



23 December, 2014

Re: London Living Wage

Dear Professor Colin Lawson, Director of the Royal College of Music,

I am writing to you, in my capacity as President of the Independent Workers' Union of Great Britain (IWGB), on behalf of the outsourced workers at the Royal College of Music who are members of our union.

As you are aware, cleaners on this contract currently earn £6.50 per hour, the national minimum wage. As a growing consensus of Londoners accept, the minimum wage simply is not enough to live on. I am therefore writing to request that the Royal College of Music take immediate action to implement at least a minimum of the London Living Wage (£9.15) for all outsourced workers. Some of our members have been told by Ocean manager Amparo Reyes that the London Living Wage will be implemented in January, 2015 but have yet to be given anything in writing despite repeated requests.

If it is not confirmed by 31 December, 2014 that the London Living Wage will be implemented with immediate effect, the outsourced workers at the Royal College of Music are prepared to wage a high profile London Living Wage campaign. These workers will have the full support of the IWGB for this campaign.

Whilst by far the easiest solution would be for the Royal College of Music to agree an immediate implementation of the London Living Wage, I would like to take this opportunity to be very clear about what will happen if the London Living Wage is not implemented. Among others, the following list of campaign tactics have proved successful in the past and will likely be used to win the London Living Wage at the Royal College of Music:

1. Leafleting outside the college to raise awareness among the students, employees, and visitors;
2. Loud and disruptive protests;
3. Promoting awareness on social media, in particular Facebook and twitter;
4. Launching a website where campaign followers and participants can follow the latest news on the Royal College of Music London Living Wage Campaign;
5. Campaign videos with interviews from workers as well as prominent supporters;
6. Write to Royal College of Music donors and famous alumni to inform them of the fact that outsourced workers at the college are paid poverty wages;
7. Circulate press releases and obtain mainstream press coverage.

You and your colleagues may or may not be familiar with the IWGB and the campaigns this union has waged. However lest you have any doubts about the union's track record on waging and winning living wage and other campaigns, it might be worth your while to peruse the union website (<http://iwgb.org.uk/>) and the history and press coverage of the 3 Cosas Campaign at the University of London (<http://3cosascampaign.wordpress.com/press-reports/>).

In closing, I would advise that the Royal College of Music not question the determination of the IWGB to achieve justice in this matter. There is nothing that the union treats with more seriousness and urgency than achieving improved wages, terms, and conditions for its members.

The outsourced workers at the Royal College of Music, and the IWGB more generally, look forward to receiving your response.

Kind regards,

Jason Moyer-Lee
President
IWGB