

# Liberal Vannin's Response to Consultation on the Island's Legal Minimum Wage



Set the Legal Minimum Wage at the level of the Manx Living Wage (currently £11.05 per hour) in April 2023.

The Government has set a target for the Island's Legal Minimum Wage to match the annually calculated Manx Living Wage by April 2026. To assist those on low incomes through the cost-of-living crisis that we are all facing, Liberal Vannin calls for this target to be accelerated to happen this coming April.

We note that the Minimum Wage Committee itself is proposing a rise to £11.00 per hr and we welcome that acknowledgment that people on low incomes need this boost to their earnings. It should also help businesses in the catering and hospitality sectors with recruitment.

However, earlier in 2022, the Living Wage was calculated at £11.05 per hour and accordingly we call for this rate (or the 2023 calculation) to be adopted as the Legal Minimum Wage in April 2023, and for the annually calculated Manx Living Wage to then become the accepted Legal Minimum Wage in perpetuity for all over 18.

Liberal Vannin also calls for the 'Development Worker' category to be reviewed as we understand that it is not being applied fairly or in keeping with the original aims of the Minimum Wage Review Committee.

## **Liberal Vannin Chair, Paul Weatherall comments:**

*"At our recent public meeting on the cost-of-living crisis, Treasury Minister, Dr Allinson stated that what had been announced to date by government was not enough to help people through the inflationary pressures we expect to see over the coming months and years.*

*"Accelerating the government's existing commitment to set the Manx Living Wage as the Island's Legal Minimum Wage, to take effect next April, instead of April 2026, will significantly help those on low incomes struggling to make ends meet, targeting help to those who need it most.*

*"The Island's employers should already be factoring in this change in their business planning and many already accept the Manx Living Wage as the minimum that they should be paying their employees."*

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