



22 September 2020

Ms Heather Humphreys, T.D.,
Minister for Social Protection, Community and Rural Development and the Islands

Dear Minister,

I attach the Low Pay Commission Supplementary Recommendation Report and my letter to you dated 17th of July, outlining the position of the Commission regarding the annual recommendation of the National Minimum Wage.

I wish to confirm that the Low Pay Commission met today in order to progress the issue of the recommendation on the National Minimum Wage for 2021. The Commission recommends an increase of .10c to €10.20 per hour. This recommendation is supported by a majority of the Commission members. The two trade union representatives are not party to this recommendation, as they felt the increase was not sufficient. One employer representative abstained from making a recommendation.

The two employer representative Members of the Commission who support the recommendation recommend that the implementation of the increase in the hospitality sector take effect from 1 March, 2021. This is in recognition of the particular challenges facing that sector, and that tourist numbers are relatively low in January and February

While the Commission has recommended significant increases in the National Minimum Wage in recent years, given the very difficult position of many minimum wage employers the Commission felt that only a small increase could be borne this year. The acceptance by Governments of the recommendations of the Low Pay Commission has resulted in increases in the National Minimum Wage from €8.65 to €10.10 per hour between 2016 and 2020, which equates to a 16.7% increase over this period.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Donal de Buitléir
Chairman of the Low Pay Commission

cc Tánaiste Leo Varadkar, T.D., Minister for Business Enterprise and Innovation