

Please support the Greater Manchester Living Wage Campaign Living Wage Week November 5th – 11th, 2018

ACTION 1: WRITE TO THE CO-OPERATIVE GROUP TODAY

Firstly, the Greater Manchester Living Wage Campaign are urging the Co-operative Group to become an accredited Real Living Wage Employer. Will you join us in [writing to the Chair Allan Leighton](#)?

Why the Co-operative group?

1. Low pay: Retail workers are amongst the lowest paid workers. Those paid below the Real Living Wage are often unable to afford to pay for essential bills. [The Real Living Wage is based on the cost of living and applies to workers aged 18 and over.](#)
2. Business reasons: Research by the Living Wage Foundation found that 93% of Living Wage accredited businesses surveyed have benefited from Living Wage accreditation. 86% said accreditation has improved their business reputation and 75% noticed increased motivation and staff retention rates saving them money longer term.
3. Becoming a Living Wage employer would fit the Co-operative's values of equity, equality, self-help and solidarity. The Co-op Bank and Co-op Credit Union are already accredited.
4. This is a follow-up to a similar action we took with the Co-operative group in February 2016. We were very pleased to be able to meet with them then, and the conversation was very positive and hopeful, but we have not seen the hoped-for progress since then.



ACTION 2: JOIN US, LUNCHTIME DEMO OUTSIDE CO-OP'S HEAD OFFICE – THURSDAY NOVEMBER 8th

Will you join us for a lunchtime rally? Help us make sure the Chair of the Co-op hears us loud and clear, the Co-op Group should pay a real living wage based on the cost of living.

Date: Thursday November 8th, 2018

Time: 12 - 2pm

Location: Co-op Head Office, 1 Angel Square, Manchester M60 0AG

[RSVP and further information](#)

ACTION 3: SUPPORT THE LIVING WAGE FOUNDATION'S EVENT – NOVEMBER 5th

The Living Wage Foundation are the national body who accredit Living Wage employers, and in each of the last five years, their flagship North West event has taken place in Greater Manchester.

Date: Monday November 5th, 2018

Time: 10am - 12pm

Location: National Football Museum. Urbis Building, Cathedral Gardens, Manchester M4 3BG

[RSVP and further information](#)

ACTION 4: SUPPORT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER LIVING WAGE CAMPAIGN'S RALLY – NOVEMBER 7th

Join the [UoM Living Wage Campaign](#) as they call on the University of Manchester to ensure that all of its workers receive the Real Living Wage.

Date: Wednesday November 7th, 2018

Time: 12:30pm

Location: Waterloo Place, 176 - 188 Oxford Road, University of Manchester M13 9GP

[RSVP and further information](#)

ACTION 5: GET IN TOUCH, TAKE ACTION IN YOUR OWN AREA

1. Are you an accredited Real Living Wage Employer? We are looking to publish case studies over the coming months, so would love to hear how it has benefited your organisation
2. We were hoping to organise a meeting of the campaign before Living Wage Week but it was not possible so we may be missing some information and actions – if you are planning any action for the Living Wage in the coming weeks, please let us know and we will support and promote it.
3. We can also come and speak to your organisation or network, about the Real Living Wage and the role it can play in your work and in tackling in-work poverty.

Please email Victoria@gmpovertyaction.org and Tom@gmpovertyaction.org

Finally, a little more about myself...

I am currently the Research and Campaigns Lead at Citizens Advice Manchester where I work to influence and improve social policy and practice that impacts on clients' lives. I have led many successful campaigns, including a living wage influencing campaign aiming to end differentials in pay between different age groups. As an activist and as part of the Unite the Union Young Members Fair Wages for All Ages campaign I have influenced employers and gained political support for a living wage for all workers. I have been involved with the core team on the GM living wage campaign and have worked to influence the GM Good Employment Charter.



As the campaign coordinator, I believe we can make great progress together to influence employers to become Living Wage accredited. With our combined experiences and shared determination we can achieve this. I'm looking forward to working with you all on Living Wage action in the coming months, especially during Living Wage Week.

I hope to see you soon,

Vicky Egerton

Coordinator of the Greater Manchester Living Wage Campaign

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