; can AI be an equaliser?
 - How do we bring people expertise to digital transformation to add real value?
-

The changing nature of work



CIPD

Will generative AI help?

- Era of generative AI is just beginning - 22% increase in adoption of AI in the past year
- What is the problem we are trying to solve
- How to define the value add - where are the cost and efficiency savings?
- Experimentation – test and learn
- The potential of technology to change the anatomy of work, relationships, culture
- Ethical use, governance



Can we get there?

“promote the uptake of human centric and trustworthy artificial intelligence while ensuring a high level of protection of health, safety, fundamental rights as enshrined in the Charter of fundamental rights of the European Union...”

- Regulation versus innovation
- Risks to human decision making, autonomy and control.
- Automated decisions
- Skills and capabilities
- Work and job design
- People management
- Improving wellbeing and mental health



EU AI Act

- Make the legislation accessible by keeping it as simple and straightforward as possible
- Build in human oversight into critical decisions
- Ensure elimination of bias is central to all operating systems This is particularly relevant to decisions about humans, whether it be performance or recruitment - so require that AI has been rigorously trained, is regularly audited to mitigate bias, and that people remain in charge of people decisions.
- Build in the approach that defines human centric and includes a focus on good work, employee protections and employee sustainability not just societal benefits.
- Recognise the dynamic nature of AI, its early stage of maturity, and allow for this in legislation
- Where solutions to converting high risk systems to low risk situations becomes very arduous, this may serve as a blocker to AI use.