

**SUBJECT: MONMOUTHSHIRE FAIRTRADE COUNTY RENEWAL**

**MEETING: INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION – Councillor Sara Jones**

**DATE: 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

**DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: County-wide**

## **1. PURPOSE:**

- 1.1 To seek approval for the attached report which will form the basis of our application to the Fairtrade Foundation to renew our status as a Fairtrade County.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 To approve the attached report (Appendix 1) and supporting evidence (Appendix 2) as an accurate record of the progress made by Monmouthshire County Council to promote Fairtrade from 2017 to date.
- 2.2 To approve the actions that are proposed in the report as Monmouthshire County Council's commitments towards promoting Fairtrade from 2020-22.
- 2.3 To authorise the Sustainability Policy Officer to submit this report to the Fairtrade Foundation to renew our Fairtrade County status.

## **3. KEY ISSUES:**

- 3.1 Monmouthshire County Council needs to renew its Fairtrade County status by submitting a report on progress to date and actions for the next 2 years.

## **4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):**

- 4.1 Renewing Monmouthshire's Fairtrade County status contributes to multiple wellbeing goals and has benefits for Monmouthshire and for the global community. Work is delivered in close partnership with community groups, schools, Fairtrade Wales, businesses and others, and raises awareness of Fairtrade amongst people in the county. Local businesses benefit from being able to promote themselves as a fair trade venue and farmers and growers across the world benefit from guaranteed, fair prices for their work and premiums which they can invest in their communities. There are no negative impacts.

## **5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

- 5.1 The only alternative to renewal would be to allow our Fairtrade status to lapse. However, that would leave us as the only local authority in Wales to not be a Fairtrade County and would also potentially jeopardise Wales' status as a Fairtrade Nation. This is not considered to be an option.

## **6. EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

- 6.1 Progress towards the action plan will be monitored at 6 monthly meetings of the County Fairtrade Steering Group.

## **7. REASONS**

- 7.1 Monmouthshire County Council's Fairtrade Resolution was passed by full Council in May 2007 and endorsed by Cabinet 25<sup>th</sup> July 2007. Fairtrade County status was first awarded to Monmouthshire by the Fairtrade Foundation in November 2008.
- 7.2 To keep our status as a Fairtrade County, this needs to be renewed every two years, and renewal is due now.
- 7.3 Wales keeping its status as a Fairtrade Nation is dependent on each county being a Fairtrade County.

## **8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 None at present. The actions contained in our renewal can be delivered within existing staff resources.

## **9. CONSULTEES:**

Councillor Sara Jones, Cabinet Member for Social Justice and Community Development  
Monmouth, Usk, Chepstow and Abergavenny Fairtrade Forums  
Fairtrade Wales

## **10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

Appendix 1 - Monmouthshire Fairtrade County Renewal 2019  
Appendix 2 - Evidence for Fairtrade County Renewal

## **11. AUTHOR:**

Hazel Clatworthy, Sustainability Policy Officer

## **12. CONTACT DETAILS:**

Tel: 01633 644843

E-mail: [hazelclatworthy@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:hazelclatworthy@monmouthshire.gov.uk)