

GM/MC

23 May 2022

Mr Bertrand Bodson
CEO
Keywords
South County Business Park
Leopardstown
Dublin 18, D18 T9P8
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Re: Living Wage in the Games Sector

Dear Mr Bodson,

Let me introduce ourselves first. We are the Trade Union representing workers in the Games Sector in Ireland. We are committed to making sure that workers here have decent jobs and long-term careers in the sector. We believe all workers are entitled to earn at least the Living Wage (€12.90 per hour, €26,832 per annum).

The Living Wage is a wage which makes possible a minimum acceptable standard of living. The Living Wage is an evidence-based rate of pay which is grounded in social consensus and is derived from Consensual Budget Standards research which establishes the cost of a Minimum Essential Standard of Living in Ireland today.

The UN Declaration of Universal Human Rights, 1948 Article 25, outlines this basic right as:

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself [herself] and of his [her] family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his [her] control.

The Living Wage technical group is sponsored by a number of bodies including UCD, Social Justice Ireland, Society of St. Vincent de Paul and a number of Unions. More information is on their website at <https://www.livingwage.ie/>. These experts have set the Living Wage for 2022 at €12.90 per hour.

Games is a highly profitable sector. It is a creative sector in which all workers put huge effort into. Unfortunately, our research suggests to us that not all workers in the sector are paid above the Living Wage. The sector is leaving some workers behind. We are calling on employers in the sector here in Ireland to stand up, be counted and make a real difference by committing that all staff employed, or contracted to do work, by them will be paid at least the Living Wage.

Let's leave no one behind.

If you make this commitment we will promote and advertise you as a Living Wage employer in the sector on our social media, in the press media and in our frequent engagements with the Government and politicians.

We hope you will do the right thing. We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gareth Murphy', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gareth Murphy
Head of Industrial Relations and Campaigns
GWUI – FSU