

Meeting	Full Council
Date	27 th June 2023
Report Title	Single Use Plastics
Agenda Reference	24
Author	Councillor V Manro Chairman to Council

Recommendations:

1. To note that single use plastics litter our streets, damage our environment and endanger our health. Haydon Wick Parish Council should aspire to become a plastic free Parish Council by the end of 2023.
2. To note the availability of environmentally friendly reusable cups and bottles are a viable alternative to single use plastic products and should be procured wherever practical.
3. To phase out the use of single use plastics at Parish Council owned facilities and Council run events by the end of 2023, where practical.
4. To act as an advocate for a plastic free Haydon Wick by encouraging residents, local businesses, and organisations to phase out the use of single use plastics by encouraging the use of environmentally friendly alternatives across the Parish.
5. To run a campaign and engagement with the residents using refill.org.uk's framework for communities.

Background

From 1st October 2023 [sales of single use plastics will no longer be legal](#). Single use plastics are plastic items that are used once before they are thrown away. Common examples are plastic bags, cups, straws, water bottles and most food packaging. Single use plastics do not biodegrade and instead break down into tiny particles, making them very harmful to our environment. Single use plastics pollute the soil and are dangerous to wildlife.

In the Parish discarded plastic bottles are a regular sight on community litter picks – littering our roads, community spaces and rivers. This harms our local environment, makes the Parish look unnecessarily untidy and incurs costs to the taxpayer for their removal.

Single use plastics are also harmful to people. Plastic particles can pass into our bloodstream, and this has been linked to cancer, birth defects and other serious health conditions.

Local government is leading the way in reducing plastic use. Haydon Wick Parish Council is already a Refill station (water) <https://haydonwick.gov.uk/free-tap-water-refills-here/>.

Proposer: Councillor V Manro

Seconded: Councillor S Heyes