

PRESS RELEASE



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Agricultural Wages Order 2011

The New Agricultural Wages Order comes into effect on the 1st October 2011. Defra had previously announced their intention to abolish the Agricultural Wages Board, however, the legislation required to do this has not yet reached the statute book.

Grade 1 workers have been awarded 2.5% increase to £6.10 which is keeping them 2p per hour above the national minimum wage. All workers over grade 2 have been awarded a 2.9 % increase - this is higher than most recent pay awards in other industries.

If the wages board is abolished the agricultural wages would come under the scope of the national minimum wage.

Andrew Bays of BCM comments "the 2.5% to 3% increases in agricultural wages will be welcomed by the recipients who historically have not always seen their pay awards keeping pace with other industries. However, the situation seems to have turned full circle and most non-agricultural workers in the current climate would jump at the chance of any increase in pay, let alone 2.5%. For the farmer, however, this is another example of the ever increasing cost of producing food."

For more information call Andrew Bays on 01962 763900.

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