

WHATEVER YOU DO

Justice, peace and social responsibility at St Joseph's

CALL FOR A NEW HUMAN RIGHTS LAW – your support needed!



Our JPSR newsletters always include an 'action'. This month's is simple – **please sign this petition**, and maybe pass it on to family and friends too?

It is being run by **Traidcraft Exchange** who are campaigning for a **new human rights law**.

People can still walk into UK shops and buy a product that was partly made through slavery or child labour or some form of harm such as deforestation. That could be a mobile phone, clothing or shoes, carpets, jewellery, chocolate spread, fireworks – many, many diverse items. We shouldn't be able to buy these things. Our current laws are not good enough to stop it.

So Traidcraft are calling for a new '**Business and Human Rights Environment Act**' to avoid causing harm anywhere in the supply chain. It's a massive undertaking and it's supported by over 30 different organisations, including CAFOD and Action Aid. The petition has already been tabled in Parliament. The European Union has put down a proposal to make this EU wide. This strengthens the case for it happening in the UK, because we wouldn't want to fall behind the EU. By 2024, it is hoped that a commitment to pass the law will be included in every political party manifesto.

The Act will require businesses to prevent abuses from occurring, punish companies if abuses take place, compensate victims and where possible clean up and restore the damage caused.

Here is the link – just give your name and email address and click – it is so easy to support this long overdue measure to correct a very unfair situation:

<https://traidcraftexchange.org/business-human-rights-act>

Recent successful outcomes of Traidcraft Exchange campaigns:

- All 6 major tea brands are now transparent about which estate their tea is grown on;
 - There is now a watchdog taking complaints from direct suppliers of supermarkets, in the UK or overseas. Crucially, with power to impose fines.
- For more information on Traidcraft Exchange, see <https://traidcraftexchange.org/>

Campaigning works if enough people get behind it – St. Joseph's parishioners, we call on you now to do your bit, please.

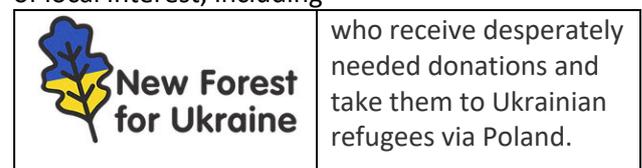
PS Did our MP actually attend the recent **Fashion Watchdog** event in Parliament which aims to address the inequalities specifically in the garment/textile chain? Remember, he was invited by constituents and he replied saying that he hoped to go.

No, he did not attend, unfortunately. There were around 20 other MPs in attendance.

Members of the JPSR group have written to him to follow up and ask him to do whatever he can to support the measure. We remain hopeful of his assistance.

COUNTRYFILE: New Forest - Ukrainian links

Last Sunday's BBC Countryfile programme (10 July 2022, available on iPlayer) featured various aspects of local interest, including



www.newforestforukraine.co.uk for drop off points: including MacPenny's in Bransgore and latest requirements

NEW FOREST HOMES FOR UKRAINE have linked 175 refugees with 74 hosts so far but urgently need hosts for 227 unmatched refugees. Can you help?

More information about the whole process and the support given at www.newforesthomesforukraine.co.uk

Please answer the call and help desperate people!