



VPSJ submission re Zero Hours Contracts
Vincentian Partnership for Social Justice
11/12/2015 11:39

To:

zerohours

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From: "Vincentian Partnership for Social Justice" <vpj@eircom.net>

To: <zerohours@djei.ie>,

1 Attachment



VPSJ Response to UL Study on Zero Hour Contracts.pdf

Mr Lockhart,

Please find attached the VPSJ's submission in response to the consultation document on the UL study on zero hour contracts.

Kind Regards,

Bernadette Mac Mahon D.C. & Robert Thornton

The Vincentian Partnership for Social Justice, Ozanam House, 53 Mountjoy Square, Gardiner Street, Dublin 1

Telephone: 01 8780425

Email: vpj@eircom.net

www.vpsj.ie - www.vote.ie - www.budgeting.ie - www.misc.ie

VPSJ Response to UL Study on Zero Hour Contracts

DECEMBER 2015

The VPSJ welcomes the University of Limerick study on zero hour contracts, and is in agreement with the recommendations. The work of the VPSJ is focused on the provision of the cost of a Minimum Essential Standard of Living (MESL), in this context the partnership provides factual information on the income required to maintain this standard of living. In addition to the development of the Minimum Income Standard for Ireland, our studies to date have given consideration to the adequacy of social welfare transfers and/or the adequacy of the national minimum wage (NMW) in relation to an MESL¹. The work of the VPSJ has also provided the basis for the Living Wage rate of €11.50 per hour (which is calculated on the basis of full-time employment)².

The specificity of the work of the VPSJ does not allow us to make detailed observations on the Consultation Document. However, in a recent VPSJ Working Paper the MESL research demonstrated that the lack of affordable, accessible, quality childcare is a significant factor in the cost of an MESL and inadequacy of low rates of pay³. Additionally, the VPSJ is currently undertaking research examining the complexity of the social welfare system for those in low and variable hour employment.

The VPSJ welcomes the document which highlights the problems created by zero hour contracts and low hour contracts for people who seek a Minimum Essential Standard of Living.

ENDS

¹ For the current MESL data & income scenarios VPSJ (2015) *2015 Minimum Essential Standard of Living Update*, available online at:
www.budgeting.ie/images/stories/Publications/MESL_Update_Paper/VPSJ_2015_Minimum_Essential_Standard_of_Living.pdf

² See VPSJ (2015) *Living Wage 2015 Update*, available online at:
www.budgeting.ie/images/stories/Publications/Papers/VPSJ_2015_Living_Wage_2015_Update.pdf

³ VPSJ (2015) *The Minimum Income Standard and The Cost of Childcare*, available online at:
www.budgeting.ie/images/stories/Publications/Papers/VPSJ_2015_MIS_-_Cost_of_Childcare.pdf

Our Contact Details

Dr. Bernadette Mac Mahon D.C.
VPSJ Director

Robert Thornton
Research Associate

VPSJ
Ozanam House
53 Mountjoy Square
Gardiner Street
Dublin 1

T: 01 8780425
F: 01 8780423
vpsj@eircom.net

www.vpsj.ie
www.budgeting.ie
www.MIS.ie
www.vote.ie