

GLAA Brief

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Victimisation of workers

This brief sets out the steps that labour providers should take if approached by workers who have been sent by an unknown third party

Introduction

Recently, there have been a number of cases of prospective workers being essentially 'conned' into paying fees in the host country for work in the UK which when the worker arrives does not exist. In several cases the workers have turned up at a licensed agency seeking work, as advised by the individual who is seeking to mislead them. The labour providers have taken the workers on so that they are not left homeless and without any means of supporting themselves.

Labour providers have raised concerns that they may be encouraging criminality by taking on these workers, as those supplying the workers are generally based overseas and have no relationship with the receiving business.

What action should labour providers take?

The GLAA is happy to give advice on this issue and would encourage labour providers to contact our Intelligence team in the first instance when this occurs. The Intelligence team can be contacted on 0800 432 0804 or by emailing intelligence@gla.gsi.gov.uk or by completing the form on our website www.gla.gov.uk. The GLAA would encourage the labour provider to gather as much information from the workers as possible including:

- name
- nationality
- name and location of the person who told them to go to the agency/labour supply business
- how the workers came to the UK
- what fees the worker may have paid in their home country

The labour provider should decide whether they are happy to take the workers on, as this is a commercial decision for the business. The GLAA will not take enforcement action in these circumstances unless it becomes clear that a labour provider was involved in the unlicensed supply of labour.

Further information

- 1. If you any questions about this brief, please contact the GLAA helpline on 0345 602 5020 or email licensing@gla.gsi.gov.uk.
- 2. For the latest news and updates from the GLAA:

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