

Oxford University Fairtrade Progress Report and Action Plan

Introduction

The University of Oxford took part in a pilot scheme to look at universities becoming Fairtrade certified. The pilot was run by the Fairtrade Foundation and the National Union of Students in the academic year 2017–2018. Before this, the University of Oxford was not a Fairtrade university although several colleges had achieved certification.

There has been a consistent attempt to achieve Fairtrade status for the entire University of Oxford through groups such as Oxford Student Fairtrade Coalition, Just Love and through the Oxford Student Union over the last decade.

Scope

To aid implementation of the Fairtrade University criteria, the scope of certification is being defined by sites which are covered by the certification. A full scope can be found in Annex 1.

Mandatory Criteria

A working group has been set up and the members have worked through the criteria to highlight those that the University is already meeting. A list of the members of the working group can be found in Annex 2.

As the University is very new to Fairtrade as an institution, the working group met regularly over the first two terms of the 2017–2018 academic year. To inform the working group of the different views about Fairtrade, a survey was carried out aimed at all staff and students. Over 400 people responded, and a summary of the results can be found in Annex 3.

5-year plan

The plan below highlights the areas that the Fairtrade working group will work on over the next five years. This will be reviewed and amended annually.

| Theme | Action | Key Stakeholders | Start date (term and year) | Planned end date (term and year) | Criteria Ref |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Campaigning and Influencing | Fairtrade could be highlighted at Freshers Fair and recruitment days – to be looked at by the Working Group to identify what the best way of doing this. | Oxford SU Environmental Sustainability team Catering Contractor FM | MT18 | MT19 | CI010 |
| | Investigate the availability of Fairtrade options for events. The sustainable food policy should be applied at all events but the impact of this needs to be investigated. | University and college events teams Catering contractors FM Oxford SU | MT19 | TT20 | CI011 |
| Catering Procurement, Retail and | Increase the number of Fairtrade products available at University and College outlets. | Colleges Catering contractors FM Purchasing | MT18 | MT23 | PL002 |

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| | Investigate the availability of Fairtrade products in hospitality and build a plan to increase them | Colleges Catering contractors FM Purchasing | MT19 | TT20 | PL006 |
| | Investigate the feasibility of using Fairtrade materials in staff uniforms. | Colleges Catering contractors FM Purchasing | MT19 | TT20 | PL010 |
| | Investigate the impact of ensuring that all promotional t-shirts for events are Fairtrade-certified cotton. | University and college events teams Oxford SU | MT19 | TT20 | PL011 |
| | Ensure the number of Fairtrade lines available and total amount of Fairtrade items sold across the scope of the partnership are increasing. | Colleges Catering contractors FM Purchasing | HT18 | HT21 | PL012 |
| Outcomes | Review outcomes of the work to be a Fairtrade University. | Student consultancy Working Group | HT19 | TT19 | OT001 |

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| Impact | Work with the catering contractor to bring in new Fairtrade suppliers. | Catering contractors FM Oxford SU | MT18 | MT23 | II001 |
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Annex 1:

Scope of the Fairtrade University certification at the University of Oxford

The following colleges are covered:

Christ Church
 Keble
 LMH
 University
 Queen's College
 Wadham

The following University sites are also covered:

Andrew Wiles Building
 Blavatnik School of Government
 University Offices
 Dunn School of Pathology
 Physics Denys Wilkinson Building
 Physics Clarendon Laboratory
 Biochemistry
 Manor Road
 Osney One
 Osler House
 Big Data Institute
 Tulip Tree Café (Richard Doll Building)
 Old Road Campus Research Building
 Eagle House
 Wellcome Trust Centre for Genetics



University Sport
University Club
Exam Schools
Estates Services
Sheldonian Theatre
St Luke's Chapel

Opening March 2018:

DPAG

Rhodes Pavilion – Mobile catering facility



Annex 2:

Members of the Working Group are:

- Harriet Waters (Head of Environmental Sustainability)
- Amy King (Environmental Sustainability Projects Assistant)
- Tom Barringer (Oxford SU Vice-President - Charities and Community)
- Bart Ashton (Bursar, Lady Margaret Hall)
- Marie Bracey (Bursar, Queen's College)
- Claire Seeley (Senior Purchasing Manager)
- Sally Ruddy (FM Contracts Manager)
- Elodie Powell (St Hugh's College)
- Henry Grub (Merton College)
- Lydia Parker (Queen's College)













Annex 3:

Results of the survey

Fairtrade at University of Oxford

Response to the Fairtrade Fortnight Survey of 2018



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|  <p>154 Staff 259 Students</p> <p>Over 400 staff and students responded to the survey</p> |  <p>97% were already aware of Fairtrade goods, food and drink before Fairtrade Fortnight</p> |
|  <p>Over 80% frequently or occasionally buy Fairtrade goods, compared to less than 15% who rarely buy Fairtrade</p> |  <p>Fairtrade chocolate, coffee, tea, fresh fruit and sugar are the most commonly bought items</p> |
|  <p>60% buy Fairtrade because they feel everyone in the supply chain should be rewarded fairly</p> |  <p>70% felt that farmers and workers benefit the most from Fairtrade</p> |
|  <p>2 in 5 might be swayed away from purchasing Fairtrade items due to cost or if a Fairtrade alternative is not available</p> |  <p>41% have spotted Fairtrade goods in University cafes, provided in shared kitchens or within colleges*</p> |
|  <p>81% would like to see a greater variety of Fairtrade goods, food and drink across the University* We want to improve this for you!</p> | |
|  <p>Over 70% would like to feel more informed on the positive impact of Fairtrade on communities around the world*</p> |  <p>90% agreed that it was important for the University of Oxford to work towards the Fairtrade University Award</p> |
| <p>Find out more: Environmental Sustainability team Estates Services, The Malthouse Tidmarsh Lane, Oxford, OX1 1NQ</p> <p> @OxfordEnvSust</p> <p>Thank you! to everyone who participated in the survey and supported Fairtrade Fortnight</p> <p><small>*These areas are included in the Fairtrade Improvement Plan</small></p> | |