

ITEM No ...5...

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 3 JUNE 2019
REPORT ON: INTERNATIONAL FAIR TRADE CHARTER
REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
REPORT NO: 183-2019

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To ask members to recognise the International Fair Trade Charter.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Committee:

- (i) agree that Dundee City Council should pledge its support to the International Fair Trade Charter;
- (ii) remit officers to register the City Council's support and announce the pledge on social media.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

4 MAIN TEXT

- 4.1 The Scottish Fair Trade Forum has asked Dundee City Council to pledge its support for the International Fair Trade Charter. The Charter was initiated by the two largest international Fair Trade organisations - Fair Trade International and the World Fair Trade Organisation - and leading figures from both organisations joined the Scottish Fair Trade Forum at the Scottish Parliament in September 2018 to celebrate its launch.
- 4.2 Dundee City Council has a long standing commitment to Fair Trade, Dundee having been Scotland's first Fair Trade city. The new Charter refreshes the vision of Fair Trade and seeks to highlight Fair Trade's longstanding role in addressing challenges such as inequality, gender rights, climate change and other topics included in the UN Sustainable Development Goals for which the Council has also previously agreed its support. It includes sections on:
 - achieving inclusive economic growth
 - providing decent work and helping to improve wages and incomes
 - empowering women
 - protecting the rights of children and investing in the next generation
 - nurturing biodiversity and the environment
 - involving citizens in building a fair world
- 4.3 As detailed in the Charter, Fair Trade has a great impact on the lives of farmers, workers and artisans. The Charter also illustrates how inclusive economic growth, decent wages and better working conditions can be achieved, while empowering women and ensuring opportunities for the next generation. In doing so, bio-diversity and the protection of the environment play a crucial role to ensure the future of Fair Trade businesses around the world. Influencing public policy and involving citizens are instrumental to building a fair world and raising awareness of these important issues within Scottish communities.

- 4.4. A copy of the full Charter has been passed to the Group Leaders, the Lord Provost and Councillor Murray and can be downloaded from: <http://bit.ly/Chrtrdwnld>.
- 4.5 By recognising the International Fair Trade Charter, Dundee City Council would be pledging to embrace the diversity of the Fair Trade movement and respect all approaches that are aligned with the Fair Trade Charter and to support the Fair Trade movement present its common vision to the wider world. Recognition of the Charter would be a contribution to a future where trade is fair and consumers get a good deal at no cost to the quality of life of producers or the environment.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report has been subject to an assessment of any impacts on Equality and Diversity, Fairness and Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk. There are no major issues.

6 CONSULTATIONS

The Council Management Team were consulted in the preparation of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

The International Fair Trade Charter, launched 2018.

DAVID R MARTIN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DATE: 22 MAY 2019