

1974 No. 1493

**WAGES COUNCILS****The Wages Regulation (Flax and Hemp) Order 1974**

*Made - - - - - 5th September 1974*  
*Coming into Operation 12th October 1974*

Whereas the Secretary of State has received from the Flax and Hemp Wages Council (Great Britain) the wages regulation proposals set out in the Schedule hereto;

Now, therefore, the Secretary of State in exercise of powers conferred by section 11 of the Wages Councils Act 1959(a), and now vested in him(b), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:—

1. This Order may be cited as the Wages Regulation (Flax and Hemp) Order 1974.

2.—(1) In this Order the expression “the specified date” means the 12th October 1974, provided that where, as respects any worker who is paid wages at intervals not exceeding seven days, that date does not correspond with the beginning of the period for which the wages are paid, the expression “the specified date” means, as respects that worker, the beginning of the next such period following that date.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) shall apply to the interpretation of this Order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament and as if this Order and the Order hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

3. The wages regulation proposals set out in the Schedule hereto shall have effect as from the specified date and as from that date the Wages Regulation (Flax and Hemp) (No. 2) Order 1973(d) shall cease to have effect.

Signed by order of the Secretary of State.  
 5th September 1974.

*W. H. Marsh,*  
 Assistant Secretary,  
 Department of Employment.

**Article 3****SCHEDULE**

The following minimum remuneration shall be substituted for the statutory minimum remuneration fixed by the Wages Regulation (Flax and Hemp) (No. 2) Order 1973 (Order F.H. (135)).

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(a) 1959 c. 69.

(b) S.I. 1959/1769, 1968/729 (1959 I, p. 1795; 1968 II, p. 2108).

(c) 1889 c. 63.

(d) S.I. 1973/1594 (1973 III, p. 5028).

STATUTORY MINIMUM REMUNERATION

PART I

GENERAL

1.—(1) The minimum remuneration payable to a worker to whom this Schedule applies for all work except work to which a minimum overtime rate applies under Part III of this Schedule is:—

- (a) in the case of a time worker, the hourly general minimum time rate applicable to the worker under the provisions of this Schedule;
- (b) in the case of a worker employed on piece work, piece rates each of which would yield, in the circumstances of the case, to an ordinary worker (that is to say, a worker of ordinary skill and experience in the work) at least the same amount of money as the hourly piece work basis time rate applicable to the worker or, where no such rate applies, at least the same amount of money as the hourly general minimum time rate which would be applicable if the worker were a time worker:

Provided that where an hourly guaranteed time rate is applicable to a piece worker under paragraph 7 or under paragraph 8 and the remuneration calculated on a time work basis at that rate exceeds the remuneration calculated on the basis of the said piece rates, the worker shall be paid not less than that guaranteed time rate.

(2) In this Schedule, the expressions “hourly general minimum time rate”, “hourly guaranteed time rate” and “hourly piece work basis time rate” mean respectively the general minimum time rate, the guaranteed time rate and the piece work basis time rate applicable to a worker under Part II of this Schedule divided in each case by 40.

*COST OF LIVING PAYMENT*

2.—(1) *In addition to the minimum remuneration specified in paragraph 1 of this Schedule, additional remuneration hereinafter referred to as a “cost of living payment” shall be payable to all workers in accordance with this paragraph.*

(2)(a) *The cost of living payment payable in respect of each complete pay week shall be:—*

- (i) *£2.80 in the case of full-time workers;*
- (ii) *7p multiplied by the number of hours worked in that week (excluding overtime) in the case of part-time workers.*

(b) *Up to and including 15th November 1974, for each increase of 1.85 points in the Index of Retail Prices published by the Department of Employment above 209.5, the cost of living payment payable in respect of each complete pay week shall be increased in respect of each complete pay week following the increase by 40p per week in respect of full-time workers and by 1p multiplied by the number of hours worked (excluding overtime) in that week in respect of part-time workers.*

(3) *The cost of living payment shall not be treated as part of the general minimum time rate for the purpose of calculating payment for overtime under paragraph 9 of this Schedule.*

(4) *On and after 16th November 1974 the cost of living payment to be payable under this paragraph shall be that which was payable in respect of the last complete pay week before that date.*

(5) *In this paragraph—*

*“full-time worker” means a worker who normally works for the employer for 40 hours or more a week;*

*“part-time worker” means a worker who normally works for the employer for less than 40 hours a week.*

PART II  
ALL SECTIONS OF THE TRADE

GENERAL MINIMUM TIME RATES AND PIECE WORK BASIS TIME RATES

3.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph and of paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Schedule the general minimum time rates payable to male and female workers (in the occupations listed in sub-paragraph (2)) comprised in any of the groups specified in Column 1 of the next following Table are the rates set out in Column 2 or 3 of that Table as the case may be.

Column 1 Time workers	Column 2 Adult male workers aged 18 years or over	Column 3 Adult female workers aged 18 years or over
	Per week of 40 hours £	Per week of 40 hours £
Group 1 ... ..	19·98	18·30
Group 2 ... ..	20·11	18·53
Group 3 ... ..	20·23	18·76
Group 4 ... ..	20·35	18·99
Spinners when employed on night shifts ... ..	24·42	—
Group 5 ... ..	20·47	19·21
Weavers during the first six months of employment as such— ...	20·04	19·00
Group 6 ... ..	21·45	20·13
Group 7 ... ..	22·45	21·05

(2) The occupations of workers included in Groups 1 to 7 are as follows:—

Group 1	Group 3 (contd.)
Bobbin setter	Loose stock dyer
Can transporter	Loose stock pan packer
Sweeper	Oiler
	Packer—Press and Hand
Group 2	Preparer
Back ender	Tenter's helper
Bank filler	Twister Frame attendant
Emulsion mixer (proofing)	Warehouseman Tow and Flax
Ingiver	Yarn Examiner and Packer
Labourer—General	Yarn Storeman
Lapper	Group 4
Stamper and Sample cutter	Drawer
Weft carrier	Emulsion Machine 1st operator (proofing)
	Package Boiling plant operator
Group 3	Reeler
Breaker Card attendant	Spinner
Calender operator	Warper
Canvas darner	Winder
Cloth inspector	Group 5
Cloth Starch Machine attendant	Rubber liner
Cropper	Weaver
Emulsion Machine 2nd operator (proofing)	Group 6
Finisher card attendant	Yarn Dresser
Fork lift driver	Group 7
Hackling machine attendant	Tenter
Hackling Piecer	
Hosepipe darner	
Hose warehouseman	

(3) The following general minimum time rates are applicable to junior workers, except learners to whom the minimum rates specified in paragraph 4 apply, being aged:—

	Per week of 40 hours £ Male and Female
17½ and under 18 years ... ..	15·16
17 and under 17½ years ... ..	14·03
16½ and under 17 years ... ..	13·22
16 and under 16½ years ... ..	12·47
Provided that:— the rate for female workers who have completed two years' employment (including any period of learnership) in some or all of the processes of bobbin carrying, doffing, piecing or assisting at spinning frame, and who are in charge of a frame shall be ... ..	16·72

#### LEARNERS AND WEAVING TEACHERS

4.—(1) The following general minimum time rates are applicable to female learners:—

	Per week of 40 hours £
(a) Learners employed in weaving, warping, winding, reeling or spinning for one period of learnership not exceeding six months ...	12·47
(b) Learners employed in card-cutting for one period of learnership not exceeding 12 months ... ..	12·47

(2) For the purposes of this paragraph a learner is a female worker who is employed during the whole or a substantial part of her time in learning weaving, warping, winding, reeling, spinning or card-cutting by an employer who ensures that she receives reasonable and proper facilities for such learning and, in the case of a learner employed in weaving, is placed under a competent worker to be taught.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3, the weekly remuneration applicable to a worker who is employed in teaching a learner weaving shall not be less than the sum of the following amounts, that is to say—

- (a) the amount obtained by multiplying the worker's average hourly earnings during the previous eight weeks (exclusive of any week during which she was teaching a learner) by the number of hours constituting the worker's normal working week while teaching the learner;
- (b) the amount (if any) by which the piece work basis time rate in paragraph 6 exceeds the piece work basis time rate which was applicable at the end of the period of eight weeks specified in (a); and
- (c) 60p a week.

#### APPRENTICES AND IMPROVERS TO TENTING OR DRESSING

5.—(1) The following general minimum time rates are applicable to maleworkers:—

		Per week of 40 hours £
<b>(a) Apprentices to tenting, aged 16 years or over, whose employment complies with the provisions of Part IV of this Schedule—</b>		
During the—		
1st six months of apprenticeship	... ..	12-47
2nd " " " "	... ..	13-22
3rd " " " "	... ..	14-03
4th " " " "	... ..	15-16
3rd year of apprenticeship	... ..	16-62
4th " " " "	... ..	20-04
<b>(b) Improvers to tenting—</b>		
During one year of employment as an improver	... ..	20-75
<b>(c) Apprentices to dressing aged 16 years or over, whose employment complies with the provisions of Part IV of this Schedule—</b>		
During the—		
1st six months of apprenticeship	... ..	12-47
2nd " " " "	... ..	13-22
3rd " " " "	... ..	14-03
4th " " " "	... ..	15-16
3rd year of apprenticeship	... ..	16-62
<b>(d) Improvers to dressing—</b>		
During one year of employment as an improver	... ..	20-04
<b>(2) For the purposes of this paragraph:—</b>		
<b>(a) an improver to tenting is a male worker who having completed four years' apprenticeship to tenting in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of this Schedule has had thereafter less than two years' employment in tenting and is the holder of a certificate of registration as an improver to tenting issued by, or on behalf of, the Wages Council or has made application for such certificate which has been acknowledged and is still under consideration;</b>		
<b>(b) an improver to dressing is a male worker who having completed three years' apprenticeship to dressing in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of this Schedule has had thereafter less than one year's employment in dressing.</b>		

#### PIECE WORK BASIS TIME RATE

		Per week of 40 hours £
6. The piece work basis time rate applicable to female workers employed on piece work is	... ..	18-57

#### GUARANTEED TIME RATES FOR PIECE WORKERS

7. The guaranteed time rates applicable to female workers employed on piece work (except learners to whom the minimum rates specified in paragraph 4(1) apply) are as follows:—

		Per week of 40 hours £
Aged 18 years or over	... ..	16-62
" 17½ years and under 18 years	... ..	15-16
" 17 " " " 17½ "	... ..	14-03
" 16½ " " " 17 "	... ..	13-22
" 16 " " " 16½ "	... ..	12-47

**GUARANTEED TIME RATE FOR PIECE WORKERS  
WEAVERS**

	Per week of 40 hours £
8. The guaranteed time rates applicable to male weavers employed on piece work are as follows:—	
(1) During the first six months of employment as a weaver at or after the age of 18 years ... ..	20.04
(2) Thereafter ... ..	20.47

**PART III**

**OVERTIME AND WAITING TIME**

**MINIMUM OVERTIME RATES—ALL WORKERS**

9.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, minimum overtime rates are payable to any worker as follows:—

(a) on any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or a customary holiday—

- (i) for the first two hours worked in excess of 8½ hours ... .. time-and-a-quarter
- (ii) thereafter ... .. time-and-a-half

Provided that where the worker normally attends on five days only in the week or on five shifts in the case of a shift worker the said minimum overtime rates of time-and-a-quarter and time-and-a-half shall be payable after 9 and 11 hours' work respectively.

(b) on a Saturday, not being a customary holiday—

for all time worked in excess of 3½ hours ... .. time-and-a-half

Provided that where the worker normally attends on five days only in the week or on five shifts in the case of a shift worker the said minimum overtime rate of time-and-a-half shall be payable for all time worked on Saturday.

(c) on a Sunday or a customary holiday—

for all time worked ... .. double time

(2) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (3) of this paragraph, where the employer and the worker by agreement in writing fix in respect of each week-day or shift the number of hours after which a minimum overtime rate shall be payable and the total number of such hours amounts to 40 weekly, the following minimum overtime rates shall be payable in substitution for those set out in sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph—

(a) on any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or a customary holiday—

- (i) for the first two hours worked in excess of the agreed number of hours ... .. time-and-a-quarter
- (ii) thereafter ... .. time-and-a-half

(b) on a Saturday, not being a customary holiday—

for all time worked in excess of the agreed number of hours ... .. time-and-a-half

Provided that where the said agreement provides that Saturday shall not normally be a working day, the said minimum overtime rate of time-and-a-half shall be payable for all time worked on Saturday.

- (c) on a Sunday or a customary holiday—  
for all time worked ... .. double time

(3) Where a worker is employed on a turn of duty which commences on one day and extends into the following day, the whole of that turn of duty shall, for the purposes of this paragraph, be treated as occurring on the day on which the worker was required to commence such turn of duty:

Provided that where the worker is employed on regular night shifts for five nights in the week, and by agreement between the worker and his employer commences a turn of duty on Sunday, then the whole of that turn of duty shall be treated as occurring on Monday.

10. In this Part of this Schedule:—

(1) The expression “customary holiday” means—

(a) (i) In England and Wales—

Christmas Day; 26th December if it be not a Sunday; 27th December in a year when 25th or 26th December is a Sunday; *New Year's Day, if it be not a Sunday or, if it be a Sunday, 2nd January*; Good Friday; Easter Monday; the last Monday in May; the last Monday in August; or where another day is substituted for any of the above days by national proclamation, that day:

Provided that in the case of workers who normally work on each week-day except Saturday if Christmas Day and *New Year's Day* fall on a Saturday the holidays shall be the next following Tuesday and Monday respectively;

(ii) In Scotland—

New Year's Day and the following day:

Provided that if New Year's Day falls on a Sunday, the holidays shall be the following Monday and Tuesday; if New Year's Day falls on a Saturday then in the case of workers who normally work on each week-day except Saturday the holidays shall be the following Monday and Tuesday and in the case of all other workers, New Year's Day and the following Monday;

the local Spring holiday;

the local Autumn holiday;

and *three* other days (being days on which the worker normally works for the employer) in the course of a calendar year, to be fixed by the employer in consultation with the worker or his representative and notified to the worker not less than three weeks before the holiday;

or

- (b) in the case of each of the said days (other than a day fixed by the employer in Scotland and notified to the worker as aforesaid) a day substituted by the employer therefor, being a day recognised by local custom as a day of holiday in substitution for the said day.

(2) The expressions “time-and-a-quarter”, “time-and-a-half” and “double time” mean respectively:—

- (a) in the case of a time worker, one and a quarter times, one and a half times and twice the hourly general minimum time rate otherwise applicable to the worker;

(b) in the case of a female worker employed on piece work:—

- (i) a time rate equal respectively to one quarter, one half and the whole of the hourly piece work basis time rate otherwise applicable to the worker, and, in addition thereto,

- (ii) the minimum remuneration otherwise applicable to the worker under paragraph 1(1)(b);
- (c) in the case of a male worker employed on piece work:—
  - (i) a time rate equal respectively to one quarter, one half and the whole of the hourly general minimum time rate which would be applicable to the worker if he were a time worker and a minimum overtime rate did not apply, and, in addition thereto,
  - (ii) the minimum remuneration otherwise applicable to the worker under paragraph 1(1)(b).

#### WAITING TIME

11.—(1) A worker is entitled to payment of the minimum remuneration specified in this Schedule for all the time during which he is present on the premises of the employer, unless he is present thereon in any of the following circumstances, that is to say—

- (a) without the employer's consent, express or implied;
- (b) for some purpose unconnected with his work and other than that of waiting for work to be given to him to perform;
- (c) by reason only of the fact that he is resident thereon; or
- (d) during normal meal times in a room or place in which no work is being done, and he is not waiting for work to be given to him to perform.

(2) The minimum remuneration payable under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph to a piece worker when not engaged on piece work is that which would be applicable to him if he were employed as a time worker.

#### PART IV

#### CONDITIONS AS TO RATES FOR MALE APPRENTICES AND PROSPECTIVE APPRENTICES TO TENTING OR DRESSING

12. Subject to the provisions of this Part of this Schedule, the general minimum time rates applicable to apprentices to tenting or dressing under paragraph 5 apply only where the following conditions are fulfilled:—

- (1) The apprentice shall be employed during the whole of his time under a written contract of apprenticeship, for a period of four years in the case of an apprenticeship to tenting or three years in the case of an apprenticeship to dressing, which has been duly executed and which contains the following provisions, or provisions substantially to the same effect, and no provisions contrary thereto:—
  - (a) the apprentice of his own free will and with the consent of the guardian binds himself to serve the employer as his apprentice in his trade for the term of three or four years as aforesaid;
  - (b) the employer will employ the apprentice as his apprentice during the said term, and to the best of his power, skill and knowledge instruct the apprentice, or cause him to be instructed, in tenting or dressing as the case may be;
  - (c) the employer will keep the apprentice under his own supervision or place him under the supervision of one or more fully qualified journeymen; and
  - (d) the employer will, during the term of the apprenticeship, afford the apprentice reasonable facilities, during working hours if necessary, to attend classes at which technical instruction in the principles of the operation being taught is given, or, if at any time no such class exists in the district in which the apprentice is employed, the employer will place the apprentice under the charge of one of his own workers who need not be a journeyman mentioned in (c) of this sub-paragraph, but is competent to instruct the apprentice in the elementary principles of the operation being taught.



- (2) The apprentice shall be the holder of a certificate of registration of apprenticeship issued by, or on behalf of, the Wages Council or shall have made application for such certificate which has been duly acknowledged and is still under consideration:

Provided that the Wages Council may decline to issue a certificate in any case where it is not satisfied that the said conditions have been complied with at the date of the application therefor, and the Wages Council may at any time thereafter cancel the certificate, if, in its opinion, any of the said conditions have not been complied with.

#### PROSPECTIVE APPRENTICES

13. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Schedule, where an employer employs a worker as a prospective apprentice to tenting or dressing for a probationary period not exceeding 12 weeks and all the conditions specified in the foregoing paragraph other than those with regard to employment under a written contract of apprenticeship and certification by the Wages Council are fulfilled, the minimum remuneration applicable to that worker during the said period shall be that applicable to an apprentice employed in accordance with the conditions specified in the said paragraph, and in the event of the worker being continued thereafter at his employment as an apprentice, the probationary period shall for the purposes of this Schedule be treated as part of the period of apprenticeship, whether or not it is included therein:

Provided that where the employer does not on or before the last day of the said probationary period enter into with the worker such a contract of apprenticeship as is mentioned in the said paragraph, the employer shall pay to the worker a sum equal to the difference between the minimum remuneration payable to him as a prospective apprentice and the amount that would have been payable to him had the provisions of this paragraph not applied.

#### PART V

##### APPLICABILITY OF STATUTORY MINIMUM REMUNERATION

14. This Schedule applies to the workers in relation to whom the Wages Council operates, that is to say, workers employed in Great Britain in the trade specified in the Schedule to the Trade Boards (Flax and Hemp Trade, Great Britain) (Constitution and Proceedings) Regulations 1940(a), as varied by the Flax and Hemp Wages Council (Great Britain) (Variation) Order 1973(b), that is to say:—

The preparing, spinning, and weaving (a) of scutched flax, (b) of hemp, (c) of a mixture of scutched flax and any other fibre, or (d) of a mixture of hemp and any other fibre;

including:—

- (1) preparing and spinning of waste reclaimed at any stage;
- (2) *calendering when carried on at an establishment engaged in any of the above-mentioned activities;*
- (3) all packing, despatching, warehousing, storing or other operations incidental to or appertaining to any of the above-mentioned activities;

but excluding:—

- (1) bleaching, dyeing or finishing;

(a) S.R. & O. 1940/1886 (1940 I, p. 1031).

(b) S.I. 1973/2062 (1973 III, p. 7091).

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- (2) preparing or spinning of materials required for the making or re-making of (a) rope (including driving rope and banding), (b) cord (including blind and window cord, but excluding silk, worsted and other fancy cords), (c) core for wire ropes, (d) lines, (e) twine (including binder and trawl twine), (f) lanyards, (g) net and similar articles when such spinning or preparing is carried on in the same factory or workshop as the said making or re-making;
  - (3) making or repair of sacks or bags;
  - (4) weaving of carpets, rugs and mats.
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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Order.)*

This Order, which has effect from 12th October 1974, sets out the increased statutory minimum remuneration, and the cost of living payments, payable to workers in relation to whom the Flax and Hemp Wages Council (Great Britain) operates, in substitution for the statutory minimum remuneration set out in the Wages Regulation (Flax and Hemp) (No. 2) Order 1973 (Order F.H. (135)).

The Order provides for an additional day of customary holiday for workers. Order F.H. (135) is revoked.

New provisions are printed in italics.

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