



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **YOUTH ALMIGHTY PROJECT CELEBRATES LIVING WAGE COMMITMENT**

**The Living Wage Foundation is pleased to announce that Youth Almighty Project, has today, 21<sup>st</sup> August 2014, accredited as a Living Wage employer.**

The Living Wage commitment will see everyone working at Youth Almighty Project, regardless of whether they are permanent employees or third-party contractors and suppliers; receive a minimum hourly wage of £7.65 -significantly higher than the national minimum wage of £6.31.

The Living Wage is an hourly rate set independently and updated annually. The Living Wage is calculated according to the basic cost of living using the 'Minimum Income Standard' for the UK. Decisions about what to include in this standard are set by the public; it is a social consensus about what people need to make ends meet.

Phil Tye chairman at Youth Almighty Project, says "it was vitally important due the work that we do to demonstrate not only to our staff but for the people that uses our services that we respect our employees and recognise that the living wage is important.

Employers choose to pay the Living Wage on a voluntary basis. The Living Wage enjoys cross party support, with public backing from the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition.

**Living Wage Foundation Director, Rhys Moore** said: "We are delighted to welcome Youth Almighty Project to the Living Wage movement as an accredited employer.

"The best employers are voluntarily signing up to pay the Living Wage now. The Living Wage is a robust calculation that reflects the real cost of living, rewarding a hard day's work with a fair day's pay.

"We have accredited over 700 leading employers, including Youth Almighty, ranging from independent printers, hairdressers and breweries, to well-known companies such as Nationwide, Aviva and SSE. These businesses recognise that clinging to the national minimum wage is not good for business. Customers expect better than that. "

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### **Media Contact**

#### **Living Wage**

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Youth Almighty Project

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### **Notes to Editors**

### **About the Living Wage Foundation**

The Living Wage is an hourly rate set independently and updated annually. The Living Wage is calculated according to the basic cost of living in the UK. Employers choose to pay the Living Wage on a voluntary basis. The Living Wage enjoys cross party support, with public backing from the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition.

The London Living Wage is currently £8.80 per hour. This figure is set annually by the Greater London Authority and covers all boroughs in Greater London. The UK Living Wage for outside of London is currently £7.65 per hour. This figure is set annually by the Centre for Research in Social Policy at Loughborough University.

The Living Wage Foundation recognises and celebrates the leadership shown by Living Wage employers across the UK. There are currently over 700 accredited employers. We are an initiative of Citizens UK. We believe that work should be the surest way out of poverty.

**Youth Almighty Project** are a Sunderland based Youth Project delivering targeted Youth Support in centre based youth provision, detached and street based delivery and school based support for young people aged 8-19. Visit [www.youthalmighty.co.uk](http://www.youthalmighty.co.uk)

For more information on the Youth Almighty Project, please contact, Joanne Laverick – Project Manager for Youth Almighty Project on 07900 298794 or [joanne@youthalmighty.co.uk](mailto:joanne@youthalmighty.co.uk)