Newcastle University and Newcastle University Students’ Union Fairtrade Commitment

Newcastle University and Newcastle University Students’ Union are committed to supporting and championing Fairtrade and its values across the organisations and their retail and catering outlets.

Social and environmental justice is a core value of Newcastle University, and we are committed to representing this value in all that we do. Maintaining our Fairtrade status is one of the ways that we ensure that we are championing trade justice and ethical consumption within our University and Students’ Union partnership.

Newcastle University was first recognised by the Fairtrade Foundation as a Fairtrade University in 2006. In 2018 the Fairtrade Foundation introduced a new Fairtrade University and Colleges Award in collaboration with Students Organising for Sustainability UK (SOS-UK).

**Fairtrade** is a system of certification that aims to ensure a set of standards are met in the production and supply of a product or ingredient.

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. By requiring companies to pay sustainable prices (which must never fall lower than the market price), Fairtrade addresses the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminates against the producers from low-income countries. It enables them to improve their position and have more control over their lives.

Our Fairtrade Action Plan describes the work we are undertaking towards achievement and maintenance of our Fairtrade status. This includes commitment to the sale and promotion of Fairtrade products, engagement with colleagues, students and suppliers on Fairtrade and trade justice and regular reporting on action towards ethical consumption.

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