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Labour Law Highlights 2017

edited by Rebecca Tuck

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2017 has been a key year for employment law, with Unison’s success in its judicial review against tribunal fees; the implementation of the Trade Union Act 2016; the publishing of the Taylor Review of Modern Working Practices, which puts forth recommendations for the reform of labour law in light of the burgeoning ‘gig economy’; and the continued negotiation of the UK’s withdrawal from the EU.

In this year’s Labour Law Highlights, a team of barristers from Old Square Chambers returns to assess how each of these events has impacted upon case law in the last 12 months, including clarification from the courts on the requirements of the Trade Union Act in practice, the flurry of tribunal hearings regarding ‘gig’ workers, and further decisions on the rights of workers required to take “sleep-in” shifts. In each case, they provide commentary on the potential wider implications of tribunal decisions.

The team covers a wide array of key rulings during 2017, from cases affecting trade union rights such as industrial disputes, collective consultation and recognition; to individual employment rights, such as the terms and conditions of precarious workers, pay, equality and discrimination at work, whistleblowing, and TUPE; to clarifications on and changes to the employment tribunal procedure itself.

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