

Mr and Mrs Pattison
Co-Chairmen
Shropshire Fairtrade Coalition

21 April 2010

Dear

Ref: Shropshire Council Fairtrade Resolution 25th February 2010

I am writing to inform you that Shropshire Council passed a unanimous resolution to support Fairtrade at the Council meeting on 25th February 2010.

The resolution passed reads:

"Shropshire Council wholly supports the principles of fair trading throughout the world and will seek to promote this cause both within the Council and by encouraging local businesses, commercial outlets and other public agencies to support this initiative."

In order to fulfil this resolution, Shropshire Council will:

1. Review all premises now to ensure the supply of fair-trade refreshments in all council establishments.

The Council already serves fair-trade beverages in the Shirehall restaurant and stocks fair trade products in the shop. Posters and campaigns promoting fair-trade are displayed at the entrance to the restaurant. Fairtrade options are available to schools via Shire Services and West Mercia Supplies and are provided for council meetings. External outlets, such as the Discovery Centre also serve fair-trade produce.

2. Promote awareness of fair-trade on a regular basis through our various publications, such as 'Talking Shrop' and 'Shropshire' magazines and on our web site.
3. The responsibility for supporting you in renewing fair-trade status for the county will rest with the Sustainability Officer. The Officer will attend meetings of the Shropshire Fairtrade Coalition where appropriate and report to Members on progress made.
4. Support will be given through links with the Economic Development Unit to encourage other businesses and establishments to stock and support fair-trade across the county.
5. An annual promotion of fair trade products will be organised within the Council to raise awareness of fair trade.
6. The Sustainability Officer will begin discussions with the Children and Young People's Directorate and Shire Services to organise an education event to raise awareness of trade issues and fair-trade amongst young people.

The Council has been working to include fair-trade products within its operations over the last 8 years and is happy to work with the Shropshire Fairtrade Coalition in raising awareness on this issue.

We are very impressed with the hard work you have put into working to achieve Fairtrade status for Shropshire and wish you every success in retaining this status.

Yours sincerely

Kim Ryley
Chief Executive

