

STOP PRESS!

NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE RATES SET TO INCREASE

The National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) Regulations 2010 raise the national minimum wage rates with effect from 1 October 2010.

The new regulations implement three key changes, which employers should be aware of:

- The national minimum wage rates will increase
- The adult standard rate will be extended to include workers aged 21 or over (previously this rate applied to persons aged 22 and over)
- A new rate for apprentices aged under 19, or, aged 19 and over but in the first 12 months of employment, will be introduced. All other apprentices will continue to receive the national minimum wage dependent upon their age.

The new minimum hourly wage rates will be as follows:

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|--|---------------------------|
| • Workers aged 21 or over | £5.93 (rising from £5.80) |
| • Workers aged 18 - 20 | £4.92 (rising from £4.83) |
| • Workers aged under 18 but above the compulsory school age who are not apprentices | £3.64 (rising from £3.57) |
| • Apprentices aged under 19, or, aged 19 or over and in their first year of apprenticeship | £2.50 |

If you have any queries in relation to the above, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Employment Team.

If you require any specific advice in connection with the material contained in this bulletin, or on any other Employment Law issues, please contact: Paul Chamberlain in Manchester on 0161 836 8864, Andrew Cross in Liverpool on 0151 600 3062 or Kevin James in Preston on 01772 229847.

If you no longer wish to receive the bulletin please let us know by return e-mail to helen.calvert@brabnerscs.com

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