



Subject:	Belfast City Council and Fairtrade
Date:	19th February, 2021
Reporting Officer:	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive
Contact Officers:	Richard McLernon, Resilience Project Coordinator Clare McKeown, Sustainable Development Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To present the Committee with an update on actions that will be undertaken through SOLACE NI to ensure a coordinated approach regarding Fairtrade across the SOLACE NI membership.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the following actions that have been agreed by SOLACE NI in relation to the Fairtrade Campaign: a) SOLACE NI agreed to further consider and discuss this issue at a future meeting to determine a SOLACE NI view for consideration by each of the eleven councils, to support a more consistent level of council participation with the Fairtrade initiative.

2.2	<p>b) SOLACE NI agreed to share information for their councils in terms of participation with the Fairtrade initiative, through the SOLACE NI Policy Officer for collation, to provide an overview of current relationships between local councils and Fairtrade initiatives.</p> <p>Furthermore, Members are asked to agree that a future report will update on the actions undertaken through SOLACE NI.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Belfast City Council originally agreed the Council's approach to the Fairtrade Campaign on 18th February, 2000. The then Policy and Resources Committee adopted the following proposal regarding the War on Want Fair Trade campaign:</p> <p>"It is proposed that, should the Council wish to adopt a policy in relation to Fair Trade products, it be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • specifying the use of tea and coffee products with the Fair Trade mark for Council meetings and civic events; • encouraging the use of Fair Trade tea and coffee by the Council's catering contractors; • encouraging the use of Fair Trade tea and coffee by organisations hosting events in the City Hall; • integrating the issue of fair trade into Belfast City Council's Local Agenda 21 programme through future sustainable development strategies; and • actively promoting awareness of fair trade amongst its employees and the citizens of Belfast through the adoption and promotion of this policy."
3.2	<p>Correspondence has recently been received from the All Party Working Group on Fairtrade, which resulted in a report being taken to SOLACE NI on 5th February 2021 to consider next steps and the development of a more co-ordinated approach to Fairtrade across NI councils. As noted above, SOLACE NI members were presented with the following recommendations, which were agreed:</p> <p>"Members were asked to agree to further consider and discuss this issue at a future meeting to decide if SOLACE NI should adopt a position for the 11 councils to support a more consistent level of council participation with the Fairtrade initiative".</p> <p>Members were asked to share information for their councils in terms of participation with</p>

3.4	<p>the Fairtrade initiative, through the SOLACE NI Policy Officer for collation, to provide an overview of current relationships between local councils and Fairtrade initiatives.”</p> <p>The recommendations were agreed by SOLACE NI. Members will be provided with an update report at a future meeting, which will set out recommendations and next steps.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p>
3.5	<p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.6	<p>None associated with this report</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None