

16 January 2015

Scott Nova,
Worker Rights Consortium ,
5 Thomas Circle NW, Fifth Floor,
Washington, D.C. 20005,
United States of America

Dear Mr. Nova,

I write to notify you that The University of Manchester is affiliating with the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC). We understand that the WRC is an independent non-political organisation which makes efforts to collaborate with workers, non-governmental organisations and other colleges and universities to improve the conditions of workers producing university clothing.

We recognise that colleges and universities affiliated with the WRC either have a Code of Conduct detailing the standard they expect of suppliers with whom they have a formal contract to procure clothing, or are in the process of adopting a Code, which states these suppliers should adhere to basic International Labour Organisation standards and comply with local laws. As appropriate for a public contracting authority under English Law and the EU Public Procurement Directives, we can where practicable use this Code to engage with contracted suppliers based on accurate and pertinent reports from the WRC, but not as selection or award criteria.

The University of Manchester, upon affiliating with the WRC, will endeavour to obtain full public disclosure of the factory locations of our formally contracted suppliers within three months, where practicable. Where we have formal contracts with suppliers, we will make reasonable endeavours to request full and regularly updated public disclosure of their factory locations.

The University of Manchester agrees to pay a flat annual affiliation fee to the WRC of £1,000. The University supports ethical trading where practicable and has a Fairtrade Steering Group which includes both staff and students. The Fairtrade Steering Group reports to the University's Social Responsibility Governance Group (SSRG), which is chaired by myself. A further action of SRGG will be to review the University's responsibilities and progress under WRC on a regular basis.

With these understandings, The University of Manchester hereby affiliates with the Worker Rights Consortium.

The University is designating the Head of Procurement as the primary contact for WRC matters.
Please send WRC-related communications to Kevin Casey at the following e-mail address:
kevin.casey@manchester.ac.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell
President and Vice Chancellor

c.c: James Thompson, Associate Vice-President for Social Responsibility
Julian Skyrme, Director of Social Responsibility
Kevin Casey, Head of Procurement