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July 2019

Single Use Plastic Reduction Plan for the Isle of Man Community



**Isle of Man
Government**

Reilrys Ellan Vannin

Sustainable
Island

Foreword



In July 2018, the Single Use Plastic Reduction Plan for the Isle of Man Government was launched, setting out plans to significantly reduce single use plastic across government. Sustainability champions within each department are now taking this forward and driving change to substantially remove single use plastics across the public service.

Plastic pollution is a critical issue and one that negatively impacts the environment, wildlife and, potentially, our own health. Around 50% of all plastic produced is single use and, as such, represents an unsustainable use of oil, which is a finite resource. Plastic production also makes a significant contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and this plan is a step towards achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Our consumption of plastic is set to significantly increase over the next decade if no substantial changes are made. Here, we introduce a plan to reduce single use plastic across our community.

It is estimated that this plan could result in a saving of 630,000kg of plastic every year, for which the carbon footprint of production is estimated to be 3,780,000kg CO₂, the equivalent of burning 8,736 barrels of oil.

We are therefore taking action now, to:

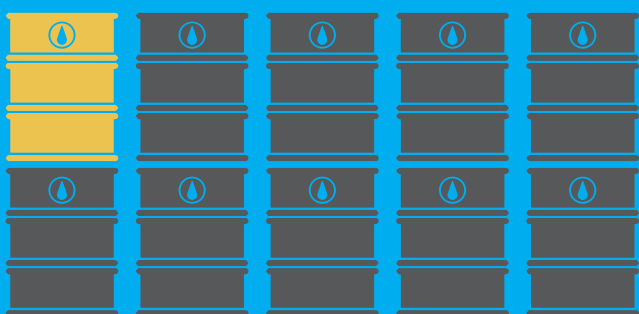
- Ban selected single-use products made of plastic in the Isle of Man
- Protect our environment by significantly reducing the amount of plastic entering our sea
- Reduce plastic usage to support the Island's carbon emission target
- Work with all areas of the community and economy to identify ways to remove all avoidable single use plastic packaging, throughout our lives.

Tackling the climate change emergency is a Government priority and Tynwald has committed to delivering a climate change action plan to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This will be delivered through a Climate Change Bill, for which we expect to have Royal Assent by early 2021.

As part of that Bill our focussed action on plastic waste will move us forward to substantially eliminate the use of single use plastics.

Our Government has committed to engaging all sectors of society to reduce their use of single use plastic and I introduce this Single Use Plastic Reduction Plan for the Isle of Man Community with the expectation that we will all continue to actively work together to cherish our environment.

Chief Minister
Hon. Howard Quayle MHK



**1 in every 10 barrels of oil is
used to create new plastic**



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**1 pound of new plastic
produces 3 pounds of CO₂**

The issue	What we want to do	How we will achieve this	When
Plastic pollution from land, entering our oceans and waterways; unnecessary use of finite oil resource	Reduce consumption of single use plastic and encourage disposal of other plastics in appropriate waste streams	A legislative ban on the sale and distribution of the following single use plastic items: plates, plastic carrier bags, stirrers, straws (with necessary exceptions i.e. medical use), cutlery, polystyrene food containers for immediate use, polystyrene cups, plastic stemmed cotton buds, balloon sticks and oxo-degradable plastics	As soon as possible (using the powers introduced by the Climate Change Act expected in 2021)
		Consult local businesses to identify ways to reduce/remove unnecessary single use plastic packaging from goods	Immediately
		Work with Beach Buddies to develop a scheme that identifies and celebrates businesses that have removed/reduced all possible single use plastic from their premises	
		Incorporate plastic reduction into the judging criteria for competitions such as the Food and Drink Awards and the Biosphere Awards	
		Continue education and awareness campaigns on plastic pollution and single use plastic reduction	
		Work with local non-government organisations, schools and businesses towards the Surfers Against Sewage 'Plastic Free' Community Status	
		Coordinate with bodies outside of the Isle of Man to reduce plastic usage and pollution	
		The Programme for Government states: 'Complete the regional sewerage infrastructure', which supports this Plan. Closing off raw sewage outfalls drastically reduces flushed plastic on beaches (Beach Buddies data 2017 & 2018)	By the end of this administration, subject to obtaining the necessary planning approvals and site acquisitions
Plastic debris from the fishing industry entering our oceans and waterways	Encourage the fishing industry to dispose of their waste and end of life gear appropriately	Reinvigorate the existing Fishing for Litter Scheme, working closely with the Manx Fish Producers Organisation and the Manx fishing fleet	Immediately
Micro-plastics entering the world's oceans	Reduce micro-plastics entering the ocean from our Island	A legislative ban on the manufacture, sale and distribution of rinse-off personal care products that contain plastic micro beads	As soon as possible (using CCA expected 2021)
Low worldwide recycling rates for plastic. (only 9% of plastic used globally has been recycled since 1950)	Encourage our community to recycle more plastic and encourage manufacturers/retailers to produce/stock products with higher recycled content	As a matter of urgency, DOI and DEFA will engage with the Local Authorities to progress the recycling action plan for household waste which takes account of the Island's unique situation and therefore balances the practical, financial, environmental and carbon footprint aspects of all the recyclable household waste streams	The action plan with up to date clear targets, will be finalised over the next 12 months
		Consider a levy on beverage bottles that contain less than 30% recycled plastic content	As soon as possible (with a view to implementation using CCA expected 2021) or alternative legislation.
		A public consultation on the potential for a bottle return scheme on the Island	Autumn 2019



Cutlery and straws

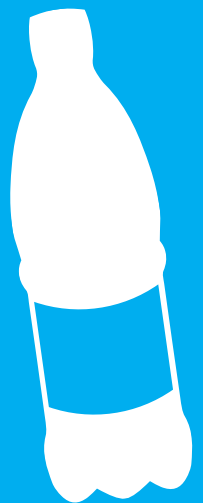
Plastic on our beaches

Single use plastic items represent approximately 50% of marine litter on Manx beaches

Commonly found items*



Cotton buds



Bottles



Food wrappers



Food containers



Plastic fragments and polystyrene



Fishing gear

Plastic pollution affects fish or wildlife through choking, ingestion or entanglement

More than 8 million tonnes of plastic waste enters the ocean every year: one truck load every minute

The 5 Rs of waste reduction

REFUSE
REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE
RECOVER

How you can make a difference

- Use reusable items
- Avoid flushing down plastics
- Say no to single use plastics
- Join Beach Buddies or 3 Pieces Of Plastic



80% of marine plastics come from land

Plastic litter can blow into rivers, which transport plastic pollution into the sea

For more information



www.gov.im/plastics



plastics@gov.im



FSC Approved Paper

*data collected by Beach Buddies (2017-2018)