

FAIR TRADE POLICY FOR THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

POLICY STATEMENT 2025

The City of Edinburgh Council supports the Edinburgh Fairtrade City initiative and will promote the use of fair, fairly traded, and ethical products in Council directorates (including schools) and raise awareness of fair, fairly traded and ethical products amongst Council staff.

The Policy Aims are:-

- to support and promote the International Fair Trade Charter;
- Participate and contribute in the Scottish Fairtrade Forum;
- to promote the use of fair, fairly traded and ethical products across the Council and to serve fair, fairly traded and ethical coffee, tea, sugar, and snacks (where served) at Council meetings, in offices and canteens;
- to promote and raise awareness of fair and ethical trade amongst Council employees and the wider city;
- to offer fair, fairly traded and ethical products as an option on the Council food contract and other appropriate Council contracts where catering may be provided by an external provider.

Key Objectives are:-

- to maximise the range of fair, fairly traded and ethical products available on Council contracts and to publicise them across the Council (including in schools);
- to increase the range of fair, fairly traded and ethical food and beverages available in dispensers as part of Council contracts;
- to continue to work with Scotland Excel in promoting fairly traded goods and ethical trading practices through the collaborative frameworks that Scotland Excel deliver and the Council purchases from;
- to provide support to schools holding fair trade status and those working towards it;
- to continue to promote Edinburgh's status as a Fairtrade city through communications and other media;
- to promote through the Council's website and Communication Service annual Fairtrade Fortnight and World Fair Trade Day events and other activities and initiatives organised or supported by the Edinburgh Fairtrade City Steering Group. This includes online engagement and virtual events following the coronavirus outbreak;

- to work with the Edinburgh Fairtrade City Steering Group and other stakeholders to promote and increase the share of fair and fairly traded goods purchased and consumed in the city;
- to support and integrate learning from the 18th International Fair Trade Towns Conference being hosted in Edinburgh;
- to monitor the implementation of the policy and report on progress.

Implementation

The policy will be implemented across council services including the Chief Executive's Office,, Commercial and Procurement Services, Catering Services, and Education, Children and Families.