

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 13 FEBRUARY 2012

REPORT ON: FAIR TRADE POLICY

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT NO: 37-2012

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To recommend the adoption of an updated Fair Trade policy by Dundee City Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that members adopt the policy as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The additional cost of serving only Fair Trade tea and coffee at Council meetings and when offering Council hospitality is marginal and can be met through existing revenue budgets.

3.2 The cost of adding 'We Are A Fairtrade City' signs to the signage at the major routes into the city is estimated at £941. This can be met from the Chief Executive's budget.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Fair Trade ensures that farmers and producers get a fair price for their products to help them support their families and invest in their businesses and in social and environmental improvements for their communities. The Fair Trade mark is given to products which meet certain internationally recognised standards.

4.2 At its meeting on 10 December 2001, the Policy and Resources Committee adopted the following resolution on Fair Trade:

"Dundee City Council acknowledges the importance of Fair Trade products and will support this movement through the following actions:

- promoting awareness of Fair Trade products to departments, employees and citizens
- including Fair Trade in our Local Agenda 21 Strategy and supporting policies
- making Fair Trade tea, coffee and sugar available on request when offering Council hospitality"

4.3 In 2001, Dundee was one of the leading authorities in the promotion of Fair Trade. Partly as a result of the Council's commitment, Dundee became Scotland's first Fairtrade City in 2004. In the years since, Fair Trade has continued to become more firmly established, with many public and private organisations making stronger commitments, in particular to the exclusive use of Fair Trade teas and coffees. It is therefore felt that the time is right for the Council to re-affirm and strengthen its commitment to Fair Trade and to the maintenance of Dundee's status as a Fairtrade City.

4.4 It is recommended that the policy set out in Appendix 1 is adopted by the Council. The major changes would be:

- a commitment to serve only Fair Trade tea and coffee at Council meetings and when offering Council hospitality. The cost of this would be marginal and can be met from within existing revenue budgets
- the addition of 'We Are A Fairtrade City' signs to the signage at major routes into the city. It is estimated that this will cost £941, which can be met from the Chief Executive's budget

5. **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty and Risk Management. Approval of the report would help the Council to meet its commitment to sustainable development.

6. **CONSULTATIONS**

The Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Director of Finance and Director of Education have been consulted.

7. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

David K Dorward
Chief Executive

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03/02/2012

Fair Trade Policy for Dundee City Council

Policy Statement

Dundee City Council supports Dundee's Fairtrade City status and will promote the use of fairly traded products in Council Departments (including schools) and raise awareness of Fair Trade amongst Council staff.

Policy Aims

- to increase the use of fairly traded products in all Council departments
- to promote and raise awareness of Fair Trade amongst all Council employees and in Council schools
- to include fairly traded products in appropriate Council contracts and franchises where catering may be provided by an external provider
- to work in partnership with Dundee Fair Trade Forum and other relevant local and national organisations to promote Fair Trade

Key Objectives

- to commit to solely serving Fairtrade tea and coffee at Council meetings and where Council hospitality is provided, and to making other fairly traded products available
- to work in partnership with suppliers to the Council in the promotion of fairly traded products and ensure the Council's commitment to Fair Trade is reflected in all relevant tender documents
- to ensure that the Council's website includes relevant Fair Trade information and displays links to local and national organisations including the Dundee Fair Trade Forum
- to support events such as Fairtrade Fortnight which promotes the use of Fair Trade products
- to increase the number of Fair Trade Schools in Dundee
- to publicise Dundee's status as a Fairtrade City e.g. through signs on major routes into the city
- to monitor the implementation of this policy by reporting progress annually to the Council, detailing the uptake and expenditure on fairly traded goods