

National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage

National Minimum Wage

The National Minimum Wage (NMW) is the minimum pay per hour most workers are entitled to by law. The rate will depend on a worker's age and if they are an apprentice.

The National Living Wage

The Government's National Living Wage was introduced on 1 April 2016 for all working people aged 25 and over, and is set at £7.20 per hour. The current National Minimum Wage for those under the age of 25 still applies

Rates of pay

It is important to note that these rates, which came into force 1 October 2015, apply to pay reference periods beginning on or after that date.

The rates from 1 October 2015 are:

- £6.70 for workers 21 and over
- £5.30 18-20 yrs
- £3.87 for 16-17 yrs, who are above school leaving age but under 18
- £3.30 for apprentices under 19 or 19 or over who are in the first year of apprenticeship.

In October 2016 the new rates will be:

- £7.20 per hour - 25 yrs old and over
- £6.95 per hour - 21-24 yrs old
- £5.55 per hour 18-20 yrs old
- £4 per hour - 16-17 yrs old
- £3.40 for apprentices under 19 or 19 or over who are in the first year of apprenticeship.

The rate will then change every April starting April 2017.