

## Sustainable food in tender specifications

### External caterer contracts

In our contracts with external caterers we state the following:

#### **Fairtrade**

*The University of Manchester has [Fairtrade status](#) with the Fairtrade Foundation, Contractors must be committed to delivering the University's commitment as a minimum all tea, coffee, sugar served with beverages and orange juice must hold the Fairtrade mark.*

#### **Sustainability**

*The University has a commitment to food sustainability and has a [Sustainable Food Policy](#) which the Contractor must adhere to.*

### Catering concession agreements

In our catering concession agreements we state the following within the tender documentation (which forms part of the contract with the supplier's response, once awarded), and we provide a copy of the University's [Sustainable Food Policy](#), which we expect them to adhere to:

*Given the commitment across the whole University to environmentally sustainable principles and responsible purchasing, we believe that the sourcing of food, its local connectedness and its seasonality will be a key part of its offer. As this also reflects the University's [Our Future vision and strategic plan](#), we hope that we will be able to appoint a business who employs local people, and uses locally-sourced ingredients wherever possible.*

#### **Fairtrade and sustainable procurement**

*The University is committed to and is [Fairtrade accredited](#), and therefore requires that all coffee served on campus is Fairtrade (or can state it is fairly traded), and that operators commit to using additional Fairtrade products wherever possible. Please comment on how you would deliver this requirement along with details of your company's commitment to sustainable procurement, how you manage your suppliers and their supply chain, and how you deal with issues such as food miles and organic produce.*

We also ask specific questions on:

- Plastics
- Carbon footprint
- Community investment strategy
- Environmental policy
- Social initiatives
- Living wage.

## **TUCO contracts**

The majority of our food suppliers are appointed under the TUCO (The University Caterers Organisation) frameworks. TUCO state that sustainability has been embedded within all their procurement documents (which includes contracts) as TUCO recognise that food and sundry commodity choices have potential to influence a healthy lifestyle incorporating: People, Profit and Planet (3Ps). When the University runs further competition exercises under the TUCO frameworks, within the documentation we ask suppliers to respond to the following:

### ***Social responsibility***

*The University takes social responsibility seriously and we expect our suppliers to commit to the same responsible processes, and to measure their actions and impacts within the supply chain.*

*The University expects suppliers to offer the best quality products at the best price, to be UK produced where possible and to have the least impact on society and the environment.*

*We are discharging our obligations under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (MSA) and have published our first statement in line with this legislation and are required to engage with our suppliers to ensure that there is no slavery or human trafficking within our (and your) supply chains. We have a zero tolerance policy to this and rely on your assurances to ensure that this does not happen. Suppliers will be expected to provide details of how their organisation manages its responsibilities with regard to the social and environmental impacts of its own actions and its supply chain.*

Again these documents and the associated supplier responses will form part of the signed contract with suppliers. A copy of our Sustainable Food Policy is also included.

## **Supplier management**

We also expect all our contracted suppliers to sign up to our [NETpositive Supplier Development Tool](#), which is designed to support and develop the supply chain as part of an ongoing commitment to embedding sustainability in procurement process. Suppliers complete their own sustainability plans free of charge, which we can then monitor. This assist with the University's sustainability agenda as we can report on the actions of our suppliers and also enables us to work with them to develop sustainable processes even further.