



An Roinn Gnóthaí Fostaíochta
agus Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Employment Affairs
and Social Protection

Doherty gets Government Approval to Amend Payment of Wages Act

New Measures will Guarantee Fairness and Transparency on Tipping of Low Paid Workers

Monday, 8 July 2019: The Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection, Regina Doherty T.D., has announced that she received Government approval on a draft Heads of a Bill which will regulate practices around tips and gratuities.

The Heads of Bill set out how the Minister intends:

- To amend the Payment of Wages Act to ensure that tips and gratuities cannot be used to ‘make-up’ or satisfy a person’s contractual wages; and
- To provide for a requirement on employers to clearly display, for the benefit of workers and customers, their policy on how tips, gratuities and service charges are distributed.

Speaking today, the Minister said:

“It has become clear over the past number of months that in a minority of establishments, workers are not being treated fairly with regard to tips. As I said previously, I will not tolerate this on my watch and now, having received approval from Government, I look forward to introducing measures which will improve the situation and, crucially, have a sound legal basis.

“I am determined to always stand up for fairness and the employment rights of low paid and precarious workers. I made significant progress in this regard with the Employment Act 2018 which restricted zero hours contracts and introduced banded hours contracts.”

Having received Government approval, the Minister’s Department will now proceed with the drafting of the necessary legislation. It is expected to commence pre-legislative scrutiny of the Bill as soon as possible.

ENDS

Press Office Contact Details

E: press.office@welfare.ie

T: 01 704 3082

Twitter: @welfare_ie