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Director
Ian Jackson

Midlothian

THIS PAPER RELATES
TO ITEM
4 (C)
ON THE AGENDA

11 July 2008

Dave Jones
Clackmannanshire Council
Greenfield
ALLOA
FK10 2AD

Dear Mr Jones

Sportswear Manufacturers – Workers Rights

You will have received correspondence from Renfrewshire Council on the above noted subject and in this regard I will draw to your attention the terms of the following motion approved by Midlothian Council at its meeting on 24 June 2008, viz:-

“In pursuing Fairtrade Zone status for Midlothian, the Council will promote Fairtrade labelled goods, fairly traded goods in general and the avoidance of unethically traded goods. Within the current legal framework, the Council will seek Fairtrade and fairly traded options in relevant contracts, and the avoidance of unethically traded products in particular.

Council condemns all exploitation of resources and peoples of the third world by multinational companies and calls on individuals to support campaigns by organisations such as Oxfam in relation to sportswear workers to highlight the plight of workers and to seek real improvement in employment conditions across the globe.

For its part, the Council will write to all the principal sportswear manufacturers to express its support for workers rights and to seek assurances that all employees are treated fairly and receive a proper wage for their work. Council will also write to its partner organisations and all other local authorities asking them to consider what measures they can take.”

In furtherance of the Council’s decision therefore I have written to all major sportswear manufacturers and on behalf of the Council I would ask that your authority now consider adopting a motion on the same or similar terms to that of Midlothian Council and also pursue this matter with sportswear manufacturers.

Yours faithfully

Allan R Brown

for Jim Clifford
Council Secretary

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Your Ref:
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