

EMPLOYMENT (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2002

S.I. 2002 No. 2836 (N.I. 2)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

CONSULTATION

8. All of the proposals outlined above have been the subject of full public consultation in NI.
9. The proposals found favour across the board. There was unanimous support for the introduction of paid adoption leave. The proposals on paid paternity leave and the extension of maternity rights were well received, although employers were concerned that these should be implemented in a manner sympathetic to business. In this context, efforts to ensure a 'light touch' as regards the proposals and to harmonise elements surrounding leave and pay were particularly welcomed.
10. The majority of respondents agreed with the proposal to legislate to give parents of young children the right to request flexible working conditions.
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