

Supermarkets - who's getting the best deal?

Years of investigations by the Competition Commission have found that the true cost of the supermarkets' price wars is being passed down to supermarket suppliers overseas, and in the UK.



Millions of workers, farmers and producers have been left with little choice but to work long hours for low pay in unsafe conditions to meet the demands placed on them by supermarkets.

To make sure that the people who pick, pack and grow our food get a fair deal, the Commission recommended two vital steps:

- A stronger Code of Practice for supermarkets
- An independent watchdog to enforce the rules

This was a great step forward, and the UK Government set up the Groceries Supply Code of Practice (GSCOP) in February 2010.

However the code is effectively futile until a watchdog is in place to enforce these rules. The government has released a parliamentary bill that would see the establishment of the so-called 'Grocery Code Adjudicator' – but there is no official timeline that outlines when the body will be set up.

Traidcraft, along with [Action Aid](#), [Fairtrade Foundation](#), [Friends of the Earth](#) and others, is campaigning to make sure that supermarkets and the government act to make the watchdog a reality – and we need your help!

Take action

- [It's time to stop supermarket bullying! Please email your MP today and join the call for a supermarkets watchdog.](#)
- [Use our template letter and guide to write a personalised letter to your MP](#) about the urgent need for a supermarkets watchdog.
- [Sign up to be a Traidcraft campaigner](#) and we will keep you updated on the campaign and send you the latest, quick and simple actions.

Latest news

- [Traidcraft welcomes calls for an Adjudicator with teeth](#) A parliamentary Select Committee has called for tougher powers for the long-awaited Grocery Code Adjudicator. 28 July 2011
- [Supermarkets try to delay setting up Adjudicator](#) Supermarket representatives have told a parliamentary select committee this week that the government should delay setting up a supermarkets watchdog, known as the Grocery Code Adjudicator. 24 June 2011
- [Long-awaited supermarkets bill finally released](#) The UK government has released a draft parliamentary bill that would establish a supermarkets watchdog and oversee the Groceries Code that was passed into law last year. 25 May 2011

Find out more

- [See our background information and get a better understanding of the issues.](#)
- [Read more about the campaign.](#)
- [Check out our handy Questions and Answers on supermarkets.](#)