

1 June 2012

**MEMBER ALERT****INCREASE TO AWARD MINIMUM RATES FROM 1 JULY**

Fair Work Australia today announced that from 1 July 2012 modern award rates will increase by a flat 2.9%.

For labourers and full qualified trades, this equates to an increase of between 55c to 70c per hour (or roughly an additional \$20 to \$25 per week) depending on the award and trade involved. The flow on increase to junior apprentices will range from 25c to 50c per hour.

HIA had asked that the Minimum Wage Panel take into account the unique circumstances of the residential construction industry and other sectors of the economy that were not performing as well as the mining and resource sectors.

Although the amount awarded is less than the amounts sought by the unions, it follows on from large increases in 2010 and 2011. Coupled with the introduction of the carbon tax it represents additional cost imposts on the employers in the industry post July.

Calculation of the precise transitional and phasing-in amounts that will apply to the modern award hourly rates of pay are now being undertaken and will be circulated once finalised.

For further information please contact:

Call your Workplace Adviser on 1300 650 620