

Board of Management

Staff Students and Equalities Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 15 March 2017
Paper No.	SSEC2-B
Agenda Item	5
Subject of Paper	Fair Trade Policy
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	SMT Lead: Douglas Dickson Performance and Improvement Director
Date of production	7 March 2017
Action	For Approval

1. Recommendations:

The Committee are asked to: Approve the Fair Trade Policy.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval of the College's Fair Trade Policy. Having a Fair Trade Policy is a requirement of gaining 'Fair Trade Accreditation'.

3. Context

The City of Glasgow College assigns great importance to the College's role within the international community and its obligations to encourage ethical dealings at all levels. Achieving Fair Trade status demonstrates the City of Glasgow College's commitment to improving conditions for producers and workers in the developing world and complements the College's sustainable development and Corporate Social Responsibility agenda(s).

4. Impact & Implications

In terms of Finance and Resource implications the policy sets out that wherever possible, the College will choose award criteria based on considerations of an environmental or social nature (including a requirement that a product is a Fair Trade origin). This may require a review of procurement practices.



FAIR TRADE POLICY

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Charity Number: SCO 36198

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Purpose and Aims	3
3. Scope	3
4. Policy Statement.....	3
5. Definitions.....	5
6. Responsibilities.....	5
7. References.....	5
7.1. Policy Framework.....	5
7.2. Other College Policies and Procedures.....	5
7.3. External References.....	5
8. Document Control and Review.....	6
9. Revision Log.....	6

FAIRTRADE POLICY

1. Introduction

The FAIRTRADE Foundation awards a consumer label, the FAIRTRADE mark, to products which meet internationally recognised standards of FAIRTRADE.

FAIRTRADE is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. The costs of products that consumers buy start with the producer which runs counter to the way in which retailers normally set prices. FAIRTRADE addresses the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminate against the poorest, weakest producers in the developing world. Price stability covers their production costs, and a social or community premium means that their organisation will be able to reinvest either in the business or social and environmental schemes among the wider community. It enables workers and their communities to improve the lives of local people and have more control over their lives.

2. Purpose and Aims

The aim of this Policy is to raise awareness of FAIRTRADE issues within the College and share knowledge about how we can make a difference, through considerate purchasing of products.

3. Scope

This policy covers staff, students, visitors and suppliers to the college.

4. Policy Statement

The City of Glasgow College assigns great importance to the College's role within the international community and its obligations to encourage ethical dealings at all levels. Achieving Fair Trade status demonstrates the City of Glasgow College's commitment to improving conditions for producers and workers in the developing world and complements the College's sustainable development and Corporate Social Responsibility agenda(s).

Working closely with the College Student Association (City SA / Student Exec), City of Glasgow College will continue to actively engage students to develop knowledge and understanding of issues relating to global citizenship, environmental and economic sustainability.

The City of Glasgow College and City of Glasgow College Student Association are committed to supporting and promoting Fair Trade by the following means:

4.1 Provision of Fair Trade Products:

FAIRTRADE products are available for sale in all college cafes/restaurants and consideration will be given to extending the range on offer.

Where possible:

- FAIRTRADE goods will be sourced for Support and Faculty areas within the College e.g. clothing.
- The College will choose award criteria based on considerations of an environmental or social nature (including a requirement that a product is a FAIRTRADE origin).

4.2 Hospitality

The College and the Students' Association commit to ensuring that FAIRTRADE foods (e.g. coffee and tea) are provided to meetings and events attended by staff, students and external partners.

4.3 Promotion

Relevant staff committees and steering groups, working closely with the Student Association and elected Student Executive will actively promote a series of FAIRTRADE events throughout the academic year. FAIRTRADE is currently embedded within many curriculum areas and ways to expand this will be regularly discussed at FAIRTRADE Steering Group meetings.

4.4 FAIRTRADE Steering Group

A FAIRTRADE Steering Group consisting of staff and student representatives has been established to ensure awareness-raising is maintained and new initiatives are promoted. The group will meet on a regular basis (normally monthly) and will endeavour to involve as many people as possible, at all levels, in FAIRTRADE events and campaigns.

4.5 Staff and Student Support

All members of the College will be actively encouraged to support the FAIRTRADE policy. The policy will be promoted on the College website.

5. Definitions:

FAIRTRADE - With FAIRTRADE you have the power to change the world every day. With simple shopping choices you can get farmers a better deal. And that means they can make their own decisions, control their futures and lead the dignified life everyone deservesⁱ.

Fair trade, defined simply, is when producers in developing countries are paid a fair price for their work, by companies in developed countriesⁱⁱ.

6. Responsibilities:

The FAIRTRADE steering group is chaired by Gordon McIntyre, Curriculum Head, Hospitality

7. References:

7.1. Policy Framework

Associated Policies and Procedures	Title

7.2. Other College Policies and Procedures

Policy / Procedure	Title
Procurement	Procurement Policy

7.3. External References

Source	Title
FAIRTRADE website	www.FAIRTRADE.org.uk

8. Document Control and Review

Approval Status		
Approved by		
Date Approved		
EQIA Status	EQIA Conducted?	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed Review Date		
Lead Department	Organisational Development	
Lead Officer(s)	Gordon McIntyre / Martin Taylor	
Board Committee		
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Revision Log

Version Date	Section of Document	Description of Revision

ⁱ <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/en/what-is-fairtrade>

ⁱⁱ <http://www.traidcraft.co.uk/fairtrade-the-definition>