

“Fixed term employment

282.—(1) In this section, “fixed term contract” means a contract of employment that, under its provisions determining how it will terminate in the normal course, will terminate—

- (a) on the expiry of a specific term,
- (b) on the completion of a particular task, or
- (c) on the occurrence or non-occurrence of any other specific event other than the attainment by the employee of any normal and bona fide retiring age in the establishment for an employee holding the position held by him.

(2) The provisions of Chapter II of Part IV (procedure for handling redundancies) do not apply to employment under a fixed term contract unless—

- (a) the employer is proposing to dismiss the employee as redundant; and
- (b) the dismissal will take effect before the expiry of the specific term, the completion of the particular task or the occurrence or non-occurrence of the specific event (as the case may be).”.

Jo Swinson

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Employment Relations and Consumer Affairs
27th March 2013

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order relates to the implementation of Council Directive 1998/59/EC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to collective redundancies (“the Directive”). It amends provisions relating to collective redundancies in the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (“the 1992 Act”).

Article 3 amends the 1992 Act. Paragraph (2) amends section 188 to reduce from 90 to 45 the minimum number of days which must elapse before the first dismissal can take effect in cases where the employer is proposing to dismiss 100 or more employees as redundant within a period of 90 days or less. Paragraph (3) amends section 193 to reduce from 90 to 45 days the minimum period of notice before the first dismissal takes effect which the employer must give to the Secretary of State in cases where the employer is proposing to dismiss 100 or more employees as redundant within a period of 90 days or less.

Paragraph (4) amends section 282 to exclude the expiry of fixed term contracts from the provisions dealing with collective redundancies in the 1992 Act. The expiry of a fixed term contract will not be excluded from the provisions dealing with collective redundancies if the employer is proposing to dismiss the employee as redundant (as defined in section 195) and the dismissal will take effect before the point at which it was agreed in the contract that it would expire. This point could be on the expiry of a specific period of time. Alternatively, it could be on the completion of a particular task such as a research project or on the occurrence (or non-occurrence) of an event such as external funding for a particular role coming to an end.

An impact assessment of the effect that this instrument will have on the costs to business and the voluntary sector are attached to the Explanatory Memorandum which is available alongside the instrument on www.legislation.gov.uk. Copies have also been placed in the Libraries of both Houses of Parliament.

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