

2017.03.14

4.12 Deputy L.M.C. Doublet of the Minister for Social Security regarding the progress of consultation undertaken by the Employment Forum on family friendly legislation and policies: [1(173)]

What updates, if any, has the Minister received from the Employment Forum, regarding the progress of its consultation on family friendly legislation policies?

Deputy S.J. Pinel (The Minister for Social Security):

I thank the Deputy for her very pertinent question. The Employment Forum's family friendly survey is currently underway. The Deputy's question gives me a good opportunity to remind Members and the public that they can complete the survey online until 17th March. The media have provided some excellent coverage, for which the Forum, and I, are very grateful. There has been a very good response so far, with over 250 completed surveys received. I look forward to receiving the Forum's recommendations later this year.

4.12.1 Deputy L.M.C. Doublet:

Is the Minister aware of any particular demographic groups who could be encouraged to respond in greater numbers?

Deputy S.J. Pinel:

Yes, I think there has been a plea for men.

4.12.3 Deputy L.M.C. Doublet:

If the aforementioned group – men - do not participate in the survey in significant numbers, what efforts will the Minister make to go out to that group, to ensure that she does have a representative view of the wider community upon which to base her policy decisions?

Deputy S.J. Pinel:

As I mentioned, there has been quite extensive public consultation and press coverage of asking more men in the demographic line that the Deputy mentioned, to come forward. The consultation finishes on 17th March and the Employment Forum will not consult further on that, because they will then move into the minimum wage and come back with the results of this consultation by the end of the year.

Deputy L.M.C. Doublet:

Sorry, the question was what will the Minister do in order to base her policy decisions on a wider representative view, not the Forum.

Deputy S.J. Pinel:

My decision will be based on the recommendations of the Employment Forum.