

Date: Monday 7 December 2020

Time: 1pm – 2.30pm.

Register for attendance details on [Eventbrite](#).

This session, the first of two, presents an interdisciplinary discussion of critical issues confronting human labour under Covid-19.

The Covid-19 pandemic is having a profound impact on work and working lives. This has ignited an important debate on the value of human labour, which has increased awareness of the criticality of a wide range of jobs, many of which have been traditionally undervalued, both politically and socially.

The UK government's definition of 'key workers' amount to 7.1 million adults, many of which are underpaid, working in insecure jobs and operating in public-facing roles. Among key workers, Black, Asian, and working-class groups make up a disproportionately large share, leaving them far more exposed to infection. Additionally, sectors dominated by female workers, such as retail and hospitality, have been hit hard by variations of lockdown, placing them at increased risk of both job loss and furlough. Uncertainty surrounding schooling and childcare provision adds an extra burden.

**Gender, growth and devolution: policy problems and political possibilities.**



*Francesca Gains*: Professor of Public Policy, Academic Co-Director of Policy@Manchester and member of the Greater Manchester Women and Girls' Equality Panel.

**Bogus self-employment and Covid-19: an added layer of insecurity.**



*Martí López-Andreu*: Senior Lecturer in HRM and Employment Relations, Newcastle University, and an associate member of the Work and Equalities Institute.

**#HereToDeliver: Valuing food delivery workers in the future.**



*Cristina Inversi*: Research Fellow in Labour Law at Università Statale di Milano and a member of the Work and Equalities Institute.



*Tony Dundon*: Professor of HRM and Employment Relations at Kemmy Business School, University of Limerick, and Visiting Professor at the Work and Equalities Institute.

**Transport and logistics during the Covid-19 pandemic: Keeping goods in the UK moving.**



*Sheena Johnson*: Professor of Work Psychology and Wellbeing at the University of Manchester. She heads up the Fair Treatment at Work theme in the Work and Equalities Institute, and the Social Change and Ageing theme in the Thomas Ashton Institute, University of Manchester.