



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON



FAIRTRADE POLICY

Version: October 2021

1. POLICY STATEMENT

- 1.1 Our Diocese supports and recommends the use of Fairtrade products, including those sold by Traidcraft, wherever possible in our churches, schools, and communities. We believe that Fairtrade can make a difference to the living and working conditions of people throughout the developing world who grow many of the things we buy. We recognise the importance of fair terms of trade, decent working conditions and local sustainability for farmers and producers, especially post-Covid, and in the face of worsening climate change.
- 1.2 Goods that carry the Fairtrade Mark, registered with and conferred by, the Fairtrade Foundation, ensure both accountability of participating companies and that the farmers and producers are empowered to make their own choices with regard to applying the benefits of the Fairtrade Premium gained through their sales to local projects in their community. These may include installing wells, medical centres, schools etc. Other fair trade schemes do not have the strict controls imposed by the Fairtrade Foundation, but it is to be hoped that one day they will work more closely with the Fairtrade Foundation and Traidcraft, or be enfolded by them to work better for social justice for the world's poor.

2. PROCUREMENT FOR CENTRAL OFFICES AND DIOCESAN EVENTS

- 2.1 Where tea, coffee and sugar are provided at Diocesan events, or to staff and visitors at Diocesan offices, these are expected to be Fairtrade.
- 2.2 Staff responsible for ordering supplies should be briefed on this requirement for products with the FAIRTRADE Mark so that all our procurement of refreshments complies with this expectation.

3. PARISHES

- 3.1 Arundel and Brighton is a Fairtrade Diocese. Half our churches are certificated as meeting the Fairtrade Foundation criteria. This means that they use products with the FAIRTRADE Mark including tea, coffee, and other relevant products wherever possible.
- 3.2 As a Fairtrade Diocese we recommend that **all parishes should seek this status and embrace their opportunity to support and promote ethical purchasing.** It is a good idea for parishes to display literature advertising the fact that Fairtrade products are being served.

4. COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

- 4.1 The Diocese will use its communications platforms to promote the importance and relevance of Fairtrade to all our stakeholders. We will highlight opportunities such as Fairtrade Fortnight to encourage awareness and action. We will particularly encourage promotion of the Fairtrade message to Diocesan schools.

5. FAIRTRADE NETWORK AND LEARNING MORE

- 5.1 The Diocese has a Fairtrade Steering Group, which aims to raise awareness about Fairtrade labelled products and takes responsibility that goals continue to be met and developed over time. The Steering Group can provide information, literature, and advice about changing to Fairtrade products and promoting these. The group welcomes new members. Contact E: Tessa.Ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk to find out more.
- 5.2 The Fairtrade website is full of information and ideas: <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk>. If you would like to know more about Traidcraft see: <https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk>.

Approval

This policy was approved by the Diocesan Board of Trustees on: 20 October 2021

The next review is due by: 31 October 2022