STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2024 No. 216

EMPLOYMENT

The Public Interest Disclosure (Prescribed Persons) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2024

Made - - - - 12th December 2024

Coming into operation in accordance with Article 1

The Department for the Economy makes the following Order, in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 67F of the Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996(**a**) and now vested in it(**b**).

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Public Interest Disclosure (Prescribed Persons) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2024 and, subject to paragraph (2), shall come into operation on 12th February 2025.

(2) Article 2(2) shall come into operation on the day on which section 115 (protected disclosures) of the Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Act 2024(**c**) comes into operation.

Amendment

2.—(1) The Schedule to the Public Interest Disclosure (Prescribed Persons) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999(**d**) is amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) In the entry relating to the Competition and Markets Authority, in Column (2) (descriptions of matters) after "United Kingdom" insert ", including matters relating to Part 1 of the Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Act 2024 (digital markets)".

(3) In the entry relating to the Office of Communications, in Column (2) (descriptions of matters)—

(a) at the end of paragraph (d) omit "and";

(**a**) S.I. 1996/1919 (N.I. 16); Article 67F was inserted by Article 3 of the Public Interest Disclosure (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 (S.I. 1998/1763 N.I. 17) and amended by section 14(1)(c) of the Employment Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (c.15 N.I.).

(**b**) The functions of the Department of Economic Development under the Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 were transferred to the Department of Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment by Article 4(b) of, and Schedule 2, Part 2 to, the Departments (Transfer and Assignment of Functions) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. 1999 No. 481). The Department of Higher and Further Education, Training and Employment was renamed the Department for Employment and Learning by section 1(1) of the Department for Employment and Learning Act (Northern Ireland) 2001 (c.15 N.I.), and following the dissolution of that department by section 1(10) of the Departments Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (c.5 N.I.), its functions under the Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 were transferred to the Department for the Economy by Article 6(1)(c) of the Departments (Transfer of Functions) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 (S.R. 2016 No. 76).

(**c**) 2024 c.13.

(**d**) S.R. 1999 No. 401; amended by S.R. 2004 No. 261, S.R. 2006 No. 458, S.R. 2010 No. 361, S.R. 2010 No. 399, S.R. 2012 No. 283, S.I. 2013/472, S.R. 2014 No. 48, S.I. 2014/631, S.I. 2017/516, S.I. 2017/692, S.I. 2017/1064, S.I. 2017/1127, S.R. 2022 No. 72 and S.R. 2022 No. 290.

(b) at the end of paragraph (e) for "." substitute ";";

(c) after paragraph (e) insert—

"(f) the regulation of video sharing platform services under Part 4B of the Communications Act 2003; and

(g) the regulation of regulated services under the Online Safety Act 2023.".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department for the Economy on 12th December 2024.

L.S.

Conor Murphy
Minister for the Economy

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order makes a consequential amendment to the Schedule to the Public Interest Disclosure (Prescribed Persons) Order (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. 1999 No. 401) by confirming that matters relating to Part 1 of the Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Act (digital markets) are covered by the entry for the Competition and Markets Authority and that matters relating to Part 4B of the Communications Act 2003 and Online Safety Act 2023 are covered by the entry for the Office of Communications (Ofcom).

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