



Christmas bash gets go ahead for 74pc of firms

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(Evening Herald)

The Q3 Sigmar Recruitment Survey result showed that 74pc of 372 companies surveyed are planning to have a Christmas party this year. This compares with 81pc last year, but still a high proportion in the current climate.

Sigmar Managing Director, Adrian McGennis said: " We were surprised that the number stayed that high and we believe that there are a number of factors.

The survey didn't cover the cost of the party, but anecdotal evidence says most companies will be spending less this year than over the last few years."

He said that while many HR professionals were aware of the perception of lavish spending, they were equally aware of the importance of maintaining motivation with staff. Many felt an inexpensive night out to mark what has been a tough year for most was appropriate and justifiable.

Sigmar Director Frank Farrelly added: "The benefits of holding a Christmas party far outweigh the cost savings. Most employees have experienced increased responsibilities or longer working hours while taking salary cuts in 2009. Throwing a Christmas party is a small gesture of thanks that goes a long way."

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