

16. WEST LOTHIAN FAIRTRADE ZONE STATUS AND FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

The Council Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Cultural, Communities and Economic Development Services setting out a proposal for West Lothian moving towards achieving Fairtrade Zone status.

The report explained that the Scottish Fairtrade Forum had been established in 2007 to work towards Scotland becoming one of the world's first Fairtrade Nations. Part of the campaign was to encourage local authorities to move towards achieving Fairtrade Zone status. The report also invited the Council Executive to consider establishing a Fairtrade Steering Group and to appoint members to the Group.

The Council Executive was informed that Fairtrade Fortnight 2010, the annual promotional event, would run from 22 February to 7 March 2010 and as part of the Council's continuing support, would use the Civic Centre to promote Fairtrade and its commitment to achieving Zone status amongst staff and users of the building over the period, including a specific promotional event in the main foyer on a day to be decided.

The Council Executive was asked to:-

1. agree that a steering group of partners be established with the objective of West Lothian achieving Fairtrade Zone status.
2. nominate appropriate elected member representation on the steering group.
3. call for future updates on progress including opportunities to expand fair-trade through procurement.
4. consider a request to use the Civic Centre foyer to promote Fairtrade Fortnight which would run from 22 February – 7 March 2010.

Motion

1. To approve the recommendations outlined within the report.
2. To agree that the council be represented on the steering group by Council Leader Peter Johnston and Councillors Willie Boyle and Janet Campbell.
3. To invite representation from each of the four local Fairtrade Steering Groups (communities of Uphall, Livingston, Whitburn, Linlithgow) to the West Lothian Fairtrade Steering Group.
4. To re-iterate the terms of a motion passed by the Council in 2003 supporting Fairtrade.

Moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Anderson

Amendment

To approve the recommendations outlined within the report and to appoint Councillor Morrice to the Steering Group.

Moved by Councillor Findlay, Seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick.

Decision

On a vote being taken, the motion was successful by 7 votes to 2 votes and it was agreed accordingly.