



DECCAPRINT

26 September 2014

Mr Tim Butcher, Chief Economist
Low Pay Commission
6th Floor
Victoria House
Southampton Row
London WC1B 4AD

Dear Mr Butcher

CONSULTATION ON THE NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE

In response to your consultation on the National Minimum Wage, we would like to support the case for a substantial increase. The level of £6.50 per hour from October 2014 remains well below a basic living wage and an increase of 25% could be readily justified.

Our company has taken a number of school leavers in recent years and last year, for the first time, recruited a Level 3 Business Administration apprentice. The stated rate for apprenticeships is despicably low and would degrade the status of any employee expected to work for that level of remuneration. We work on far higher rates and the resulting input and commitment from staff makes it all worthwhile.

The economic case for increasing the minimum wage rests firmly on the evidence that consumer spending is directly boosted by it, increasing the demand that drives economic growth.

Comparison with other developed economies (e.g. USA/Australia) shows that UK has lagged behind in setting acceptable levels of minimum wage and being ourselves in business for over 30 years we are happy to support the Government in raising the bar.

Yours sincerely

Brian Jenkin, HR Director
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