

Appendix 1
Merton Council's Resolution

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
22 FEBRUARY 2006

report later this year and it is hoped that our concerns will be properly addressed."

Councillor Russell Makin opened debate on this Objective

A motion in the form of the resolution below was moved by Councillor Nick Draper and seconded by Councillor Philip Jones. Following debate the motion was put to the meeting and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED: That In taking forward the objective a 'Thriving Merton' the Council resolves to promote the application of Fairtrade principles and environmental justice. In this the Council will:-

- i Review, and where appropriate, amend its own practices as a demonstration of leading by example. As a first step, officers be requested to prepare a report on a Code for Environmental procurement for Cabinet's consideration.
- ii Ensure this philosophy is carried through in the way the Council delivers services and works with its partners, the voluntary sector and businesses.
- iii As a practical demonstration agree to host a Fairtrade exhibition during Fairtrade fortnight, 6th – 19th March, to launch the process in Merton, and to help inform the content of drafting the code of practice.
- iv Agree a small one-off budget of £500 to help launch the initiative in Merton

The aim is for the Borough, as a service deliverer and community leader, to support and promote the Fairtrade Mark in pursuit of sustainable development, and to give marginalised producers a fair deal.

This should include, where value for money can be demonstrated, for the Council to use Fairtrade Mark products, and to use influence to promote these products amongst the resident and business communities in Merton.

The report on this Strategic Objective was otherwise RECEIVED.

931 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE REVIEW – EQUALITIES MERTON (Agenda Item 10)

The following written question and answer was circulated at the meeting.

14. From Councillor David Simpson to the Cabinet Member for Diversity, Community Engagement and Partnership

"Key Performance Indicators from October/November 2005 show a marked deterioration in the Public's perspective of Merton Council as an authority that tackles discrimination. It states that a community cohesion strategy is being developed, yet this smacks of too little too late in the life of this administration. What greater efforts are being made in communication to address this important issue, and allay residents' fears?"

732

Whether a moratorium has been imposed on all controlled parking zones and how long it is intended to remain in place?

Does an intention exist to freeze the price of parking permits?

How he intends to proceed with the implementation of one hour zones in existing CPZ's and whether resident opinions will be sought?"

Reply

"No decisions have yet been taken by our new administration concerning the cost or geographical coverage of parking permits - for residents or for businesses. Options will be considered as part of the annual review of parking tariffs and facilities with decisions in parallel with those for the 2007/8 revenue budget process. Consultation will be carried out in line with the requirements of the traffic order making system. In the case of the option of a borough wide permit there will need to be consultation in advance of any decision. In the case of changes to price levels, variations to existing orders would be made in the normal way through the publication of a notice advising people of the change.

A review has been conducted of all current and planned controlled parking zones. A number of schemes were in the pipeline prior to May 2005 and various reviews are programmed for the forthcoming year. One hour parking controls will be introduced as an option for all new schemes and within the review of existing schemes. The views of those affected, including residents, will be sought in line with the Council's commitment to consultation and the requirements arising from changes to existing traffic management orders."

30. From Councillor Philip Jones to the Leader of the Council

The Leader has nominated the Cabinet Member for Environment and Traffic Management to respond to this question.

"Will the Leader please report on how he proposes implementing the resolution passed unanimously at the February Council Meeting, committing Merton to promoting 'the application of Fairtrade principles and environmental justice'?"

Reply

"I am pleased to report that the Council followed up the resolution by awarding £500 to a consortium including Tariro Coffee shop and Commonsides Community Trust. Some of the money was used to promote Fairtrade fortnight in Merton in March. The remainder of the funds will be used to promote Merton as a Fairtrade Borough and gain Fairtrade Borough Status.

The Council has incorporated an appropriate clause into its own Procurement Strategy, thereby lending the Council's weight to promoting Fair Trade in Merton.

I have asked officers to review the current position and make recommendations about ways in which the Council can lend further support to the initiative."

Supplementary

"I am rather intrigued as to how Fair Trade fits into the Environment and Traffic Management portfolio, but I regard this as a satisfactory answer as far as it goes and I would like to ask Councillor Ahmad as to where the recommendations referred to in