

From the Leader of the Council

Our Ref: **Leader/2018-10/31**

Your Ref:

Claire Binns

Deputy Managing Director
Picturehouse Cinemas Ltd
7th Floor, St Vincent House
30 Orange Street
London WC2H 7HH



Monday, 22nd October 2018

London Living Wage

Dear Claire

I am very pleased that the West Norwood Picturehouse and Library will finally be open to the public in November. This will provide the local community with a wonderful resource for learning, culture and entertainment, with a fully stocked and staffed town centre library with excellent facilities and technology alongside a cinema and bar, with community meeting space and employment opportunities.

However, one major issue risks the success of this already long-awaited venue: the payment of Picturehouse staff. I am once again urging Picturehouse to reconsider its position on the London Living Wage. Since the venue will open during Living Wage Week, it would be an ample opportunity for Picturehouse to send a positive message by announcing its intention to pay the London Living Wage. As I have said before, I am happy to facilitate a meeting between Picturehouse and the Living Wage Foundation.

The London Living Wage makes sense from both an employer and employee perspective. The London Living Wage provides security to employees, allows employers to recruit excellent staff, and sends a message of commitment to good employment practices. Picturehouse's current opposition to the issue puts you at odds with many employers across London including other leaders in your own industry including Curzon and the BFI. Paying the London Living Wage is good for business.

I am proud that Lambeth Council is a London Living Wage employer. We were one of the first councils to pay the London Living wage. In line with this commitment, all council employed library staff at the new West Norwood entertainment hub will be paid the London Living Wage. As you know, in the agreement between the council and Picturehouse to redevelop Nettlefold Hall, it was not possible to make paying the London Living Wage a contract condition for workers employed by Picturehouse. Yet, Picturehouse could show real leadership by announcing plans to pay the London

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Living Wage and make the West Norwood cinema and other venues across London even more successful.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lib Peck". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Lib Peck
Leader of the Council