

<b>Respondent</b>	<b>In favour of proposed amendments</b>	<b>Main comments</b>
SDLP	Yes	"We have examined the draft amendments and are in general supportive of them.."
Evangelical Alliance	Acknowledged as necessary	"We acknowledge that the regulations require amendment to take account of the new legislation on civil partnership. However, we welcome the recognition that the existing GOR exception in 8(3) will permit some employers such as religious organisations to require that an employee be married (rather than a civil partner).."
NIC/ICTU	Yes	"We view the proposed amendments as a positive development and have no further comment on these."
CARE	No	"In view of New Regulation 3, CARE does not consider a same-sex couple partnership and a marriage to be equivalent...CARE is concerned to ensure that churches and other religious organisations maintain the ability to operate genuine occupational requirements in regard to the Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) Regulations (NI) 2003."
Equality Commission for Northern Ireland	Yes	"The Commission welcomes these proposed amendments which give practical effects to the introduction of civil partnership.."
NIPSA	Yes	"..NIPSA supports the proposed amendments as proposed."