



JB/AE/JC

25th July 2023

Dear Members,

Wandsworth Living Wage Campaign Update

We are writing to you to inform you of a recent success in our Living Wage Campaign for Wandsworth.

Since you went into dispute, we have been holding intensive negotiations with the council. The original position of the council in these negotiations was that the living wage would be implemented when your contracts would come up for renewal, most of which weren't due until 2028. However, since negotiations the council has now committed to a roadmap of 3 years to fully implement the London Living Wage for all workers in Wandsworth.

The roadmap for the living wage will see your wages rise each year by an increasing amount, starting this August, until you will be on the full living wage by April 2026. The differentials on these contracts will also be maintained, meaning that even if you are paid above the London Living Wage your wage will go up also.

In total your campaign with the GMB has secured over £1.7 million of funding to make this possible, which will now be going to the lowest paid workers in the borough. This campaign would not have been possible without your courage and determination, or the hard work of the Branch. The Branch secretary Sonya Davis, Kath McDonnell and Spencer Barnshaw have done tremendous work to ensure the council listens to its workers, they have my thanks and unyielding gratitude, and I'm sure yours too.

While this is a success, this is not the end. The GMB will continue to work with you in your workplace to fix the issues you have and make work better. We will always battle tirelessly alongside those who wish to fight, this latest victory shows what can be done when workers fight together.

In solidarity,

Alex Etches