

Joint education services circular no. 228 - Soulbury Pay 2022 and annual leave

The Soulbury Committee
Inspectors, organisers and advisory officers of Local Authorities

28 February 2023

To: chief executives of county councils and metropolitan districts and unitary authorities in England;
chief executives of London boroughs;
chief executives of county councils and county borough councils in Wales;
directors of children's services/directors of education of county councils metropolitan districts and unitary authorities in England;
directors of children's services/directors of education of London Boroughs;
directors of children's services/directors of education of county councils and county borough councils in Wales;
Members of the Soulbury Committee
Subscribers

Dear Sir/Madam

Joint education services circular no. 228

Soulbury Pay 2022 and annual leave

The Officers' Side remains in dispute with the Employers' Side with regard to pay for last year. Both Sides continue to engage and we remain hopeful that a resolution will be reached shortly.

The Soulbury Agreement ('The Blue Book') does not include a direct provision on annual leave. Paragraph 10.1 of the Agreement states that the conditions of service of officers dealt with under the Agreement should not be less favourable than those prescribed for the local government services staff of the authority.

The recent NJC LGS pay agreement for 2022 includes an increase in the annual leave entitlement with effect from 1 April 2023. This is that the minimum paid annual leave entitlement is twenty three days with a further three days after five years of service for local government services staff. Therefore, in accordance with Paragraph 10.1, this increase in the entitlement should also apply to Soulbury Officers as a minimum.

David Algie

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