

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Motion 2 in the name of Councillor Gallagher to be seconded by Councillor Dromey	
Key Decision		Item No.
Ward		
Contributors	Acting Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: January 23 2019

Supporting Antic workers fighting for a living wage & union recognition

This council notes

- Antic run six bars and pubs within Lewisham, where staff are currently fighting for a Living Wage and union recognition
- One in four people working in Lewisham earn below the real Living Wage - the amount calculated by the Living Wage Foundation based on the cost of living
- Two in three workers in hospitality in London earn below the Living Wage
- Alongside Islington, Lewisham Council were the first council to become an accredited Living Wage Employer in 2012
- The council introduced a business rate incentive in 2016 under which employers who become accredited with the Living Wage Foundation receive a one-off business rates discount

This council believes

- That nobody should have to live in poverty, and that all workers deserve at least the Living Wage. No one living in one of the wealthiest cities in the world should have to work several minimum wage jobs in order to make ends meet at the end of the month
- The Living Wage is good for workers and good for employers, with over nine in ten accredited businesses saying that the Living Wage has benefited their business[1]
- Union recognition within a workplace ensures workers are involved in decision-making within a business, can improve relations between employers and employees, and ensures workers receive a fair share of the wealth they help generate
- The increasing cost of rent, the rising cost of living, and the growth of in-work poverty mean that it is imperative councils should support workers fighting for fair pay

This council resolves

- To support the Antic staff campaigning for a real Living Wage and union recognition within their workplace, and to invite Antic workers to the Civic Suite to discuss the campaign
- For the Mayor and Chair of Council to write to Antic expressing our support for the campaign, to encourage them to become an accredited Living Wage employer, and request that they recognise Unite the Union in their businesses
- To write to every local authorities where Antic operate to encourage them to back the campaign, to pass similar motions and to send letters of support

[1] See <https://www.livingwage.org.uk/good-for-business>