

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

NOTES OF THE FAIRTRADE STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 10 MARCH 2010

Clock 138 days into the campaign; 227 Days to go ...

1 PRESENT

Cllr. Julie Stewart-Turner, Mayor (Chair)
Cllr. Peter O'Neill, Cabinet Member
Andrew Choi, Mid-Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce
Bob Kilcoyne, Kirklees Council (Corporate Procurement)
Carol Gilchrist, Kirklees Council (Safer Stronger Communities)
Christina Longden, Lorna Young Foundation
Emily Rye, University of Huddersfield
Jeff Cocker, University of Huddersfield
John Drewery, Huddersfield Co-operative Party Group
Kate Hinks, Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation Trust
Peter McDonagh, Kirklees Council (Economic Development Service)
Philip Hume, Kirklees Council (Policy and Governance)
Tina Walker, Batley and Spen Constituency Fairtrade Steering Group

APOLOGIES

Disk Palfrey, Kirklees Council (CHYPS)
Jason Tudor, Calderdale and Huddersfield Foundation Trust

2 FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT EVENTS

Jeff and Emily referred to the University's events: the exhibition was well-attended; an event for fashion students took place fair trade cotton; work with Scopos for fabrics; fair trade food on the menu.

Peter McDonagh has made visits to a number of businesses during FT Fortnight and arranged for posters to be displayed supporting the Kirklees Fairtrade Campaign.

Carol referred to a number of events organised by the Community Work staff which had been well-publicised and photographed. Follow-up evaluation planned re: the outcome for Fairtrade awareness.

Tina referred to 22+ events in the Batley Spen area including schools and referred to local press coverage.

John referred to events in Holmfirth.

Bob referred to Council encouragement to all staff to 'swap' some of their lunch for a Fairtrade item on one day during the FT Fortnight. Staff at Deighton had arranged a 'swap' which included donation of food for the Huddersfield Mission.

3 RESEARCH

Christina provided an update on progress with the research - contract has been awarded, young people's training has taken place and 25% of the town centre research has been undertaken. The remaining work has been allocated to pairs of young people, who are often working on a cross-community basis. Target for completion is end-April. Some issues

with young people's gangs in some areas. Positive response from Thornton's; coffee shops generally less aware of FT.

Agreed to ask some of the Young Ethical Pioneer group to attend the May Steering Group meeting to report back.

Christina mentioned that our work in Huddersfield is gaining national recognition.

4 FLAGSHIP EMPLOYER

Kate spoke about enquiries that Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust have been making about procurement of fairtrade supplies and the Fairtrade Foundation's requirements of a flagship employer. The Trust are fully supportive of Fairtrade but they have looked in detail at their current purchasing, much of which is obtained via central NHS procurement mechanisms, and have found that a significant amount of the supply is ethically sourced but not Fairtrade. To switch to Fairtrade would not be an option because of procurement commitments and regulations, and the price increase which would be incurred in comparison to foods etc sourced via aggregated NHS supply routes.

Fairtrade Foundation are in fact keen for the Trust to be a flagship employer as they are able to influence significant number of staff and also able to influence patients and their families. It is not clear from existing contact with the Foundation whether the Trust could act as flagship employer.

Alternative companies who might be considered as the flagship employer were mentioned – Camira, Kirklees Stadium?

AGREED – Bob to contact FF for further clarification

5 MEDIA SUB-GROUP REPORT

Coverage of Fairtrade events – Huddersfield Examiner, also coverage identified from Dewsbury/Batley/Spenborough press.

Next sub-group meeting to be arranged. Stuart Tarbuck/Sandra Tully from KMC Performance and Communication supporting the media campaign.

Suggested guide to Fairtrade in Huddersfield/leaflet explaining why Kirklees is promoting Fairtrade could be printed.

A banner promoting Fairtrade could be created for all events. External funding may be available.

Facebook site set up as 'Fairtrade Kirklees' (search from [Facebook](#) home page to join)

6 EVENTS SUB-GROUP

Emily circulated an update from the sub-group (revised version attached).
Easter events being considered.

AGREED – to contact staff, schools and out-of-school clubs for details of any Easter events being planned. Information required by 26 March to be collated.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Christina stated that the 10th anniversary of Garstang becoming the first Fairtrade Town will be coming up in April (see attached information) and it would be good if a contingent from Huddersfield could attend the celebration.

The Mayor is meeting with Apna Leisure Centre (formerly Sikh Leisure Centre) to discuss obtaining Fairtrade status for the Sikh Temple and support from the Yorkshire Independent Grocers Association (YIGA).

6 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Meetings were arranged for:

31 March 2010, 5pm

12 May 2010, 5pm