



Birmingham City University and the Students' Union acknowledge the importance of our combined roles in operating within the international community and in preparing students to play their part in creating a safe and sustainable world in the future.

We are committed to managing the impact our actions have on people and on the environment and we recognise our obligations to carry out our activities in an ethical and socially responsible way. Birmingham City University and the Students' Union therefore commit to supporting, using and promoting Fairtrade products.

This commitment will be delivered by securing and maintaining the Fairtrade Foundation's Fairtrade status for both the University and the Students' Union. We will continue to achieve the Fairtrade Foundation's five goals for a Fairtrade University and Student Union status by taking and reviewing the effectiveness of the following actions:

**1. PROCUREMENT**

Through its Procurement Strategy the University aims to achieve best value, and value for money, in all its purchasing. Within that framework, the University and Students' Union will ensure that where possible and relevant all suppliers are asked to consider and submit their Fairtrade and sustainable procurement policies when tendering for the supply of food, drinks, stationery, clothing and a range of other products that are sources from developing countries. Our suppliers will be asked to offer Fairtrade/sustainable alternatives when available and economically feasible.

**2. SALE OF FAIRTRADE PRODUCTS**

The University and the Students' Union will, where possible, procure and sell as many Fairtrade products as is feasible and economical in our canteens, shops, cafés and other outlets. Where it is not currently feasible to procure and sell Fairtrade (for reasons of price, quality, supply availability or contractual obligations), we are committed to endeavour to offer a growing range of Fairtrade products in the future.

**3. HOSPITALITY**

The University will, where possible, provide Fairtrade foods (e.g. tea and coffee) at internal meetings and hospitality events (e.g. open days). We will seek to extend our use of Fairtrade products over time.

**4. PROMOTION**

The University and the Students' Union will, where possible, promote the sale of Fairtrade products and raise awareness of the benefits and the quality of Fairtrade products throughout the institution.

**5. STAFF AND STUDENT SUPPORT**

Details of this policy will be communicated throughout the University to encourage all staff and students' to support the use of Fairtrade products and to promote Sustainable Procurement.

**6. STANDARD POLICY IMPACT ASSESSMENT STATEMENT**

Birmingham City University's commitment to equality means that this policy has been screened in relation to equal access, the use of comprehensible, inclusive language, recognition of the needs of disabled people, promotion of the positive duty in relation to all protected characteristics and avoidance of stereotypes. This document is available in alternative formats on request.

**7. OVERSIGHT ARRANGEMENTS**

Fairtrade is an integral part of our Sustainable Procurement strategy. A Sustainable Procurement Steering Group will be established to implement and monitor all policies and action plans related to Sustainable Procurement. This group will comprise representatives from key services departments, Faculties and Students' Union. The Group will meet once a term to monitor the implementation and progress of the University's and the Students' Union Sustainable procurement strategy across the institution.



**Professor David Tidmarsh,  
Vice Chancellor**



**Tom Thompson  
President, Students' Union**