

Report on	Mid Ulster Fairtrade
Date of Meeting	12th November 2019
Reporting Officer	Raymond Lowry, Head of Technical Services

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members on Fairtrade and seek approval to progress MUDC Fairtrade resolution to application stage for Fairtrade Status.
2.0	Background
2.1	Members will recall a previous paper passed to acknowledge the contribution that Fairtrade makes to sustainable development, in relation to poverty and to improving the lives of people from some of the most disadvantaged farming communities in the developing world (see attached Appendix 1 for reference purposes).
2.2	MUDC have progressed Fairtrade status to Point 4 on the action sheet and now seek approval to move the process forward to full application status. The All Party Group on Fairtrade have acknowledged this commitment by Mid Ulster Council as noted in Appendix 7.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	MUDC have along with all other 10 Councils and Government Departments been engaging with Fairtrade in order to have Northern Ireland become a Fairtrade Region (see Appendix 5). The application status is discussed at the All Party Working Group and minutes of the June meeting is attached in Appendix 6.
3.2	To enable Mid Ulster Council to progress their application (see draft application form in Appendix 4) it is required that Council sets up a steering group that meets a minimum of 2 times per year.
3.3	Terms of Reference for the Steering Group is attached in Appendix 2 of this report and this requires membership from elected representatives, council staff, charities, voluntary or community associations, non-governmental organisations (NGO's), higher educational institutions, schools, churches/places of worship, businesses and private individuals.
3.4	Council have been active in demonstrating their commitment to Fairtrade through serving tea / coffee at council meetings and promoting Fairtrade fortnight through school events. If approved by Council to invitation letters will be issued to all appropriate organisations as listed above to join and attend the various meetings

3.5	<p>required to get the steering group up and running (see Appendix 3, draft letter of invitation to be issued to all concerned groups).</p> <p>As per the terms of the steering group Council are required to nominate two Members to sit on the Steering Group and promote Fairtrade throughout the District.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: Additional financial budget (limited) will be required to host events / meetings.</p> <p>Human: Staff time to manage programme delivery. Currently Staff resource is limited due to reduced hours worked by Sustainability Officer and additional staff resources may/will be required to promote / progress application status.</p> <p>Risk Management: Non-compliance will have adverse PR effect on the organisation and result in the Northern Ireland Fairtrade Region status being put at risk.</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>Members are asked to note the content of this report and nominate two Members to sit on the steering group. On completion of this invitations will be circulated for the first meeting of the MUDC Fairtrade Steering group (date will be set in the new year).</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Environment Committee Paper February 2017
6.2	Appendix 2 – Terms of Reference for MUDC Steering Group
6.3	Appendix 3 – Draft letter for invitation to join the Steering Group
6.4	Appendix 4 – Draft Application to be completion after commencement of Steering Group
6.5	Appendix 5 – Fairtrade Region bulletin
6.6	Appendix 6 – All Party Group – June 2019 Minutes
6.7	Appendix 7 – All Party Group on Fairtrade acknowledgement of MUDC

