

# Fairtrade Policy

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## 1 Background

The Robert Gordon University has committed to attaining Fairtrade status, and will aim to meet the five minimum goals set by the Fairtrade Foundation:

1. The Student Association and the University both create a Fairtrade policy incorporating the Fairtrade Foundation's five goals;
2. Fairtrade foods are made available for sale in all campus shops and used in all catering outlets on campus. Where this is not possible, there is a commitment to begin to use Fairtrade foods on these establishments as it becomes possible to do so;
3. Fairtrade foods and beverages are served at all meetings hosted by the University and the Student Association;
4. There is a commitment to campaign for increased Fairtrade consumption on campus;
5. Set up a Fairtrade Steering Group.

## 2 Introduction

As part of the University's Sustainability Strategy, the Fairtrade Status and Procurement group aims to collaborate with academic and support departments, other subgroups of the Environmental and Sustainability Workgroup, the Student Association and suppliers to achieve Fairtrade status.

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, sustainable development and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. It guarantees producer organisations a fair and stable price for their products through the FAIRTRADE Mark, an independent consumer label which appears on a range of retail and catering products assuring that disadvantages farmers and workers in the developing world are getting a better deal.

Fairtrade gives power back both to producers and consumers. Producers get fair wages, good working conditions; help with the development of products and marketing, while consumers are given the choice to make a difference by buying Fairtrade products whenever they can.

## 3 Achieving Fairtrade Status

The University and the Students' Association will set up and maintain a Fairtrade Steering Group, which will include a representative from Campus Services, Procurement Services, an executive from The Robert Gordon University's Students' Association and an appropriate Students' Association society.

The Steering Group will take responsibility for implementing this policy and for developing additional goals in the future. The Steering Group will send a full report to the Fairtrade Foundation explaining how each goal has been achieved in order for Fairtrade status to be awarded.

Fairtrade products will, whenever practicable, be made available for sale in all shops managed by the University's appointed agents, if a Fairtrade version of the type of product on sale is available.

Fairtrade foods will be available in all catering outlets and bars managed by the University, the University's agents or Students' Association.

Fairtrade tea, coffee and sugar will be served at all meetings hosted by the University or Students Association.

When funded and provided by the University, Fairtrade tea, coffee and sugar will be used in all University management offices.

The University will undertake to campaign for increased Fairtrade consumption throughout the University, and liaise with other local Fairtrade campaigners where possible.

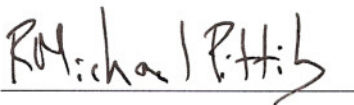
## 4 Maintaining Fairtrade Status

The Steering Group will continue to submit an annual report to the Fairtrade Foundation, confirming its continued achievement of the five minimum goals, and detailing additional progress.

The Steering Group will review this policy annually, or more frequently if required.

## 5 Authorising Signatures

Signed on behalf of The Robert Gordon University



Signed on behalf of The Robert Gordon University's Students' Association

