

Health, Social, Economic & Cultural impacts of Covid-19  
 on Migrant Essential Workers

# Participant Information Sheet – Expert interview

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*You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide to take part it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask the researchers if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take some time to decide whether or not you wish to take part. Thank you for reading this.*

**What is the research about?**

This project investigates varied impacts of COVID-19 on the migrant essential workforce and how these might impact on their continued stay in the UK. It focuses on the largest non-British nationality in the UK, the Polish community, who - while employed across a range of roles and sectors - are overrepresented in essential work.

As part of this study, we are looking at support and service provision for migrant essential workers in the UK. It is for this reason that you are contacted and invited to speak about the work of your organisation and/or your initiative. The study aims to raise awareness of the needs and challenges that migrant essential workers experience during the pandemic. It will produce findings that will be of interest not only to the academic community, but also to UK policy-makers and practitioners from voluntary and public sector organisations.

**Why have I been chosen?**

You have been contacted as a representative of a voluntary or public sector organisation/service/initiative working with migrant essential workers and/or migrant and minority ethnic client groups. We would like to speak to you about the activities of your organisation and your opinions on the situation and needs of migrant essential workers.

**What does taking part in this study involve?**

Participation involves an interview that will take approximately 1 hour. The interview will take place online - we will provide a secure link to a video call. If you are unable to take a video call, we can arrange the interview via telephone. We will record the interview with your permission. The interview will cover issues such as your organisations’ remit and activities, your work with migrant essential workers/migrant populations and your awareness of how COVID-19 had been affecting them. You are welcome to raise any other topic which is important to the work of your organisation.

**What will happen to the information I provide?**

All data collected will be used for research purposes and only the research team will have access to them. It is entirely up to you and your ogranisation whether you and/or the organisation are named in the outputs arising from the study. If you wish for you and/or your organisation not to be named, pseudonyms will be used. The audio file with your interview will be destroyed upon completion of the study (May 2022) and only a transcribed version will be retained for 10 years beyond this date. All electronic data will be stored on password-protected drives and printed data in a locked cabinet. Confidentiality will be respected subject to legal constraints and professional guidelines.

**Do I have to take part?**

Your participation is entirely voluntary. Even if you decide to take part in the interview, you can refuse to answer any questions and are free to withdraw from the study at any time (until the point of depositing anonymised interview transcripts in the UK Data Archive).

**Why should I do this?**

The findings from the study will be of interest not only to the academic community, but also to policy-makers, voluntary/public sector organisations, service providers and employers working with migrant populations in the UK. Therefore, you will have a say in a larger and highly relevant discussion. In the long run, your participation will help to inform social and institutional awareness of specific issues faced by migrant essential workers.

**Who is doing the research?**

The research is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) under the Covid-19 rapid response scheme. It is being conducted by a group of independent researchers from the University of Glasgow, Middlesex University and the University of Sheffield with the support of partner organisations: Centrala, Fife Migrants Forum, Polish Social and Cultural Association, and PKAVS Minority Communities Hub.

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This project has been considered and approved by the College Research Ethics Committee at the University of Glasgow. To pursue any complaint about the conduct of the research: contact the College of Social Sciences Ethics Officer, Dr Muir Houston, email: [Muir.Houston@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Muir.Houston@glasgow.ac.uk)