

Locally produced, Organically grown, Animal friendly or Fairly traded (LOAF) Policy

Aim:

As a local church, we aim to take the practical steps necessary to use food and drink that is Locally produced, Organically grown, Animal friendly or Fairly traded. We will encourage others where possible to do the same.

Objective:

We will take LOAF concerns into account in aspects of our church life, including our hospitality and mission activities.

1. Locally Produced

Where opportunity arises we will use locally produced food so that fewer food miles have been used.

2. Organic

Where opportunity arises we will use organic food using fewer chemicals which helps to conserve biodiversity.

3. Animal Friendly

When we use meat where opportunity arises we will buy meat with a higher welfare standard. Any meals provided by the church will include a vegetarian and/or vegan option.

4. Fairly traded

Where opportunity arises we will use fairly traded food and drink which ensures better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world.

5. Fair trade

One way of being fairly traded is to become a Fairtrade Place of Worship. There are lots of ways to support Fairtrade, but just two core requirements to be awarded Fairtrade Place of Worship status:

1. Use Fairtrade products wherever possible (at least tea, coffee and sugar) and share this information with the wider congregation.
2. Integrate Fairtrade into the life of your place of worship, at [Fairtrade Fortnight](#) or other times of the year e.g. events, stalls and worship.

Where possible we will use Fairtrade products.

6. Encouraging others

We will encourage people to:

- Use Fairtrade, ethically sourced and animal friendly¹ products when it is affordable for them
- Use locally sourced, in season and organic products when it is affordable for them and better for the environment than the alternatives
- Any meals provided by the church will include a vegetarian and/or vegan option.
- The church will take steps to reduce food waste (eg: through composting all waste, minimising leftovers at church meals, partnering with a local food waste scheme).
- The church tries to purchase food with the minimum amount of packaging and to recycle this packaging where possible.

Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf:

Date:

