News from the Public Policy Panel

The Public Policy Panel is a group of CIPD Manchester members who contribute to national consultations and discussions on contemporary HR issues. Typical issues might include changes in government legislation, human capital reporting, the skills and employability agenda, etc.

Two consultations are currently out:

1 - The consultation on low pay
Debates on low pay and the cost of living are continuing to dominate the political arena; the Labour Party are currently exploring ways to restore the value of the National Minimum Wage, and the Prime Minister is considering increasing the National Minimum Wage rate by up to 50p. With the economic recovery beginning to take hold, the Public Policy Panel is investigating what role, if any, employers can play in the debate on low pay, and what the consequences of potential changes relating to the National Minimum Wage and Living Wage may be for employers and individuals.

2 - The consultation on zero hours
In December 2013, the Business Secretary Vince Cable announced a consultation into zero hours employment contracts, to examine how and why they are used and whether legislative steps need to be taken in order to prompt best practice in their use by employers. In order to inform the CIPD response to the consultation, the Public Policy Panel is keen to gain feedback from professionals on their views of zero hours contracts.

What’s next?
On Tuesday 25th February Mike Emmott, CIPD Policy Adviser, will be joining the Public Policy Panel for an informal discussion of current and forthcoming policy issues.
If you would be interested in joining the group please e-mail Jacqui Woodhouse, our Policy Adviser at jwoodhousecipd@hotmail.co.uk