

Living Wage: Employee Briefing

£8.25

The Living Wage is an hourly rate of pay, intended to provide a modest but acceptable standard of living. Set by the Living Wage Foundation, the current rate is £8.25 an hour for all employees aged 18+, excluding apprentices, and it is updated annually,

The Living Wage is entirely voluntary, and not connected to the statutory National Living Wage. Accredited Living Wage employers include British Gas, Barclays, Freshwater UK and the Welsh Government.

What does the Living Wage mean for you?

1 Higher Income

The Living Wage is significantly higher than the statutory minimum wage rate. If you are one of Merthyr Tydfil's low-paid workers, being paid the Living Wage could mean that your income increases without having to work additional hours.

2 Well-being

Employees who earn the Living Wage have said that they have more time to spend with family and friends, as well as participate in their communities, and have reported higher levels of well-being.

3 Equal Pay

There are certain workers more at risk of being paid below the Living Wage than others – such as women, young people and part-time workers. If more of Merthyr Tydfil's employers paid the Living Wage, these employees in particular could benefit.

What you can do:

Mention the Living Wage initiative to friends, family and your employer to raise awareness of it.



Speak to your trade union about the Living Wage. Not a union member? Visit www.tuc.org.uk/join-union to find out more.



Visit www.livingwage.org.uk to find local accredited Living Wage employers.



The Bevan Foundation is Wales' leading independent think tank, developing ideas to make Wales fairer, prosperous and sustainable. Our work on the Living Wage in Merthyr Tydfil has been generously funded by the Coalfields Regeneration Trust and Oxfam Cymru. For more information about this project, please visit: www.bevanfoundation.org

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