



Communications

Date: 7th February 2012

Dates confirmed for the new statutory payment rates for tax year 2012/13

In December 2011, the Government announced the proposed new rates for Statutory Sick Pay (SSP), Statutory Maternity Pay (SMP), Ordinary Statutory Paternity Pay (OSPP), Additional Statutory Paternity Pay (ASPP) and Statutory Adoption Pay (SAP) for tax year 2012/13 but the dates they would come into effect were not entirely clear. The Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 2012 has now been published in draft form and provides that:

The weekly rate of SSP will rise to £85.85 with effect from 6 April 2012.

The standard weekly rate of SMP and the weekly rates of OSPP, ASPP and SAP will rise to £135.45 (or 90% of average weekly earnings, if lower) for payment weeks commencing on or after Sunday, 1 April 2012.

In addition, the draft Social Security (Contributions) (Limits and Thresholds) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 increase the weekly level of the lower earnings limit for primary Class 1 National Insurance Contributions (which is used for calculating entitlement to SSP, SMP, OSPP, ASPP and SAP) to £107.00 with effect from 6 April 2012.

The rates are still subject to Parliamentary approval but are unlikely to change.

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