



# CODE OF CONDUCT

## Single-Use Plastics in Britain's Ocean City

Plastics are a modern, durable material that have transformed how we live, work, and play. They are a versatile and fantastic resource and have a key role to play in modern life.

But plastics are man made and while some plastics can be recycled, much of the world's plastic waste ends up in landfill sites or as waste litter in our oceans and on land.

The biggest issue is with single-use plastics, or disposable plastics, which are used only once before they are thrown away. These items are things like plastic bags, straws, coffee stirrers, pop and water bottles and most food packaging.

### Plymouth is committed to:

- Reducing Plymouth's reliance on plastic – to refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle; switching to alternatives wherever possible.
- Tackling the plastic waste that is already in our environment – limiting its impact and creating a better world for our communities, our wildlife and our city.

### Plymouth will achieve this by delivering our Plan for Plastics. We're inviting you to join us!

We're encouraging businesses and community groups from across the city to lead the way as **plastic-free community ambassadors** or **pioneers**.

#### We will:

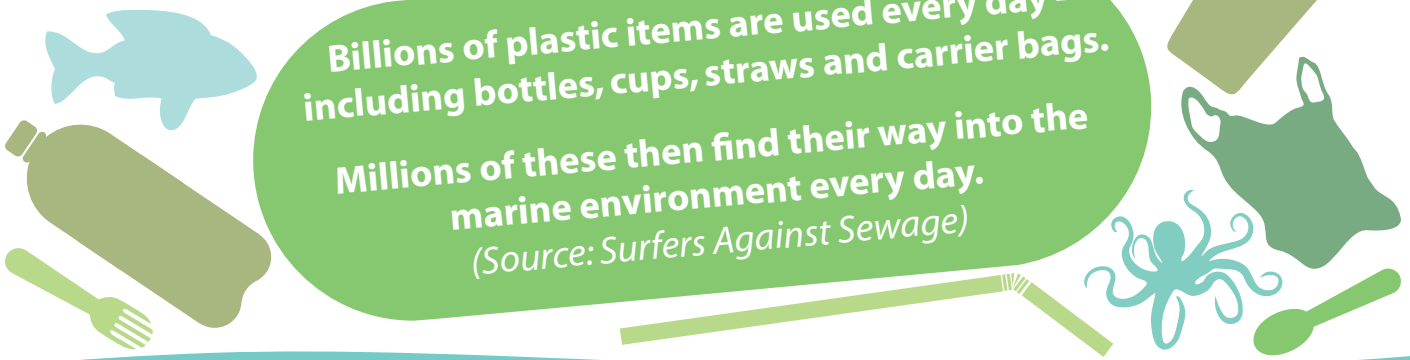
**AVOID**  
contributing to the amount of plastic in Plymouth's environment; leading by example in taking positive action... however small.

**CONNECT**  
communities across the city with nature to encourage positive behaviour change.

**RECYCLE**  
to manage what we've got more responsibly; find ways of reusing plastic as often as possible and in the most sustainable way. Challenge the reliance we've developed and recycle whenever you can.

**INNOVATE**  
on ground breaking science to guide us towards sustainable solutions.

Billions of plastic items are used every day – including bottles, cups, straws and carrier bags. Millions of these then find their way into the marine environment every day.  
*(Source: Surfers Against Sewage)*



# LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Plymouth has been recognised as a single-use plastic-free community. This means the city has made a long term commitment to helping its communities to reduce the amount of single-use plastics in our everyday lives.

**You can get involved and help by following these simple steps...**

*"Plastic is poisoning our planet. We have created it. Now we must get rid of it."*  
**Sir David Attenborough**  
in a message of support to the 'Plymouth, Plastic and the Planet' School's Conference, 28th March 2019

## REFUSE

## REDUCE

## REUSE

## RECYCLE



Just say no to single use. Take a good look at what you use. What can you do without? What can you swap?



Wherever possible, refuse to use single-use plastic items like straws and cups.



Encourage others to do the same – offer incentives for reusable cups or refill drinking water for free at Refill Devon's Refill Stations.



Think about events – make sure cups, plates, glasses and cutlery are reusable, recyclable and made from eco-friendly materials.



Take reusable bags with you and use them again and again.



Recycle whenever and wherever you can – don't let Plymouth go to waste.



Do you really need that packaging? Think free and unwrapped wherever possible.



Think twice about using balloons and don't let go.



We all need to lead by example – if you move ahead others will follow.



Stand out from the crowd ... 'tell ten' people why you've made the switch and what you're doing to help.

## Be the change you want to see.

Pledge forms, ideas and guidance available from [info@environmentplymouth.org](mailto:info@environmentplymouth.org) or [www.plymouth.gov.uk/plastics](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/plastics). By working together to reduce the amount of single-use plastics in our lives, we can all help to protect our beautiful city.

How can you help limit the damage? **Do your bit!**

**PLYMOUTH'S PLAN FOR PLASTICS** FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET

#plasticspledgeplym