

2147 Night of the Living Wage: Boycott Picturehouse

Proposer: Lewis Martin (Mature Student Officer)

Seconder: Charlie Norman (UEA Young Greens)

Council Notes

1. That workers at the Picturehouse cinema chain are engaged in a campaign to win the Living Wage, union recognition, maternity and paternity pay, sick pay and other rights, and have taken numerous days of strike action in the last six months. The strike is spreading, beginning at one cinema and now taking place at six.
2. That Picturehouse, whose CEO is paid £1.2 million, is owned by Cineworld, which made £83.3 million in profits in 2015.
3. That the strikers are calling for a boycott of the companies as part of their campaign, and that NUS has called for student unions to deny them access to freshers' fairs and other marketing opportunities.

Council Believes

1. That this is an inspiring example of low paid, precarious, private sector workers – a majority of them women and many of them migrants – organising and taking action to improve their rights. More such struggles are much needed.

Council Resolves

1. To support the Picturehouse strikers and send them a public message (and publish it on our website).
 2. To write to Picturehouse and Cineworld telling them they will not be allowed to come to our freshers' fair or have other dealings with our SU until the dispute is over.
 3. To encourage our members to support the workers' campaign.
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