

Direct Payments and National Minimum Wage requirements:

From the 1st April 2022, the National Minimum Wage is increasing to £9.50 and, in compliance with its legal duty, Dudley Council will be ensuring that direct payments made to service users or carers to employ another person to act as a personal assistant, advocate, intermediary, etc., are sufficient to enable them to pay those individuals the National Minimum Wage.

Dudley council will also continue to monitor the manner in which these direct payments are used and, where necessary, support service users and carers who employ others to understand and comply with their duty to pay their employees the National Minimum Wage.

Information about these changes will be communicated to service users and carers within two weeks from the 1st April 2022

If you wish to discuss the changes, please contact the Short Break Coordinator, Elizabeth Wilkins on <u>short.breaks@dudley.gov.uk</u>

Toni Dawodu Interim Head of SEND 1st April 2022