



Mr. Chris Hynd
Assistant Clerk to the Public Petitions
Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH9 1SP

Scottish Youth Parliament
Gordon Lamb House
3 Jackson's Entry
Edinburgh
EH8 8PJ

1 November 2013

Dear Mr. Hynd,

Re: Responses to Public Petition PE1467

I am writing in response to the most recent round of submissions in relation to Petition PE1467, Scottish Living Wage Recognition Scheme.

As the Committee may be already aware, the Deputy First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, announced during her speech to the Scottish National Party Conference on Friday 18th October that *“the government will fund the Poverty Alliance to deliver a Living Wage Accreditation Scheme to promote the living wage and increase the number of private companies that pay it”*.

The Scottish Youth Parliament welcomes this announcement with great enthusiasm, and would like to thank the Committee for helping us to raise this issue and our proposals with the Scottish Government.

Through informal conversations with Scottish Government officials, we are led to believe that this initiative will definitely proceed; however, officials were unable to give us specific details or any formal confirmation. With this in mind, we would be grateful if the Committee would consider writing to the Government to request official confirmation that this initiative will proceed and some further information in relation to timescales and logistics before they close the petition.

Once again, I would like to thank the Committee for its consideration of our petition. It represented a key strategy of our “One Fair Wage” campaign which was supported by almost 43,000 responses to our youth manifesto, “Change the Picture.” We are delighted that it has been successful.



Yours sincerely,

Andrew McGowan

(On behalf of the Scottish Youth Parliament)