



work undertaken by the project.

Members of the Committee enquired about the involvement of other agencies, in particular advice services agencies, whether they would need to be included as part of any submission to the Department for Trade and Industry noting their importance as a source of referrals and with a view to protecting their funding as part of any Council review. In reply the Advice Services Development Officer stated that there was a bid in for Neighbourhood Renewal Funding for an employment worker who would be seeking to develop better links with statutory agencies such as the employment service. He also commented that it wouldn't be helpful if the advice agencies folded but the project would still seek to forge links with other agencies.

Members of the Committee suggested that the full report document should be provided in public facilities in areas where there were particular problems with minimum wage non-payment.

Members of the Committee suggested naming and shaming those responsible for non-payment of the minimum wage to act as a deterrent. The Advice Services Development Officer commented that most cases of non-payment are resolved before they reach tribunal, therefore it wouldn't be good practise to advertise these where no clear judgement has been passed. Naming and shaming would also potentially prejudice any debt enforcement court cases where tribunal verdicts were ignored.

Members of the Committee also raised concerns that employers who were flouting minimum wage legislation would also be ignoring other legislation which protected employees. The Advice Services Development Officer confirmed this was often the case. Where it was spotted that employers were ignoring such matters as legal holiday allowances and the working time directive, these were reported to the relevant investigating agency.

The Chair moved a number of recommendations which were unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the Committee welcomes the excellent work that being carried out on the Highfields Minimum Wage Project;
- (2) that the Chair writes to the relevant minister requesting that the Government funds and supports a City wide minimum wage project;
- (3) that the Triumvirate be tasked to develop further proposals for further investigation into this area; and
- (4) that the issues around the minimum wage be brought to the attention of the Cabinet.