COUNCIL	Agenda Item 52(a)
28 January 2010	Brighton & Hove City Council

NOTICE OF MOTION

LABOUR GROUP

SUPPORT FAIRTRADE IN THE CITY

"In 2009 the Fairtrade Foundation celebrates its 15th Anniversary as Brighton celebrates being the UK's first Fairtrade town over 13 years ago.

Seven in 10 households purchase Fairtrade goods, including an extra 1.3 million more households in 2008, helping Fairtrade sales reach an estimated £700m in 2008, a 43% increase on the previous year. There are over 460 producer organisations selling to the UK and 746 to the global Fairtrade system, representing more than 1.5 million farmers and workers.

Over 4,500 products have been licensed to carry the Fairtrade Mark including;

coffee, tea, herbal teas, chocolate, cocoa, sugar, bananas, grapes, pineapples, mangoes, avocados, apples, pears, plums, grapefruit, lemons, oranges, satsumas, clementines, mandarins, lychees, coconuts, dried fruit, juices, smoothies, biscuits, cakes & snacks, honey, jams & preserves, chutney & sauces, rice, quinoa, herbs & spices, seeds, nuts & nut oil, wines, beers, rum, confectionary, muesli, cereal bars, yoghurt, ice-cream, flowers, sports balls and cotton products including clothing, homeware, cloth toys, cotton wool, olive oil and beauty products.

In June this year, the Fairtrade Foundation announced the first cosmetic products to carry the Fairtrade Mark in the UK.

Businesses in Brighton and Hove will be stocking these products . 57 new Fairtrade products will contain one or more Fairtrade certified ingredient such as cocoa butter, shea nut butter, sugar or brazil nut oil, benefiting disadvantaged producers from countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

This Council recognises that introducing Fairtrade labelling to cosmetic products will increase the overall number of Fairtrade products in UK shops and the volumes of ingredients which producers are able to sell under Fairtrade terms, which in turn increases the benefits back to farmers.

(1) This Council calls upon the Cabinet to consider the Council's responsibility as a guiding force in local businesses to encourage the use of Fairtrade products in business and also to the City's residents through the following;

- Reaffirming its commitment to Fairtrade and ensuring that the City will continue to be classified as a 'Fairtrade City.'

- Being a leading example to the City and where appropriate, ensuring that only Fairtrade products are served and sold on Council premises, such as fruit, fruit juices, soaps, jams, teas and coffees.

- Publicising its Fairtrade policy and practice via City News and the Council's website.

(2) That the Chief Executive write to the Managers of Boots (North Road) and Neil's Yard as local businesses that have chosen to stock the new Fairtrade products, welcoming their decision to stock more Fairtrade products locally; and

(3) That the Chief Executive writes to the Secretary of State for International Development, renewing this City's commitment to Fairtrade and welcoming the almost £2 million dedicated to Fairtrade Foundation since 1997 out of £12 million to fair and ethical trade initiatives and the £400 million for Aid for Trade which helps developing countries build their trade capacity."

Proposed by: Cllr Gill Mitchell Seconded by: Cllr Melanie Davis

Supported by: Cllrs Anne Meadows, Mo Marsh, Juliet McCaffery, Les Hamilton, Bob Carden, Christine Simpson, Jeane Lepper, Warren Morgan, Craig Turton and Pat Hawkes.