

P-04-397 Living Wage - Welsh Government to Clerking Team, 06.07.15

Kathryn,

In response to your email enquiry of 4 June, I attach the Programme for Government Annual Report: Update on key actions, as published by the Welsh Government. I would draw your attention to the update in relation to the Living Wage commitment on page 135, reference 9/008 which reflects progress to date and may be of interest to the Committee. Further information about the Programme for Government Annual Report can be found on the Welsh Government website.

Kind regards,

Richard Thomas

Number	Commitment	2014-15	Progress to Date
9/007	Actively promote the development of time-banking.	D	Welsh Government encourages Timebanking across Wales as a useful mechanism for supporting volunteering opportunities. This model has been explored in particular in several Communities First areas, including in Cardiff, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Carmarthenshire, where different models of time-banking have been developed and supported by the local CF Clusters.
9/008	Work with trades unions, employers and other stakeholders to explore ways of ensuring a living wage for every worker in Wales, given that low pay is a significant problem for many families and the challenges of in-work poverty remain.	W	The Welsh Government will continue to encourage public, private and third sector employers in Wales to consider becoming accredited Living Wage employers. The Welsh Government pays directly employed staff a Living Wage and is exploring how to meet formal accreditation requirements. A commitment to pay all NHS Wales employees a Living Wage from January 2015 formed part of the Agenda for Change pay award for 2014-15 and 2015-16.
9/009	Continue to support and expand the credit union network with over £3.4m of funding until 2013.	D	<p>From October 2010 to September 2013, over £4m was made available jointly by the Welsh Government and European Regional Development Fund to continue the Access to Financial Services through Credit Unions project. This funding was extended until March 2014 using Welsh Government funding only and additional funding of £1.2m was awarded to Credit Unions for a number of collaborative projects.</p> <p>The Welsh Government is also continuing to fund Credit Unions from April 2014 in order that they help individuals who are financially excluded. This funding is committed until March 2017.</p>

Planned progress for each year is coded, as follows:

D = Delivered W = Will Deliver N = Won't Deliver S = Commitment Superseded