



SINGLE-USE PLASTICS IN THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

BEATING THE BAN



New Bans?.....

Where did they come from ?

Did you know that a new UK Government ban on single use plastic items comes in to effect on 1st October 2023 ? It's going to have a significant impact on hospitality and take-away sectors but there seems to be very little information available out there to help you through the changes you'll need to make. So that's what this guide is all about.

First things first.....to save your time

We know how busy you are so here's a quick reference guide to save time.

1. Do you currently use any type of single use plastic to support your business and the services you offer? **Yes** **No**

For

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Local action for global change!

This Guide was originally created as a resource to support the Plastic Free Balearics certification promoted by the foundations Save The Med and Ibiza Preservation, as well as the Plastic Free Ibiza and Formentera movement.

Like Plastic Free Plymouth, the campaign managed by Environment Plymouth since 2017, they have been working tirelessly to reduce plastic pollution and to support those who use single use plastics on a daily basis.

We are extremely grateful to them for allowing us to edit and share this information in support of Plymouth's valuable hospitality, tourism and take-away sectors.

Locally, through the Preventing Plastic Pollution project between 2021 and 2023, Plastic Free Plymouth encouraged many local businesses to review their plastic use and, where possible, to eliminate its use.

Where this wasn't possible, businesses were encouraged to look for suitable alternatives. As the drive to ban certain single use plastics intensified, Plastic Free Plymouth, supported by the Devon and Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and the City Council published a Business Code of Conduct to guide decision making for supplies and procurement. This Guide is a more detailed version designed to guide users through the forthcoming Government ban on additional single use plastics and beyond.

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In addition to the protection of the National Marine Park, actions to reduce plastic pollution in Plymouth Sound and its' estuaries have repercussions throughout the South West and positive consequences on a global scale.

This guide is designed to facilitate compliance with the UK Government's ban on single use plastic issued on 23rd May 2023. The ban will be applied from 1st October 2023 onwards and adds to the existing bans on plastic stirrers, plastic straws and cotton bud sticks.

We can't advise on sources...there are simply too many options....but we can help you in making the right choices to avoid the types of plastics that will be banned from Oct 1st.

The guide also complements Plymouth's city-wide Plan for Plastics.

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/plymouths-plan-plastics#:~:text=It%20is%20one%20of%20Plymouth,on%20Tuesday%2014%20July%202020.>

Copies of Plymouth's original Code of Conduct, issued in 2019, can be found on this webpage at

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/PPPCodeofConductSheet%20LR0.pdf>

And a Directory produced within the Interreg funded Preventing Plastic Pollution project can be found at

The directory sits on the National Marine Park website
[Plymouth Plastic Free Directory \(plymouthsoundnationalmarinepark.com\)](https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/plymouthsoundnationalmarinepark.com)

Equally, as plastic pollution can have a wide-ranging impact on the environment, the economy and our society, action to reduce its' impact can have a significant impact on both local and global sustainable development.

For more information check out

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/plastics>

“11 million tonnes of plastic finds its way to the sea every year. It is estimated that this amount will treble by 2040

The plastics used for convenience by many take-away and hospitality outlets commonly adds to this. Our aim is to reduce the levels of single use plastic finding their way in to the Sound and Plymouth's popular tourist locations and to ensure that local business potential is not limited by the newly introduced bans “



What this Guide aims to do



To raise awareness of the impact of different plastic products on the environment



To assist in compliance with the new rules; facilitating purchasing decisions based on environmental protection criteria



To help businesses contribute to the protection of the Sound and Plymouth's environment.

**This guide is a tool
to help inform
your purchasing
decisions.**

**Please consult it
before placing
orders with your
suppliers!**

**Ask them what
alternatives
they can help
you with.**

1. SO WHAT'S BEING BANNED

The following text is taken straight from the UK Government 'Guidance' issued in May 2023. You can find this at :

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/single-use-plastics-ban-plates-bowls-trays-containers-cutlery-and-balloon-sticks#:~:text=Guidance-.Single%2Duse%20plastics%20ban%3A%20plates%2C%20bowls%2C%20trays%2C,use%20plastic%20items%20in%20England.>

Our comments are included as ADVICE in green text

From 1 October 2023 businesses must no longer supply, sell or offer certain single-use plastic items in England.

The ban on these items will include:

- online and over-the-counter sales and supply
- items from new and existing stock
- all types of single-use plastic, including biodegradable, compostable and recycled
- items wholly or partly made from plastic, including coating or linings

'Single use' means the item is meant to be used only once for its original purpose.

ADVICE :

- a. **Unlike previous bans, it appears as though you will not be able to 'use up' existing stocks after 1st October so it will be important to run down what you have as soon as possible before you restock.**
- b. **It may seem a little odd but the bans on biodegradable, compostable and recycled plastics are there for a purpose. It appears the focus of the ban is on preventing the single use item but, for the first time, its composition is also being considered. The impact of these previously 'accepted plastics' is explained later in this Guide.**
- c. **We are taking advice on the use of the clear plastic pint and half pint pots used by many public houses as a safety measure as these do not appear to be specifically 'banned' in the text below but there is an implication of a ban in the text above.**

How to prepare for the ban

You can prepare your business for the new rules by:

- using up existing stock before 1 October
- finding re-usable alternatives to single-use items
- using different materials for single-use items

If you continue to supply banned single-use plastics after 1 October, you could be fined.

There are some exemptions to the ban, depending on the item.

Plates, bowls and trays

From 1 October you must not supply single-use plastic plates, trays and bowls to members of the public.

Exemptions

You can still supply single-use plastic plates, bowls and trays if either of the following apply:

- you are supplying them to another business
- the items are packaging (pre-filled or filled at the point of sale)

Examples of this type of packaging include:

- a pre-filled salad bowl or ready meal packaged in a tray
- a plate filled at the counter of a takeaway
- a tray used to deliver food

ADVICE : At this stage, the Government does not appear to be banning plastic cups – the type often used by local public houses to ensure safer drinking in outside areas with cobbles or paving, or, in other circumstances for outdoor events.

However, as these are very light alternatives, they frequently become wind blown litter; ending up in places such as Sutton Harbour and the Sound.

Solutions for their safer disposal and/or collection are therefore preferred.

Cutlery and balloon sticks

From 1 October you must not supply single-use plastic cutlery or balloon sticks.

There are no exemptions to this ban.

Polystyrene food and drink containers

From 1 October you must not supply ready-to-consume food and drink in polystyrene containers. This includes in polystyrene cups.

Polystyrene means expanded and extruded polystyrene.

Exemptions

You can still supply food or drink in polystyrene containers if it needs further preparation before it is consumed. For example, further preparation could mean:

- adding water
- microwaving
- toasting

Inspections

Local authorities will carry out inspections to make sure the rules are being followed.

ADVICE : This was seldom applied with the initial bans on plastic items but this is a new role that will be applied by Trading Standards.

Inspectors can:

- visit a shop or store
- make test purchases
- speak to staff
- ask to see records

If you break the law, inspectors can order your business to cover the cost of the investigation.

Complaints about a business breaking the law can be made to Trading Standards.

ADVICE : We contacted Trading Standards for advice on this. They have noted that complaints about non-compliance are being directed to Trading Standards but the 'regulator' is named in the statute simply as the local authority.

In respect to consumer complaints they have suggested that these are reported to the Citizens Advice Consumer Service in the first instance ([Contact the consumer helpline - Citizens Advice](#)). Businesses can contact

Trading Standards to ask for more support or to report intelligence via email tradingstandards@devon.gov.uk or via our contact centres, details here:

[Contacts - Trading Standards Service](#)
devonsomersettradingstandards.gov.uk).

Please note that bespoke business advice is chargeable.

We would also suggest you try your suppliers or Plastic Free Plymouth for further background information.

Appealing a fine

You can appeal within 28 days of getting a fine if you think something is wrong. A letter with the fine will tell you what to do.

If you can show that you did everything you reasonably could to avoid breaking any rules, this would be an acceptable defence.

Get help

If you have any questions about what the new rules mean for your business, contact Plastics.Consultation@defra.gov.uk

The Guidance concludes with details of what is meant by 'polystyrene' – advice aimed at the manufacturers and not at those who use the product.

ADVICE : There is a great deal of 'plastic' expertise available....although, as usual. It is not always in one place.

Suggested contacts are :

Plastic Free Plymouth : info@environmentplymouth.org

Plastic Free Communities : see <https://plasticfree.org.uk/>

There is a section in this Surfers Against Sewage campaign for businesses.

WRAP (waste and Resources Action Programme) : This long established resource will be able to help in most cases. See <https://wrap.org.uk/>

2. SO WHAT CAN WE USE ?

In theory, the 'acceptable alternative' you choose should be a more sustainable, eco-friendly option but there may be alternative solutions that reduce the need for the item or even options that eliminate the need for it in the first places.

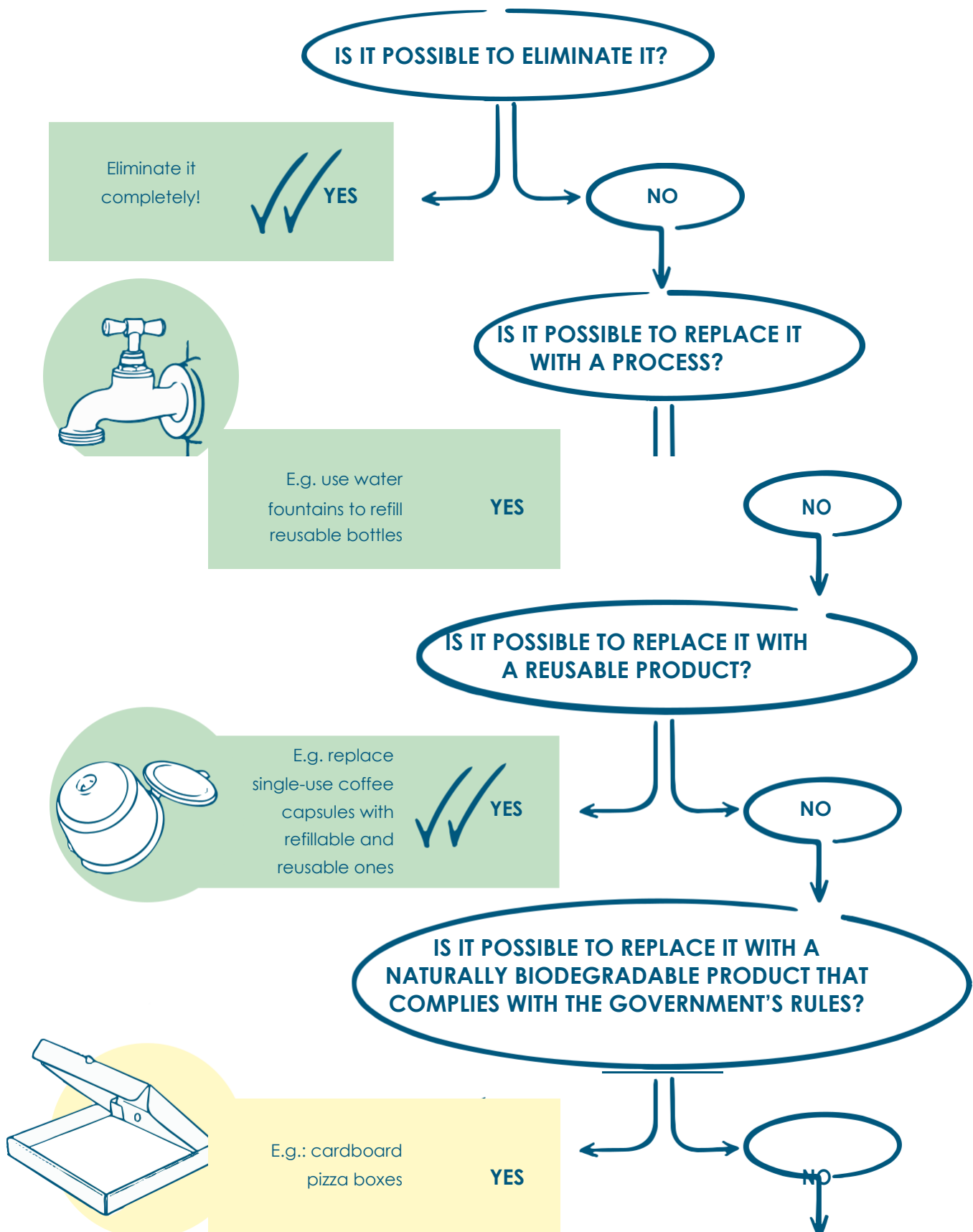
It's a matter of thinking it through.....

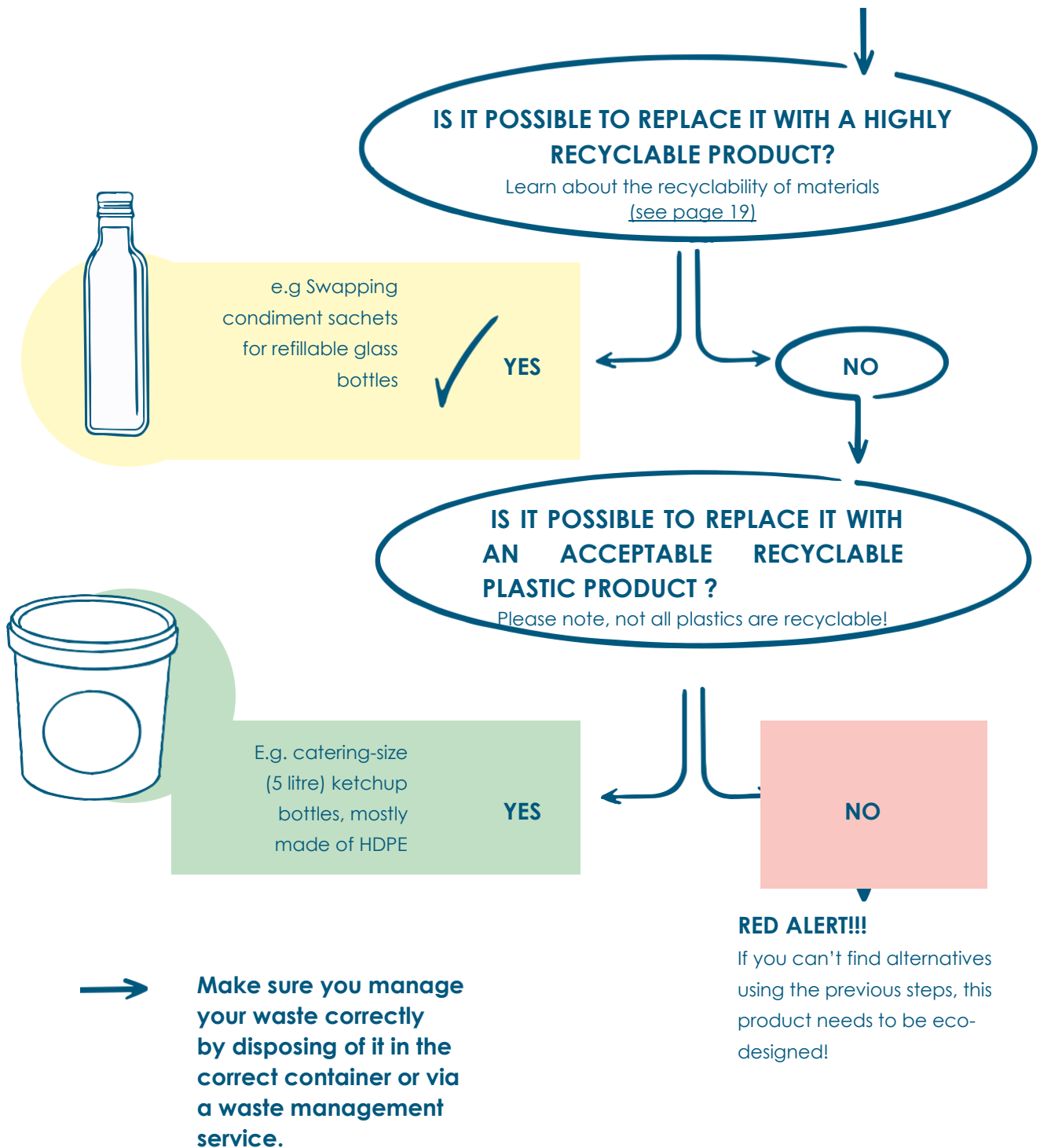
Questions you might ask include 'how easy it is to recycle the item ?', 'how will we dispose of it ?', 'can we offer the product in a different way ?' and 'do we really need to use it anyway ?'.

Again, please talk to your suppliers to see which of these options might be available to you.

To identify Honest Alternatives, based on waste hierarchy (refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle) we recommend following the following guidelines

Is this product necessary for our operations or business?





Last but not least...

Prioritise buying locally and in bulk!

To avoid excessive packaging, it is better to choose locally produced options. This not only minimises waste, but also strengthens the local economy, while reducing emissions from transport.

3. AVOIDING 'GREENWASHING' OR 'FALSE' ALTERNATIVES



A 'False' Alternative is one that markets itself in a way that misleads people into believing that its environmental impact is null, or less than that of the product it replaces, even though in some cases its impact is actually equal or even greater.

As a general rule, substituting a single-use product for another single-use product, regardless of the material from which it is made, should be avoided at all costs.

Beware of “greenwashing”

Greenwashing refers to misleading actions that companies take in order to present a cleaner image with regard to their environmental performance. They can do this through the products they market, falsely advertising them as environmentally friendly products, or through marketing strategies, such as logos, corporate colours, slogans etc.

This is probably the main reason why the UK Government has identified biodegradable and compostable items in their ban as they are often designed with 'hidden' plastics.



Labelling:

Be careful what you choose.....

Beware of products that are labelled and/ or certified as ecological, green, biodegradable, compostable, plastic-free, bio, eco-sustainable, eco-friendly, or which use green and brown colours or symbols of recycling, leaves or plants!

Many of these products still contain plastic in their liners or lids. They may be disposable but they can have the same impact on nature or our health as single-use plastics.

Take advice from your suppliers.



Material: There are products on the market made from materials that are supposedly of **plant origin**, but which are highly processed and do not maintain the properties one would expect from a plant in terms of fibres, texture, fragility or lack of flexibility. They may not 'breakdown' easily. These products are more similar to plastic in texture and flexibility and sometimes they are transparent or come in colours that are not found in nature.

There are **paper/cardboard** products that are sold as "greener" but, in addition to the fact that they are still disposable and generate waste, they also **contain a thin layer of plastic, due to the need to ensure they remain waterproof**. This mix of materials makes them impossible to recycle.

Consumers may perceive these products as environmentally beneficial and think that throwing them away or even into nature has no impact.

Standards: As a rule, packaging products marketed as biodegradable and/or compostable are subject to certain standards and norms. In the European Union, the EN 13432 standard is used, and companies can certify products with these labels after specific tests have been carried out. As we are no longer in the EU these standards may not be applied.

Most of these products can be composted in industrial plants and options can be offered by the UK's commercial waste management companies. However, in practice, not all composting plants are able to treat these products and, as a result, they end up in landfill or are incinerated. Unfortunately, there is no conclusive evidence of success as to the benefits of these products in the resulting compost.



biodegradable plastics compostable plastics bioplastics

You're probably wondering why these items were included in the UK Government ban....after all, they have been very enthusiastically promoted as 'alternatives' to single use plastics.

Why can't I use these ?

These are not an "honest" or plastic-free alternative because:

- they create the false perception that they are environmentally friendly products and can disappear in a short period of time in nature. This is not the case because, in order for them to biodegrade or be composted, specific industrial conditions of temperature and time are needed. **At the moment, even if they were easily available, there are no satisfactory degradation results in industrial composting processes**
- these materials may contain petroleum products and other harmful chemical additives that need specific conditions to degrade - conditions that do not occur in nature. **At this point we don't know what impact these products in the resulting compost.**
- In the UK the available disposal technology is insufficient. In waste treatment plants bioplastics do not generally enter the composting process. **They are treated as unwanted by plastic waste management and recycling plants and end up with the residual waste, being sent either to landfill or for incineration; their only benefit being a potential feedstock for waste to energy production.**
- most bioplastics are single-use products and this perpetuates the throwaway culture.
- In the EU (according to [European Directive 2019/904 of 5 June 2019](#)) biodegradable plastics made from natural polymers are still considered as **plastics**.

The jury is still out...

To promote the transition to a circular economy, the European Union is currently pursuing a clear policy framework on the use of bio-based plastics, i.e. biodegradable and compostable plastic. In the UK this clarity is also missing so the confusion will continue.

Most plastics currently presented as biodegradable generally only degrade under specific conditions that are not always easy to find in natural environments and can therefore also damage ecosystems. On the other hand, plastics considered compostable are not necessarily suitable for household composting. If compostable plastics and conventional plastics are mixed in the recycling process, this may affect the quality of the recycled materials. For consumers, a well-functioning separate collection system for organic waste is essential.

It is important to ensure that consumers have clear and correct information and that biodegradable plastics are not presented as a solution to waste generation. This can be achieved by clarifying which plastics can be labelled as “compostable” or “biodegradable” and what their treatment should be after use.

Why single use is not always a good option?

Firstly, because single-use products perpetuate the throwaway model, and secondly, because many of them, regardless of the material they are made from, are not recyclable or are difficult to recycle. This means they perpetuate a linear economy that continues to generate waste instead of moving towards a circular economy. Additionally, recycling rates in Spain remain very low.

It does not make good sense to take a product that has required a lot of resources and energy to be manufactured and used for a mere matter of minutes or even seconds, especially when there are reusable, 'Honest Alternatives' to replace them.

ARE YOU RECYCLING SAVVY ?

Did you know that...?

ONLY **10%**
OF PLASTIC
PACKAGING
IS RECYCLED
OR RECOVERED
IN THE UK.

This is usually because the facilities for recycling 'soft' plastics are limited.

In general the UK recycles

45% of its plastic waste.

Many of these items can be shredded and reused as feedstock for other plastic items (known as down-cycling). This can happen between 4 and 5 times **BUT plastic waste never really goes away.**

Much of the waste plastic is under recycled – ending up in landfill, incinerators or, at best, waste to energy plants.

From the micro plastics shed by our clothing in the wash to the giant fishing nets shed at sea.....we are seeing more and more pollution as time moves on.

It's in our food, found at the World's most remote locations, in our wildlife and even in our blood.

So any action you take to limit its misuse is welcomed.

Understanding the symbols

Luckily we still share many of these symbols with the EU.



RECYCLING

Easily recognisable and known as the Möbius triangle, this is the symbol for recycling, indicating the process by means of three arrows:

1. Separation of waste
2. Recycling in recycling plants
3. Manufacture and delivery to market of a new product



GREEN DOT

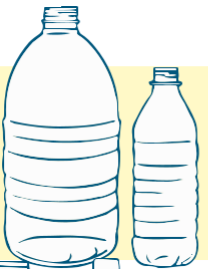



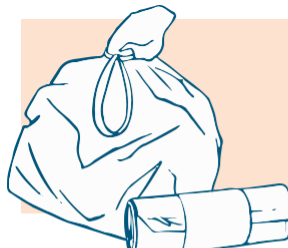

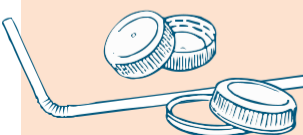



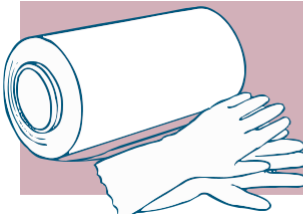

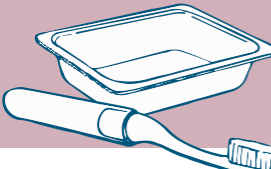

This symbol is visible on all packaging managed by an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) system. Companies that place their packaging on the market adhere to an EPR approach and pay for its management.



PLASTIC IDENTIFICATION CODES

These triangles, numbered from 1 to 7, serve to identify the material from which the product is made, as well as the potential for it to be recycled into new products, although not all of them are actually recycled.

PLASTIC IDENTIFICATION CODES:

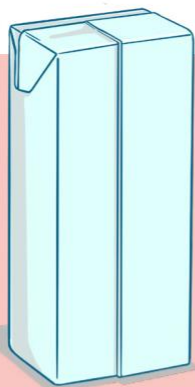
	 PET	PET PLASTIC: Bottles of water and other beverages
	 HDPE	HDPE PLASTIC: Shampoo, detergent and milk bottles
	 LDPE	LDPE PLASTIC: Shopping bags, rubbish bags, cling film
	 PP	PP PLASTIC: Straws, drinking cups, detergents, food containers and bags, pill bottles
	 PS	PS PLASTIC: Food trays, single-use cups, yoghurt pots
	 PVC	PVC PLASTIC: Credit cards, windows, pipes, cable insulation
	 OTHER	OTHER: Other types of plastic and mixed plastic materials

RECYCLABILITY*:

HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	VERY LOW
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*Source: Indicator of Honest Alternatives to single-use plastics, produced by Save The Med Foundation

Recyclability of other materials:

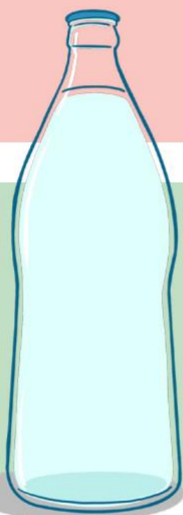


29.5% DRINKS CARTONS

Many UK collections will not accept 'tetra packs' for recycling. It is important to note that they are commonly NOT recycled in their entirety; only the cardboard part is recovered. The rest (plastic and aluminium) goes to landfill or for incineration.

Moreover, as the item appears to be made of cardboard, this often leads to confusion about which bin to place it in (green or brown?), so in most cases it does not even end up in the recycling chain.

Source: [*Recycling of multilayer composite packaging: the beverage carton*](#), Eunomia Research & Consulting para Zero Waste Europe



74.2% GLASS

In the UK, **74.2% of glass packaging is recycled**. Glass can be recycled an infinite number of times.

Source : British Glass

71% PAPER/CARDBOARD

In the UK, around **71% of paper and cardboard is recycled**. Cellulose fibre can be reused about six times.

Source : Statista

50.8% METAL

Stainless steel, aluminium: in the UK, around 50.8% of this type of packaging is recycled and it can be recycled an infinite number of times.

Source: Gov.UK

4. SINGLE-USE PLASTICS AND THEIR ALTERNATIVES

In this section, you will find the products most commonly used by the hospitality sector and their alternatives.

To facilitate understanding, a comparative analysis has been undertaken of the environmental impact of both single-use plastics and their alternatives.

This analysis was carried out using the Honest Alternatives to Plastic Index (HAPI) [\(see next section\)](#) developed by Save the Med.

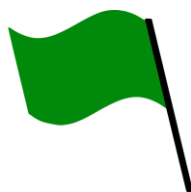
Red and green flags are used to identify products.



What is a Red Flag product?

Red Flag products are all those products that appear recurrently on our coasts, polluting the environment, endangering local species and causing the water quality to deteriorate. They are used frequently by local communities, in hospitality and in the tourism sector. PPE, gloves and masks because of the environmental impact they produce today due to their widespread use in the context of COVID-19.

Surfers Against Sewage, who manage the national Plastic Free Communities project, run an annual brand audit of the most commonly located single use plastic items found on the UK's beaches and environments.



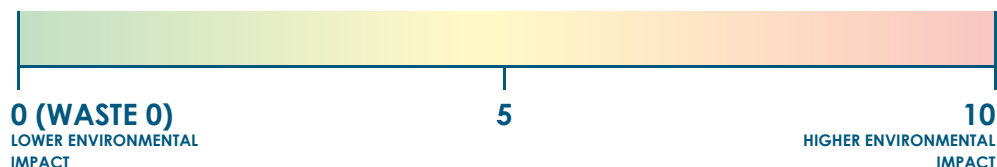
What is a Green Flag product?

Plymouth's location and the high demands of the tourist industry in the South West mean that most consumer products are imported, and most of them arrive packaged. Products identified with a Green Flag are those that are considered “km0” , i.e. produced locally, thus avoiding the packaging and over-packaging caused by transport. Companies that opt for these products, in addition to reducing their environmental impact, strengthen local productivity.

Honest Alternatives to Plastic Index HAPI

The HAPI is a tool created by Save The Med to measure and compare companies' plastic footprints and help them to improve it. It is equally applicable to the plastic waste found in the UK.

The HAPI scores each product on a 10-point scale, where 10 reflects products with the highest environmental impact and which should therefore be eliminated, and 0 their zero-waste alternative, with scores in between according to impact.



The HAPI has been developed based on the following criteria:



- **Waste prevention.** Scored positively if a product or packaging system considered unnecessary has been eliminated.



- **Compliance with laws concerning single-use plastics.**

Based initially on the rules for the EU and Spain, this will be extended now to take into account new UK Government bans. Products that do not comply with the law obtain the highest impact score (10).



- **Reuse.** Disposable products will be penalised in favour of those with multiple uses.



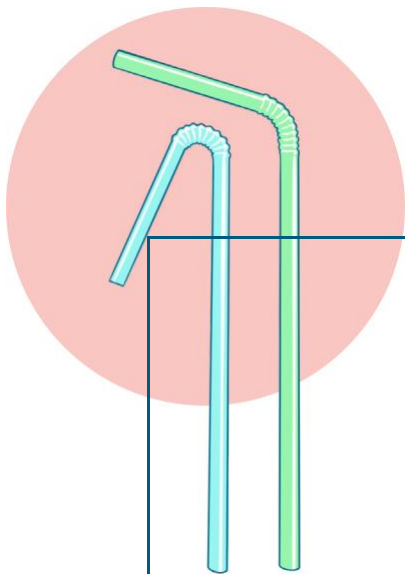
- **Packaging size and format.** Packaging with optimal size in relation to the amount of product it can hold will be evaluated qualitatively, with the most optimal being that which does not exist, i.e. total waste prevention.



- **Material.** A multi-criteria score is assigned to each material, taking into account the renewability and availability of the resource, the environmental impact of obtaining it, recoverability in the waste management system, technical recyclability and secondary market demand.

The HAPI uses the traffic light system to interpret the potential damage

PRODUCT	HAPI
Most polluting product / PROHIBITED	>6,5-10
RED: products prohibited under The UK Government's bans or identified as Red Flag products (with high potential to litter and pollute beaches and coastlines, roadsides and hedgerows)	
Alternative medium-impact product	> 3,6 - 6,5
YELLOW: effectively recyclable or less polluting disposable items	
Reusable or zero waste alternative	0-3,6
GREEN: reusable, or zero waste (in terms of product disposal)	



STRAWS

ADVICE : In the UK, plastic straws have been banned since 1st October 2020 and you should, by now, have used up any remaining stocks.

PRODUCT	HAPI
 Disposable plastic straws	10
 Biodegradable/compostable disposable straws	10
Small stock of disposable options that are delivered on demand or for medical reasons	5,85
Disposable paper straws	5,85
Disposable pasta straws	5,85
Edible straws	5,85
Disposable straw straws	5,67
Small stock of reusable options that are delivered on demand or for medical reasons	3,01
Reusable metal, bamboo or glass straws	3,01
Straws completely eliminated	0



COLD DRINKS

ADVICE : Very applicable if you service drinks in clear plastic pint or half pint 'pots'. They have not been banned under the new UK rules but the following still applies.

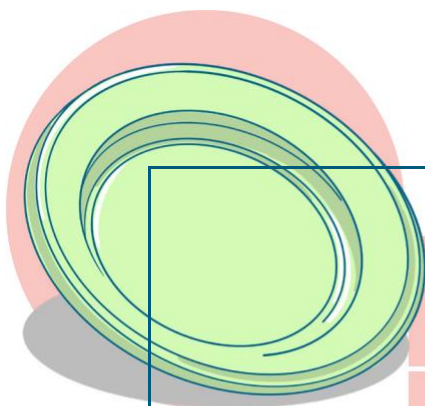
PRODUCT	HAPI
 Disposable plastic cups	10
 Disposable cups made from biodegradable/compostable plastic	7,02
 Disposable cups made from plastic-coated cardboard	6,75
Deposit and return system for reusable cups (e.g. hard plastic cups). The score may vary depending on the material	3,51
Reusable cups or glasses	2,92
<u>BYO/reusable</u> policy (bring your own cup)	0



HOT DRINKS




ADVICE : The new UK rules ban polystyrene cups for this purpose. Be aware too that the cups and their lids are often made of completely different materials.

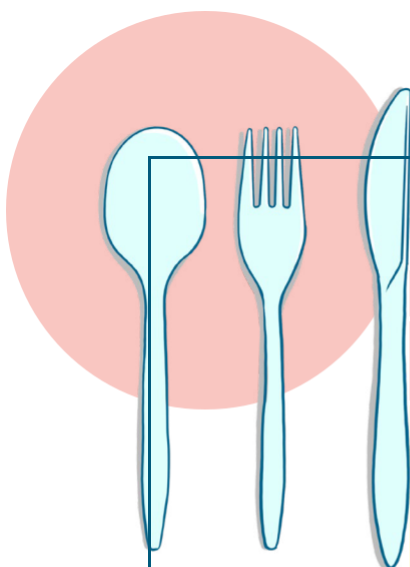
PRODUCT	HAPI
☒ Disposable plastic or polystyrene cups for coffee or other hot beverages	10
☒ Disposable plastic cups made of plastic-coated cardboard	6,75
<u>Deposit and return system</u> for reusable cups (e.g. ceramic cups or mugs). The score may vary depending on the material	3,51
Ceramic cups or mugs or ones made of other reusable materials	3,51
<u>BYO policy</u> (bring your own cup or mug)	0



PLATES



ADVICE : The new UK rules apply here.

PRODUCT	HAPI
 Disposable plastic plates	10
 Biodegradable/compostable disposable plates	10
 Disposable, plastic-coated cardboard plates	6,75
Disposable plates made of naturally biodegradable materials (bamboo)	6,21
Disposable plates made of naturally biodegradable materials (wood)	6,03
Ceramic plates or ones made of other reusable materials	3,51
<u>Deposit and return system</u> for reusable plates (e.g. hard plastic plates). The score may vary depending on the material	3,51
<u>BYO policy</u> (bring your own plate)	0

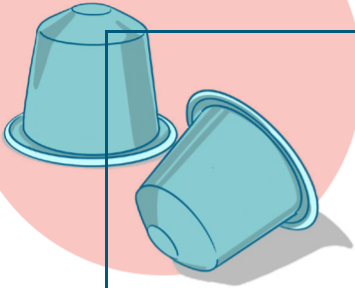


CUTLERY

ADVICE : Not included in the new rules but care is still needed.

PRODUCT	HAPI
 Disposable plastic cutlery	10
 Disposable cutlery made of biodegradable/compostable plastic	10
Disposable cutlery made from naturally biodegradable materials (bamboo)	6,21
Disposable cutlery made from naturally biodegradable materials (wood)	6,03
Cutlery made from metal or other reusable materials	3,01
<u>Deposit and return system</u> for cutlery (e.g. metal cutlery). The score may vary depending on the Material	3,01
<u>BYO policy</u> (bring your own cutlery)	0

TEA & COFFEE



PRODUCT	HAPI
Disposable plastic and/or aluminium coffee Capsules	10
Disposable coffee capsules made of biodegradable/compostable plastic material	7,02
Disposable plastic or mixed plastic and paper Teabags	6,75
Disposable aluminium capsules (only if collected for recycling)	6,03
Disposable paper tea bags	5,85
Disposable 100% paper coffee/tea filters (coffee percolator)	5,85
Traditional/industrial coffee/tea maker (without filter) or machine/tea maker, refilled with large (> 5kg) plastic and aluminium coffee/tea packets	4,05
Reusable coffee/tea filters (coffee percolator)	3,51
Reusable and/or refillable capsules made of metal or other materials	3,01
Traditional/industrial coffee/tea maker (without filter) or machine/tea pot, refilled with disposable paper coffee packet (> 5kg)	2,92
Traditional/industrial coffee machine (without filter) or machine/kettle, refilled with coffee bought in bulk	0
Single-use coffee capsules/tea bags eliminated	0

How much can I save? A kilo of capsules or coffee bought in bulk?

Did you know that one kilo of coffee capsules generates 0.4kg of waste? Therefore, for every kilo we buy in bulk, we are reducing waste generation by 0.4kg.....and for a fraction of the price.

One kilo of coffee capsules can cost 70 euros, while 1kg of bulk-bought coffee costs approximately 13 euros.

WATER



PRODUCT	HAPI
Water in extra-small, single-use plastic bottles (<20 cl)	10
Water in small, single-use plastic bottles (20-50 cl) in public events (prohibited by law)	10
Water in cartons	7,38
Water in small, single-use plastic bottles (20-50 cl)	7,02
Water in cans	6,03
Water in small, single-use glass bottles (20 cl-50 cl)	5,85
Water in medium-sized, single-use plastic bottles (1.5-4 l)	5,26
Water in medium-sized, single-use glass bottles (1.5-4 l)	4,38
Water in large, single-use plastic bottles (>5 l)	3,51
Water in small, returnable glass bottles (<50 cl)	2,92
Water in reusable, refillable plastic bottles (in-house refillable system)	2,63
Water in reusable, refillable metal bottles (in-house refillable system)	2,26
Water in reusable, refillable glass bottles (in-house refillable system)	2,19
Water in medium-sized, returnable glass bottles (0.5-2 l)	2,19
Water in reusable, refillable plastic bottles (>25 l)	2,13
Filtered water in those municipalities where drinking water is not available	2,13
Water in large, returnable glass bottles (8-10 l)	1,46
Drinking water from the tap	0

Example:

33 cl
PLASTIC
BOTTLE

IMPACT RATING:

7,02

33 cl
RETURNABLE
GLASS
BOTTLE

IMPACT RATING:

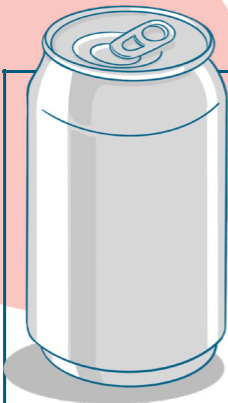
2,92

WATER
FROM TAP

IMPACT RATING:

0

CANS



PRODUCT

HAPI

✂ Secondary packaging: plastic ring-packs
(packs of 6 or 8 cans)

10

Secondary packaging: plastic shrink wrap
(packs of 24 cans)

10

Disposable cardboard rings

5,85

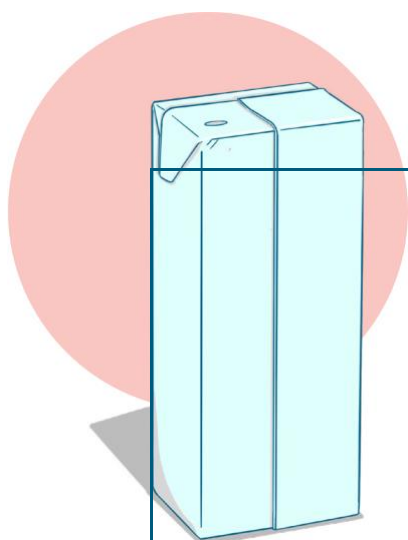
Secondary packaging: biodegradable/
compostable shrink wrap (packs of 24 cans)

5,26

Returnable glass bottles (33 cl)

2,92

~



OTHER DRINKS

PRODUCT	HAPI
Single-serve drinks in disposable plastic containers (<20 cl)	10
Single-serve drinks in cartons (<20 cl)	10
Small drinks cartons (20-50 cl)	7,38
Small, disposable plastic bottles (20-50 cl)	7,02
Cans (have an internal plastic lining)	6,03
Small, disposable glass bottles (20-50 cl)	5,85
Medium-sized, disposable drinks cartons (1-2 l)	5,53
Medium-sized, disposable plastic bottles (0,75- 4 l)	5,26
Medium-sized, disposable glass bottles (0,7-2 l)	4,38
Large, disposable plastic bottles (> 5 l)	3,51
Small, returnable glass bottles (<50 cl)	2,92
Medium, returnable glass bottles (0.5-2 l)	2,19
Drinks made in-house (must not involve disposable elements in the packaging of the raw material or the final product)	0
Drinks cartons eliminated	0

Reuse matters

Single use plastic has a significant impact on the levels of waste produced per capita.

In the HAPI calculation, single-use products, regardless of the material from which they are made, are penalised compared to those products or packaging systems with multiple uses.

The environmental impact resulting from the production, distribution, use/consumption and waste management of a single-use item is considerable.

In contrast, a reusable product - in addition to reducing waste generation - preserves the value of products and materials for longer, reducing pressure on resources and the impact on local ecosystems.

**ONE
REUSABLE
GLASS
BOTTLE
REPLACES
AROUND
10 PLASTIC
BOTTLES***

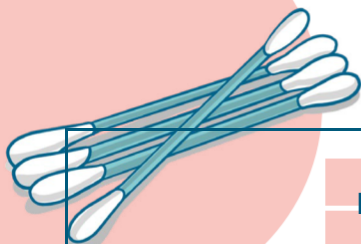
*Source: [*reWINE Consumption and Production Case Study*](#),
Zero Waste Europe



**A REUSABLE CUP OR
BOTTLE CAN PREVENT
AT LEAST 168 SUP ITEMS
FROM BEING THROWN
AWAY.**

▪ Source : Surfers Against Sewage,
Plastic Free Communities.

COTTON BUDS

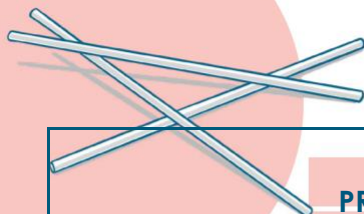
ADVICE : Cotton buds with a plastic stick were banned in the UK in 2020.





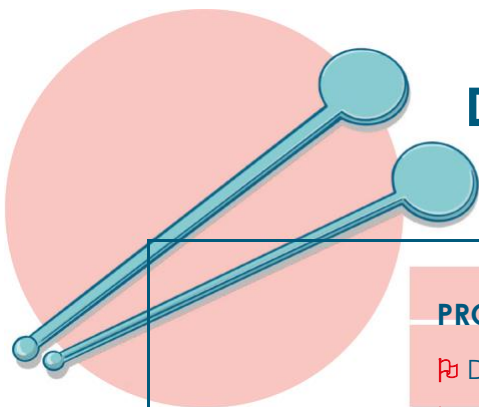
PRODUCT	HAPI
 Disposable plastic cotton buds	10
 Disposable biodegradable/compostable cotton buds	10
Disposable bamboo cotton buds	6,21
Disposable wooden cotton buds	6,03
Disposable paper cotton buds	5,85
Disposable cotton buds eliminated	0

LOLLIPOP STICKS

ADVICE : The new ban includes balloon sticks and not lollipop sticks



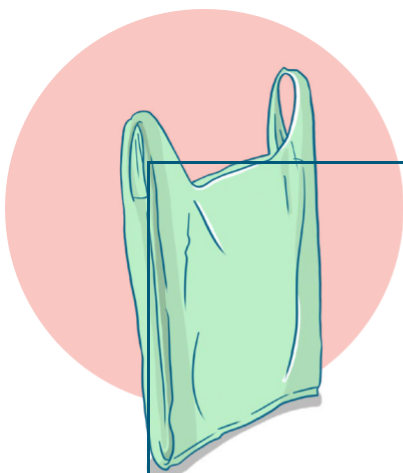
PRODUCT	HAPI
 Disposable plastic lollipop sticks	10
 Disposable biodegradable/compostable plastic lollipop sticks	7,02
Disposable bamboo lollipop sticks	6,21
Disposable wooden lollipop sticks	6,03
Disposable paper/cardboard lollipop sticks	5,85
Loose sweets (without individual plastic wrapper, purchased in bulk)	3,51
Disposable lollipop sticks eliminated	0



DRINK STIRRERS

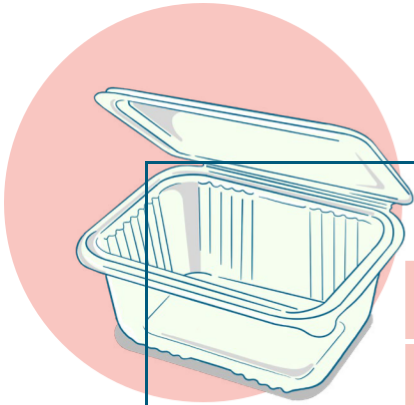
ADVICE : Plastic drinks stirrers were banned in 2020 and remaining stocks should have been used up by now.

PRODUCT	HAPI
✚ Disposable plastic drink stirrers	10
✚ Disposable stirrers made from biodegradable/compostable plastic	10
Disposable stirrers made of naturally biodegradable materials (bamboo)	6,21
Disposable stirrers made from naturally biodegradable materials (wood)	6,03
Edible stirrers	5,85
Stirrers made of metal or other reusable materials	3,01
<u>BYO policy</u> (bring your own stirrer)	0
Stirrers eliminated	0



BAGS

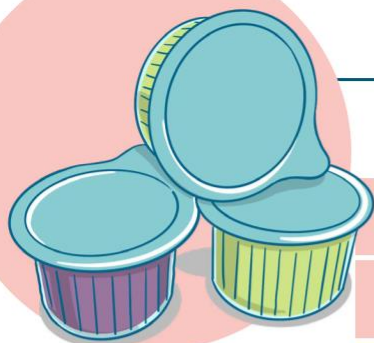
PRODUCT	HAPI
✚ Disposable lightweight or very lightweight plastic bags (e.g. 15 to 50 micron fruit and vegetable bags)	10
✚ Disposable biodegradable/compostable bags	7,02
Disposable thick plastic bags (>50) - composed of 50% recycled material	6,3
Disposable paper bags	5,85
Reusable and durable bags or baskets made of organic material (cotton, jute, hemp, palm)	3,19
<u>BYO policy</u> (bring your own bag)	0
Disposable bags eliminated	0



TAKEAWAY CONTAINERS

PRODUCT	HAPI
✚ Disposable takeaway food packaging (including expanded polystyrene)	10
✚ Disposable takeaway food packaging made of biodegradable/compostable materials (PLA, etc.)	7,02
✚ Disposable plastic-coated cardboard takeaway food packaging	6,75
Takeaway food packaging made of naturally biodegradable, disposable materials (wood, bamboo)	6,03
Pizza takeaway packaging made from Cardboard	4,38
<u>Deposit and return system for reusable packaging (Bûmerang system)</u>	3,51
Own deposit and return system with reusable packaging (e.g. metal). The score may vary depending on the material	3,01
<u>BYO policy</u> (bring your own container or tupperware)	0
Disposable take-away containers eliminated	0

CONDIMENTS



OIL

HAPI

Single portions of oil in disposable plastic
Sachets

10

Single portions of oil in disposable
biodegradable/compostable sachets

7,02

Olive oil in single-use glass bottles. Permitted
according to Royal Decree 895/2013

4,38



SAUCES AND CONDIMENTS

Condiments (ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard,
jams, vinaigrette, butter) in disposable plastic
and/or foil packaging

10

Condiments (ketchup, mayonnaise,
mustard, jams, vinaigrette, butter) in disposable
biodegradable/compostable packaging

7,02

Single portions in disposable glass jars

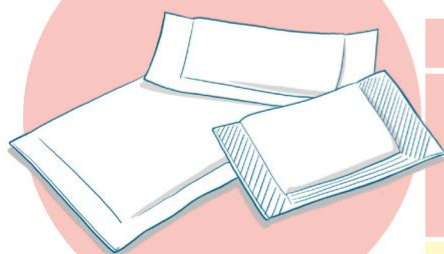
5,85

Medium-sized, disposable plastic containers

5,26

Large, refillable plastic containers or individual
portions filled from catering-size containers

3,51



SUGAR/SALT/PEPPER

Sugar/salt/pepper in disposable plastic sachets

10

Sugar/salt/pepper in disposable biodegradable/
compostable sachets

7,02

Sugar/salt/pepper in disposable paper sachets
(usually laminated on the inside)

6,75

Sugar/salt/pepper in shaker, filled from
medium-sized, paper packet (1kg)

4,38

Sugar/salt/pepper in shaker, filled from large paper
packet (over 5kg)

3,51

Size matters

The HAPI assesses qualitatively packaging with optimal size in relation to the amount of product it contains.

Products in small packaging, i.e. single-serve, quick turnaround items for rapid consumption by individuals, score negatively (higher) because they contain more plastic by weight than if the product is sold in bulk.

Due to their size and the mixture of materials they are made from, they have no value for recycling systems. They are disposed of as waste and incinerated. In addition, they are more easily spread by the wind.

For all these reasons, the use of small packaging is highly polluting. Eliminating these products is vital to reducing environmental impact.

FOR EVERY 5 LITRES OF PRODUCT:

SINGLE-USE:

- 333 sachets required
- Each sachet contains 2g of plastic

**TOTAL: 666g
OF PLASTIC**

350ml BOTTLE:

- 11 bottles required
- Each bottle contains 30g of plastic

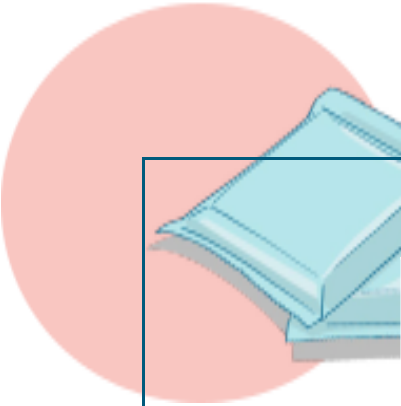
**TOTAL: 330g
OF PLASTIC**

5l BOTTLE:

- 1 bottle required
- Each bottle contains 180g of plastic

**TOTAL: 180g
OF PLASTIC**

SNACKS



PRODUCT	HAPI
Single-serve confectionery, chocolate, ice cream and other snacks in disposable plastic and/or foil wrappers	10
Sweets, chocolate, ice cream and snacks in medium-sized disposable plastic and/or foil Packaging	8,55
Single servings of ice cream in disposable, plastic-lined tubs	6,75
Sweets, chocolates and snacks served in individual portions in disposable glass jars	5,85
Ice cream bought in bulk and served in an edible cone	5,85
Sweets, chocolates and snacks in medium-sized, disposable paper bags	4,38
Sweets, chocolates, ice cream and snacks served in single portions from large packets	3,51
Ice cream bought in bulk and served in reusable Containers	1,50
Sweets, chocolates and snacks bought in bulk (without plastic wrapping)	0



TOILETRIES

PRODUCT	HAPI
✂ Travel toiletries (gel, shampoo, soap) in single-use plastic	7,02
✂ Travel toiletries (gel, shampoo, soap) in biodegradable/compostable single-use plastic	7,02
✂ Small stock of travel toiletries (gel, shampoo, soap) in single-use plastic, delivered on demand	7,02
Other accessories made of wood or other naturally biodegradable materials (comb, toothbrush, NO bioplastics!)	6,03
Toiletries in reusable containers, refilled from large, single-use containers*	3,51
Toiletries in reusable plastic containers, refilled from large, returnable containers >5l (whether plastic or biodegradable)*	1,75
Soaps, shampoo bars without plastic packaging	0
Toiletries in reusable plastic containers, refilled from bulk (whether plastic or biodegradable)*	0
Replaced with services (e.g. sewing arrangements, shoe shine on request)	0
Toiletries eliminated	0

* As per 2021 guidelines published by the [Spanish Agency of Medicines](#)

MINI TOILETRIES (50ml)

- 910 bottles
- Each bottle contains 6g of plastic

**TOTAL: 5.46kg
OF PLASTIC**

STANDARD BOTTLE (440ml)

- 104 bottles
- Each bottle contains 3g of plastic

**TOTAL: 3.74kg
OF PLASTIC**

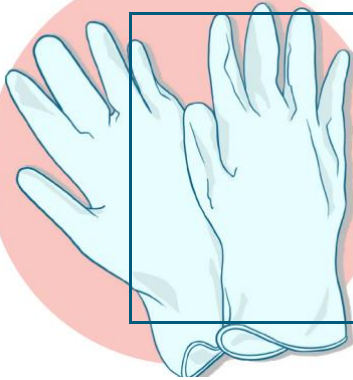
LARGE CONTAINER (5 litres)

- 1 returnable, reusable container with "PCDF" designation* (172g)
- 1 refillable, reusable bottle (36g)

**TOTAL: 0.2kg
OF PLASTIC**

* [and Medical Devices \(AEMP\)](#)

GLOVES

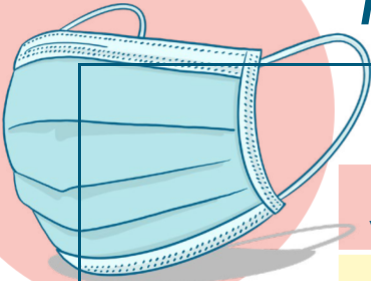


PRODUCT

HAPI

Disposable gloves	8,55
Reusable rubber gloves	4,27
Handwashing protocol	0

MASKS



PRODUCT

HAPI

Disposable hygienic face masks that comply with UNE 0064 and 0065 specifications	8,55
Reusable hygienic face masks that comply with UNE 0064 and 0065 specifications	4,05

HAND SANITISER



PRODUCT

HAPI

Sanitiser gel in small, disposable bottles (whether plastic or biodegradable)	7,02
Sanitiser gel in medium-sized, disposable bottles (whether plastic or biodegradable)	5,26
Sanitiser gel in large, disposable containers (whether plastic or biodegradable)	3,51
Sanitiser gel in large, returnable & refillable Containers	1,75

Breaking down the barriers?

Alternatives are too expensive

Reusable options are not more expensive! The priority is to avoid waste generation. If you make use of the recommendations, including eliminating unnecessary products and replacing single-use products with reusable options, you should be able to reduce your expenses.

We have always done it this way

Breaking ingrained patterns of thinking is not always easy, but it is possible! Being innovative involves a period of adaptation that has many benefits in the future, the first of which is environmental and the second is reputational. We can help you with this narrative.

My customers want these items

There is widespread awareness of the impact of single-use plastic products on the environment. A change in your company's policies that impacts customer behaviour for the better is good for our society. Congratulations!

Employees will find it hard to embrace the change

Any change adopted by your business requires the participation of your employees. Training is vital for introducing changes, such as replacing products with processes. The result is worth the effort; it reduces waste generation and fosters a sense of pride in your company.

Changes are prohibited by health safety regulations

It is safe to use reusable alternatives, other than in specific cases outlined in health regulations.

My suppliers don't have alternatives

Tell your suppliers that you have started a transition; use the Honest Alternatives guidelines and send them this guide to help them meet the requirements of plastic-free companies. Join Plastic Free Balearics (more information at plasticfreebalearics.org)

The hospitality sector can lead the change!

Moving Forward.....

The ban will soon take effect so don't get caught out. Plastic Free Plymouth wishes to move forward together with the hospitality sector towards ambitious and achievable objectives. To accomplish this, it is essential to generate strategic alliances throughout the value chain.....so you look good and the choices are cost effective.

We encourage you to:

Make a real commitment to plastic-free management, using this guide to identify Honest Alternatives and differentiate them from False Alternatives.

Communicate your transition to single-use, plastic-free best practice to your suppliers. They are your key allies in making this happen ([see Resources](#)).

Share this guide with colleagues, suppliers and other stakeholders in the hospitality value chain.

Become a Plastic Free Guardian through our Plastic Free Balearics certification. Aim to achieve the five stars by eliminating 100% of the 23 Red Flag products we have seen in this guide and replacing them with reusable alternatives.

We hope that the information in this guide will be of use to you as we continue to move towards becoming plastic-free islands. Together, we can continue to inspire our associates, partners and local communities to be part of the change.

5. RESOURCES

WHAT TO ASK

Below is an example of a checklist that you can give to your suppliers depending on the service they provide. By providing this list, you are letting them know what your minimum standards are in terms of packaging and single-use products, and what options you accept instead.

SUPPLIERS OF MISCELLANEOUS GOODS



Ideal option:

- Eliminate packaging....including packaging banned in the UK.
- Reusable and returnable packaging and containers



Intermediate option:

- As little packaging as possible
- Large quantities in a single packaging system
- Lower-impact materials: cardboard, glass, metal, fabric, natural fibres



Not accepted:

- Large quantities of plastic packaging or biodegradable/compostable plastics
- Individually packaged products in plastic or other materials

CATERING AND FOOD SUPPLIERS



Ideal option:

- Reusable and returnable packaging and containers
- Bulk products served in returnable packaging or cartons



Intermediate option:

- As little packaging as possible
- Large quantities in a single packaging system
- Lower impact materials: cardboard, glass, metal, fabric, natural fibres



Not accepted:

- Large quantities of plastic packaging
- Individually packaged products in plastic or other materials
- Individual drinks in plastic or other plastic-containing materials, such as cartons

