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Máire Ni Chuirc
Low Pay Commission Secretariat
1st Floor
Aras Mhic Diarmada
Store Street
Dublin 1

9 February 2018

Re: Financial Services Union support for ICTU submission on National Hourly Minimum Rate of Pay

Dear Ms. Ni Chuirc,

I understand that the Low Pay Commission recently received the ICTU submission on the National Hourly Minimum Rate of Pay.

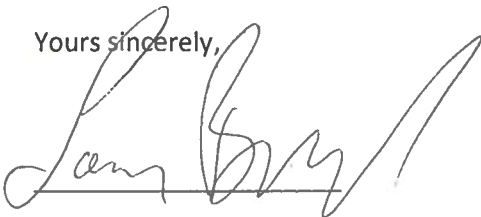
I would like to take this opportunity, as General Secretary of the Financial Services Union, to fully endorse, on behalf of our Union, the ICTU analysis and recommendation.

Decent living wages are essential to prevent in-work poverty in Ireland. Also, given that the majority of minimum wage workers are female, it is also an important tool in advancing equality.

Macroeconomic indicators confirm that our economy is expanding, unemployment is falling and profits in the private sector are increasing. Against this background it is intolerable that thousands of workers in Ireland are still struggling to make ends meet. The Financial Services Union fully endorses the ICTU recommendation that 3% should be the minimum acceptable increase to the minimum wage in 2019.

We also commend ICTU's medium term goal of aligning the national minimum wage with the living wage. The current policy of reaching a national minimum wage of €10.50 per hour by 2021 needs to be revised in light of improved economic circumstances and a more ambitious target set and attained by 2021.

Yours sincerely,



Larry Broderick
General Secretary