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Emigration specialist makes free offer to Corus workers

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TEESSIDE steelworkers facing redundancy are being invited to take advantage of a special and unique offer - and consider a move down under.

The Emigration Group specialise in assisting people with moves to New Zealand and Australia - home to Teesside steel-crafted Sydney Harbour Bridge.

And after the announcement that 1,700 jobs are set to go from Corus' Teesside Cast Products plant, the group are offering free eligibility reports to Corus staff.

Group director Paul Arthur, who is originally from Stockton, said: "People have been put in a very difficult situation and this is a chance to sit back and think about things.

"It's a bad situation and I don't think it has clearly been defined who is going and staying yet.

"I am from the North-east and for that reason have a strong affinity with the area so it's really horrible to see."

The eligibility report that The Emigration Group are offering provides an indication of whether people are likely to be successful

in their application for a move down under.

A variety of information will also be provided by the group who will then be on hand to assist anyone wanting to go ahead with the emigration process.

"It's quite complicated," Paul added.

"You have to tick lots of boxes and meet certain criteria. We get thousands of inquiries every year

and people aren't always eligible.

"At least this way people can see if they are before going any further."

Around 56,000 people left Britain for Australia last year and official figures have revealed a total of 427,000 people left for foreign shores.

The Office for National Statistics say that Australia was the top destination and Paul reckons it's easy to see why.

"I drove to work this morning

and it was -1 degree," he said.

"When I talk to people over there it's 35 degrees at the moment!

"In the UK we also work harder and longer than most countries and we are taxed more. There's great opportunities over there and

the cost of living and property is so much more affordable too."

Corus dropped the bombshell over a week ago that it was to mothball its Teesside Cast Products Plant with around 1,700 jobs set to go.

Anyone interested in taking up The Emigration Group's offer can call them on 0845 230 2526, or visit their website at www.emigrationgroup.co.uk.

■ **Do you have any family who have made the move Down Under? Email the newsdesk at news@eveninggazette.co.uk or call 01642 234262**

■ **Would you emigrate to Australia? Join our poll on www.gazettelivelco**



I drove to work this morning and it was -1 degree. When I talk to people over there it's 35 degrees at the moment! - Paul Arthur, above, whose company is offering to help Corus staff move to Australia, the home of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, right and top - built using Teesside steel - after the announcement reported above ”

