

FOCUS ON LABOUR EXPLOITATION

REVIEW

EXPERIENCES AND DRIVERS OF LABOUR EXPLOITATION FOR YOUNG MIGRANT WORKERS

NOVEMBER 2021

ABOUT US

The UK Labour Exploitation (LEO) is a UK-based charity that works to end human trafficking for labour exploitation across the UK and worldwide. To achieve this, LEO requires research and advocacy to protect labour groups, provide the rights of individual people and provide best practice supported by human trafficking for labour exploitation. For the information of LEO users and our research publications and publications can be found on our website www.uklabour.org.

SUMMARY

An examination of the experiences of young migrant workers in the UK, this briefing is based on a sample of primary data collected as part of a larger participatory research project, alongside existing literature. The young people engaged in the study (2) were aged 18-25, working in the care home sector (in temporary, ongoing and one-based fixed-term, agency roles) and predominantly had European Economic Area (EEA) nationality passports. Drawing on data from across all three sectors, this briefing explores the specific role of age and migrant status on experiences of work. The impact of Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic are also discussed (based on discussion with participants) and you also briefly examine more.

This briefing is part of a broader research project, seeking to address the knowledge gap concerning experiences and drivers of labour abuse and exploitation under various legal, financial contexts of the economy. It forms part of a series of publications, of which three briefing papers have been published so far – on migrant housing, 'agency' and the agricultural/seasonal sector. The findings outlined in the briefing paper 'RESPONSES TO BREXIT: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR LABOUR ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION, WITH WORKERS EXPERIENCING BREXIT-RELATED ISSUES WITH PAY AND WORKING CONDITIONS'. They also highlight systemic and structural issues that result in labour exploitation, including low levels of union representation and barriers to seeking help which affect the migrant workers.

While it is clear that the status and impact of age is a risk factor for labour abuse and exploitation, for this briefing, we have combined with abuse of power and authority in labour exploitation and result in labour exploitation people feel for which, however, we are unable, and therefore we are with a sense that they have different options for redress.

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