



## **Introduction**

Queen's University Belfast recognises the importance of Fairtrade (FT) and ethical trading, due to the impact these activities can have on worldwide communities.

The University is committed to becoming a leader in sustainability and has pledged to support and represent the 17 UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development across all its operations, teaching and research. By supporting FT, the University is supporting enhanced opportunities, better pay and improved working conditions for farmers and suppliers across developing nations.

The overall aim of this policy is to ensure Queen's are embedding Fairtrade standards across the University: procurement, catering, communication and engagement, research and teaching.

## **Policy Actions**

### ***Fairtrade Steering Group***

- The University's Fairtrade Steering Group (FTSG) will meet quarterly throughout the year with the aim to improve the University's commitment to FT and ensure effective policy management. Membership will include representatives from university owned and operated hospitality and commercial catering outlets (Student Plus), the University Sustainability Team (Estates), Procurement (Finance) and the Students' Union along with student representation.
- The FTSG will be responsible for updating and publishing the SMART action plan that monitors and evaluates all activities associated with Fairtrade.
- An annual FT progress report will be produced and made publicly available by the FTSG. This will include findings from relevant scoping events from across the University community and progress reports on the University's FT commitments.

### ***Campaigning***

To encourage uptake and awareness of Fairtrade and ethical trading, the FTSG will:

- Host events that will be held annually for key dates in the FT calendar such as Fairtrade Fortnight and World Fairtrade Day. Additional events will be organised and hosted, facilitated by the Students' Union, Campus Food and Drink, and Sustainability Team, with support from the FTSG.
- Ensure promotion of events and campaigns will take place through various University social media channels, information streams and webpages.

### ***Hospitality and Fairtrade Products***

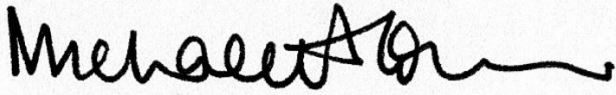
- The FTSG will continue to work with the Procurement team to ensure FT options are being explored, with all tenders and contracts subject to the [Supply Chain Code of Conduct](#).
- University owned and operated catering and commercial outlets will stock and promote FT produce as much as possible. This will include, but not be limited to tea, coffee, sugar, cocoa, chocolate, snacks, fruit, soft drinks, wine and cotton clothing. University owned and operated catering and commercial outlets will work to encourage growth of FT items annually and introduce additional lines when possible.
- Third party catering and retail partners on campus will be encouraged to support the ethos of Fairtrade and participate in the campaigns throughout the year.

## **Education and Research**

- The FTSG continues to work with Academics and the Science Shop to encourage and promote opportunities for students to research Fairtrade, trade justice and ethical consumption.

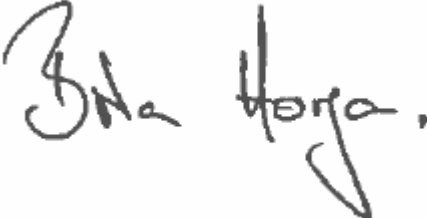
## **Approval and Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Fairtrade Steering Group. Next review date March 2025.



Professor Michael Alcorn

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Brian Horgan

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Head of Fairtrade Steering Group