

To whom it may concern.

I am a trained chef and have been now for sixteen years. I can only speak from my own experiences, so hear me please. The wage structure in Ireland is woefully mismanaged! We have employers "unable" to pay a living wage, apart from Aldi a German company. We have skilled, educated tradesmen working for a minimum wage, that I earned the equivalent of whilst I lived in Spain ten years ago. My industry is in serious need of skilled chefs but the wages are not here to keep them... with a world on your doorstep offering a better wage and way of life why should they stay? The minimum wage needs to be highered to a living wage, at least 13 euros an hour for skilled professionals and 12 euros per hour for unskilled. This is not to say it should stay at those wages, it should increase with qualifications and responsibility!

Thank you for letting me have my say. [REDACTED]