## WRC opens consultation on remote working code of practice

## ANDY PRENDERGAST

The Workplace Relations Commission is inviting submissions to inform the development of a key Code of Practice on the new right to request remote working that was recently enacted.

The Code of Practice for the 'right to request' remote working will play a central role in how the new law will be used by those seeking remote work. For example, if an employer does not adequately consider the Code in its response to a remote working request, they will have fallen short of requirements and may be compelled to accept the request by a WRC adjudicator or Labour Court.

Part 4 of the Work Life Balance and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 requires the WRC to prepare the Code of Practice.

The Commission now is undertaking a public consultation before it drafts a Code of Practice on the 'Right to Request' Remote Working. The Code is expected to set out practical guidance for employers and employees as to the steps that may be taken for complying with the requirements of the Act in relation to applications for flexible or remote working.

The Commission is accepting submissions on the code up to 5pm on 9 June 2023.

Submissions marked "Right to Request Remote Work" should be sent to <u>RTRRW@workplacerelations.ie</u>, or by post to Workplace Relations Commission, Lansdowne House, Lansdowne Road, Dublin 4, D04A3A8.

As part of the consultation process, the WRC said it may consult with parties to clarify submissions received or with certain key stakeholders.