



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Consultation on proposals to ban commonly littered single-use plastic items in England

November 2021

We are the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. We're responsible for improving and protecting the environment, growing the green economy, sustaining thriving rural communities and supporting our world-class food, farming and fishing industries.

We work closely with our 33 agencies and arm's length bodies on our ambition to make our air purer, our water cleaner, our land greener and our food more sustainable. Our mission is to restore and enhance the environment for the next generation, and to leave the environment in a better state than we found it.



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www.gov.uk/defra

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Executive summary

1. The government is committed to leaving our environment in a better state than we found it and protecting it for future generations. The 25 Year Environment Plan, published in January 2018, outlines the steps we will take to achieve that, including eliminating avoidable plastic waste by 2042.
2. We have already taken strong action to tackle plastic waste. In general, we prefer to help people and companies make the right choice, rather than banning items outright. However, there are times when a ban is appropriate as part of a wider strategic approach, which is why we banned microbeads in rinse-off personal care products and restricted the supply of single-use plastic straws, drink stirrers and cotton buds.
3. As part of our wider strategic approach to transitioning to a circular economy and reducing our consumption of raw materials and resources, this year, we have consulted on an extended producer responsibility scheme for packaging, a deposit return scheme for drinks containers, and the introduction of consistent collections of household waste in England. We have also published guidance on the introduction of a tax on plastic packaging that does not contain at least 30% recycled content. These measures will drive up reuse, refill and recycling rates, reduce plastic waste and enable us to manage waste more effectively.
4. Public consultations were key in shaping all these policies. For instance, evidence from our consultation on restrictions on the supply of plastic straws, plastic drink stirrers and plastic-stemmed cotton buds showed people with certain medical needs required plastic straws and supported the continued availability of plastic straws in these cases.
5. Industry is also taking action to tackle plastic waste, such as through the UK Plastics Pact, a collaboration between businesses from across the entire plastics value chain, supported by the government and coordinated by the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP). One of the Pact's targets is to eliminate problematic or unnecessary single-use packaging through redesign, innovation, or alternative (re-use) delivery models. Under this target, the Pact has also identified single-use plastic items, such as cutlery, to be eliminated. Its members have already made progress in reducing plastic use and switching to sustainable alternatives.
6. Though these measures have impacted, and will impact, the production, consumption and end-of-life treatment of many single-use plastic items and plastic packaging, greatly reducing the volumes of plastic waste we generate, the case for more focused action on certain items remains.
7. Consequently, we are consulting on new policy proposals to ban single-use plastic items, which we think may not be addressed sufficiently by our existing policies or policy proposals.
8. Whilst the proposed ban would apply in England only, the Devolved Administrations are considering bringing forward similar regulations. We are committed to engaging closely with the Devolved Administrations in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland on

delivering on our shared environmental objectives across the UK and the wider impacts of these proposals, including the functioning of the UK internal market.

9. To note, these policy proposals do not cover a potential ban on oxo-degradable plastics as a material, though the government has set out its position on these in its [response to the call for evidence for Standards for biodegradable, compostable and bio-based plastics](#).

Purpose of this consultation

10. The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on **banning the supply of single-use plastic plates, cutlery, balloon sticks, and expanded and extruded polystyrene cups and food and beverage containers in England**. We are particularly seeking views on the potential environmental impacts of substitute items, additional costs or constraints to business resulting from a ban, the impact on the price of non-plastic alternatives as the scale of production of these items increases, and predictions and views on the impact of a ban on consumers.
11. We are taking action against these items as they are either commonly littered, not commonly recycled, or both. For instance, current estimates suggest that only 10% of single-use plastic plates and cutlery are recycled upon disposal. Furthermore, plastic cutlery were in the top 15 most littered items by count in Defra's 2020 Litter Composition Report.
12. A ban was chosen as the policy measure as it will ensure the desired change and associated environmental benefits are felt quickly and ensure that these are sustained into the future. Also, and importantly, our understanding is that there are viable alternatives available to these items.
13. A single-use plastic product is a product made wholly or partly from plastic, not conceived, designed, or placed on the market to accomplish multiple trips or rotations by being returned to a producer for refill or re-used for the same purpose for which it was conceived.
14. Plastic means a material consisting of polymer to which additives or other substances may have been added, and which can function as a main structural component of final products, with the exception of natural polymers that have not been chemically modified.

Consultation details

Geographical scope

15. England only.

Responsible body

16. This consultation is being carried out by Defra's Plastic, International and Climate Team, Resources & Waste Division, on behalf of the UK government.

Audience

17. This is a public consultation and it is open to anyone with an interest to provide comments. The consultation should be of particular interest to users with specific needs, businesses involved in the manufacture or provision of single-use plastic plates, cutlery, balloon sticks, expanded polystyrene food and beverage containers, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) concerned about the impact of single-use plastic items on the environment.

Duration

18. This consultation will run for 12 weeks. This is in line with the Cabinet Office's 'Consultation Principles', which advises government departments to adopt proportionate consultation procedures. The consultation opens **20th November 2021** - The consultation closes **12th February 2022**.

Responding to this consultation

19. Please respond to this consultation using the citizen space consultation hub at: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/environmental-quality/consultation-on-proposals-to-ban-commonly-littered>.

By email to Plastics.consultation@defra.gov.uk

20. Or in writing to Consultation on proposals to ban commonly littered single-use plastic items in England, Consultation Coordinator, Defra, 2nd Floor, Foss House, Kings Pool, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX.

After the consultation

Confidentiality and data protection information

21. A summary of responses to this consultation will be published on the government website at: www.gov.uk/defra. An annex to the consultation summary will list all organisations that responded but will not include personal names, addresses or other contact details.
22. Defra may publish the content of your response to this consultation to make it available to the public without your personal name and private contact details (e.g., home address, email address, etc).
23. If you click on 'Yes' in response to the question asking if you would like anything in your response to be kept confidential, you are asked to state clearly what information you would like to be kept as confidential and explain your reasons for confidentiality. The reason for this is that information in responses to this consultation may be subject to release to the public or other parties in accordance with the access to information law (these are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)). We have obligations, mainly under the EIRs, FOIA and DPA, to disclose information to particular recipients or to the public in certain circumstances. In view of this, your explanation of your reasons for requesting confidentiality for all or part of your response would help us balance these obligations for disclosure against any obligation of confidentiality. If we receive a request for the information that you have provided in your response to this consultation, we will take full account of your reasons for requesting confidentiality of your response, but we cannot guarantee that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances.
24. If you click on 'No' in response to the question asking if you would like anything in your response to be kept confidential, we will be able to release the content of your response to the public, but we won't make your personal name and private contact details publicly available.
25. There may be occasions when Defra will share the information you provide in response to the consultation, including any personal data with external analysts. This is for the purposes of consultation response analysis and provision of a report of the summary of responses only.
26. This consultation is being conducted in line with the [Cabinet Office "Consultation Principles"](#).
27. Please find our latest privacy notice uploaded as a related document alongside our consultation document.
28. If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to: Consultation on proposals to ban commonly littered single-use plastic items in England, Consultation Coordinator, Defra, 2nd Floor, Foss House, Kings Pool, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX
Or email: consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk

About you

1. Would you like your response to be confidential?
 - Yes
 - No
 - If you answered yes to this question, please give your reason
2. What is your name?
3. What is your email address?
4. It would be helpful for our analysis if you could indicate which of these sectors you most align yourself/your organisation with for the purpose of this consultation (please tick / circle one which is most applicable to you):
 - public body
 - non-governmental organisation
 - retail industry
 - manufacturing industry
 - member of the general public
 - other (please state).
5. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, what is its name?

Proposals

It is proposed to ban the supply of the following single-use items in England:

- Plastic plates
 - Plastic cutlery
 - Plastic balloon sticks
 - Expanded and extruded polystyrene food containers
 - Expanded and extruded polystyrene beverage containers, including cups
1. The proposed restrictions on plates, cutlery and balloon sticks will include all plastics, including bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics.
 2. It is proposed bowls and trays are included in the definition of 'plates'.
 3. We are considering excluding plates, bowls and trays used as packaging from this ban, except those used in 'eat-in' settings.¹ For example, a single-use plastic plate filled with food at the point of sale would fall under the definition of packaging.
 4. It is proposed that extruded polystyrene food and beverage containers should be within the scope of the ban on expanded polystyrene containers. Any reference to expanded polystyrene containers in this consultation should be read as including extruded polystyrene containers.
 5. It is proposed that the ban will be enforced principally through civil sanctions set out in regulations under Part 3 of the Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions Act 2008. It is expected that enforcement authorities would apply civil sanctions in the first instance and a failure to comply may result in authorities prosecuting for a criminal offence subject to a fine only after a failure to comply with a civil sanction.
 6. It is proposed the ban on these items will take effect from April 2023, with the legislation being laid in Parliament prior to this.

¹ If this exemption is included, it is proposed that the definition of packaging is as defined in the Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 2015

Background on items

These products contribute to the consumption of single-use plastic and the unsustainable use of resources.

Despite the action taken so far to reduce single-use plastic, it remains widespread and its inappropriate disposal causes significant environmental issues. Plastic can persist in the environment for hundreds of years, and plastic items can endanger wildlife, being mistaken for food by animals, and damaging habitats. Plastics will eventually break down into microplastics, ending up in our soils and seas and permeating our food chains. The full impacts of the dangers of microplastics are still being uncovered. There is also a negative social impact associated with litter, affecting people's sense of safety, enjoyment, and willingness to use public spaces.

Even when properly disposed of single-use plastics typically end up in landfill, representing a loss of resources, or are incinerated, releasing carbon into the atmosphere.

Plastic

As outlined above, we are proposing to define plastic as a material consisting of polymer to which additives or other substances may have been added, and which can function as a main structural component of final products, with the exception of natural polymers that have not been chemically modified.

A "polymer" means a substance consisting of molecules characterised by the sequence of one or more types of monomer units. Such molecules must be distributed over a range of molecular weights wherein differences in the molecular weight are primarily attributable to differences in the number of monomer units. A polymer comprises the following:

- (a) a simple weight majority of molecules containing at least three monomer units that are covalently bound to at least one other monomer unit or other reactant;
- (b) less than a simple weight majority of molecules of the same molecular weight.

In the context of this definition a "monomer unit" means the reacted form of a monomer substance in a polymer.

A polymer can also contain additives necessary to preserve the stability of the polymer and impurities deriving from the manufacturing process. These stabilisers and impurities are considered to be part of the substance.

Natural polymers are understood as polymers which are the result of a polymerisation process that has taken place in nature, independently of the extraction process with which they have been extracted. Plastics manufactured with modified natural polymers, or plastics manufactured from bio-based, fossil or synthetic starting substances are not naturally occurring and would therefore be in scope of the regulations.

'Not chemically modified' means a substance whose chemical structure remains unchanged, even if it has undergone a chemical process or treatment, or a physical mineralogical transformation, for instance to remove impurities.

This definition is internationally recognised and is consistent with the definition used in the Environmental Protection (Plastic Straws, Cotton Buds and Stirrers) (England) Regulations 2020.

Plates

We are seeking views on our proposal that the definition of single-use plastic plates includes plates, trays and bowls, designed to be used for any type of food consumption. It is estimated that England uses 1.1 billion single-use plates, the majority of which are estimated to be made from plastic, each year – equivalent to 20 per person.²

Alternatives such as single-use paper plates or reusable plates already exist.

We are considering excluding plates, bowls and trays used as packaging from this ban, except in 'eat-in' settings where reusable alternatives can easily be used. Packaging is defined as all products made of any materials of any nature to be used for the containment, protection, handling, delivery and presentation of goods, from raw materials to processed goods, from the producer to the user or the consumer, including non-returnable items used for the same purposes.

With regard to plastic plates, bowls and trays, those used as primary packaging as defined in the Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 2015³, that is to say packaging conceived so as to constitute a sales unit to the final user or consumer at the point of purchase, would therefore fall outside the scope of the ban.

This exemption would not apply to expanded and extruded polystyrene food and drinks containers.

The rationale for this exemption is that government is addressing packaging and packaging waste through its reforms to the UK packaging producer responsibility system. Additionally, it is being addressed through a new tax of £200/t on plastic packaging with less than 30% recycled content, which will come into force in April 2022. However, we are keen to gather views on whether these measures are sufficient, or if these items should nonetheless be included in the scope of a ban.

² Resource Futures: Preliminary assessment of the economic impacts of a potential ban on plastic cutlery, plastic plates and plastic balloon sticks

³ The government has recently consulted on extended producer responsibility for packaging. We will make sure that the definition of packaging in these regulations is aligned with the definition in future producer responsibility regulations.

Cutlery

Single-use plastic cutlery comprises forks, knives, spoons and chopsticks made of plastic. This includes standard size or mini-size cutlery or a combination of types of cutlery, such as sporks. Single-use plastic drinks stirrers were banned in October 2020. It is estimated that England uses 4.25 billion items of single-use cutlery, the majority of which are made from plastic, annually– or 75 per person. ⁴

Plastic cutlery used on the go is the most relevant to littering but all uses relate to over-consumption of material. Plastic cutlery is typically discarded to general waste rather than recycled due to the effort required to segregate and clean it.

Metal cutlery is an alternative to plastic cutlery for eating within establishments. If single-use items are necessary wooden alternatives could be used, as is often the case already.

Balloon sticks

Single-use plastic balloon sticks are sticks to be attached to and to support balloons. The item is composed of a stick and a cup that attaches to the balloon.

Balloon sticks are usually made from polypropylene. No readily available non-plastic alternatives have been identified; however, it may be possible to use paper spindles (for instance, which are used for lollipop sticks and cotton bud sticks). Balloon sticks need to comply with toy safety regulations.

It is estimated approximately 16 million balloon sticks are sold each year in England.⁴

Expanded and extruded polystyrene containers

Food containers are receptacles such as boxes, trays, cones, and pots, with or without a lid. They are used to contain food which:

- Is intended for immediate consumption, either on-the-spot or takeaway;
- Is typically consumed from the container;
- Is ready to be consumed without any further preparation, such as heating.

Expanded polystyrene and extruded polystyrene are both rigid, closed-cell, foam materials made of polystyrene, although through different manufacturing processes. With expanded polystyrene, the single 'cells' are still visible and the material is more porous. Extruded polystyrene has a structure that is more homogenous. We understand that expanded polystyrene and extruded polystyrene are similar in environmental risk, which is why we are proposing to include both materials in the scope of these proposals.

⁴ Resource futures: A preliminary assessment of the economic impacts of a potential ban on plastic cutlery, plastic plates and plastic balloon sticks

Many large high street hospitality and events businesses have already replaced expanded polystyrene (EPS) with paper containers, since these can be printed on to brand the packaging whilst also meeting food hygiene standards.

Beverage containers are containers, such as cups, for holding and/or transporting a hot or cold beverage. They may have caps and lids.

In England, it is estimated that on average 8 single-use EPS cups and 12 single-use boxes, trays, cones, and pots are used per person annually.⁵ This equates to 475 million cups and 679 million boxes, trays, cones, and pots a year.

⁵ Resource Futures, Economic assessment of a potential ban on expanded polystyrene, 2019

Questions

1. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed definition of plastic?
Please give reasons and provide any supporting evidence (optional).

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

2. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to introduce a ban on the supply of the following single-use items in England? Please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Plastic plates only			
Plastic plates, including plastic bowls			
Plastic plates, including plastic trays			
Plastic plates, including plastic bowls and plastic trays			
Plastic cutlery			
Plastic balloon sticks			
EPS food containers			
EPS beverage containers			

3. We propose the ban should cover all single-use bio-based, compostable, and biodegradable plastic (such as PLA). Please tick in the table those plastics you support the ban including.

	Bio-based	Compostable	Biodegradable	All	None
Plastic plates					
Plastic cutlery					
Plastic balloon sticks					
EPS food containers					
EPS beverage containers					

Please give reasons and provide any supporting evidence (optional).

4. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to exclude from the ban a) single-use plates used as packaging or b) single-use plates used as packaging except those used in eat-in settings?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Exclude plates used as packaging			
Exclude plates used as packaging, with the exception of those used in 'eat-in' settings			

Please give reasons and provide any supporting evidence (optional). We would welcome evidence on the volumes of single-use plastic plates used in England that are classed as packaging.

Impact on alternatives to banned items

5. Do you currently supply customers with any of the items we are proposing to ban?

- Yes – Go to question 5
- No – Go to question 6

6. In the event of a ban on the proposed items, which product(s) would you provide to customers as an alternative? Please tick all that apply.

	Paper/card (single-use)	Wood (single- use)	Reusable alternative	Other alternative (please specify)	Will not supply any alternative
Plastic plates					
Plastic cutlery					
Plastic balloon sticks					
EPS food containers					
EPS beverage containers					

7. Are there any risks that alternatives to single-use plastic plates, plastic cutlery, plastic balloon sticks, EPS food containers, and EPS beverage containers will themselves have significant environmental impacts?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Plastic plates			
Plastic cutlery			
Plastic balloon sticks			
EPS food containers			
EPS beverage containers			

- If you think an alternative will have a significant environmental impact, please specify the alternative.
- Please provide supporting evidence.
- If so, how could these risks be avoided, minimised or mitigated? Please supply any evidence to support your answer.

Exemptions

8. Will any of the proposed item bans have a negative impact on certain people? If yes, why. Please tick all boxes that apply.

	Geographic location	Socio-economic status	Type of job	Protected characteristic	Other (please specify)	No	Don't know
Plastic plates							
Plastic cutlery							
Plastic balloon sticks							
EPS food containers							
EPS beverage containers							

Please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

9. Should there be any exemptions from any ban for the following items e.g., in certain locations or for particular purposes?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Plastic plates			
Plastic cutlery			
Plastic balloon sticks			
EPS food containers			
EPS beverage containers			

Please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

Timing of the ban

10. Our proposed date for the ban on single-use plastic plates, plastic cutlery, plastic balloon sticks, EPS food containers, and EPS beverage containers is April 2023. We think this will allow sufficient time for industry to use up existing stock and source alternatives where needed. Do you agree or disagree that this date will give industry sufficient time to prepare for the ban? E.g., sourcing alternative products, using up existing stock.

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Plastic plates			
Plastic cutlery			
Plastic balloon sticks			
EPS food containers			
EPS beverage containers			

Please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

Impact assessment

This section should be read alongside the accompanying impact assessments. Please note that this section contains questions that are expected to be of greater interest to businesses involved in the manufacture or provision of single-use plastic plates, cutlery, balloon sticks, and expanded polystyrene food and beverage containers as well as other more specialised questions. Consequently, if you are unsure of the answer to a question, you can tick the 'Don't know' box or skip the question.

11. Do you agree or disagree with our estimations that in 2018, 20 single-use plates, 75 pieces of single-use cutlery, 3 EPS boxes, 8 EPS cups, 6 EPS pots and 3 EPS trays and cones were consumed per person in England?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Plastic plates			
Plastic cutlery			
Plastic balloon sticks			
EPS food containers			
EPS beverage containers			

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

12. Under our baseline scenario where there is no ban of single-use plastic plates and cutlery, we have forecast a 10% reduction per annum in market share to reflect a shift away from single-use plastics. Do you agree or disagree with this assumption?
- Agree
 - Disagree
 - Don't know

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

13. Under our baseline scenario where there is no ban of EPS items, we have forecast a 5% reduction per annum in EPS market share to reflect a shift away from single-use plastics. Do you agree or disagree with this assumption?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

14. Do you agree or disagree with our assumption that in 2018 50% of single-use plates and 90% of single-use cutlery in England were made from plastic?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Plates			
Cutlery			

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

If applicable, please provide evidence on the proportion of single-use plates and cutlery that you sell/use that are made from plastic.

15. Do you agree or disagree with our assumption that in 2020, 80% of all food and beverage boxes, cups, pots and trays and cones in England were made from EPS?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Box			
Cup			
Pot			
Tray			
Cone			

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

16. We have assumed that 10% of single-use plastic plates and cutlery are produced in the UK. Do you agree or disagree with this assumption?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Plastic plates			
Plastic cutlery			

If possible, please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

17. We have assumed that 95% of EPS food and beverage containers are produced in the UK. Do you agree or disagree with this assumption?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
EPS food containers			
EPS beverage containers			

If possible, please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

18. If applicable, if a ban on single-use plastic plates and cutlery was to be implemented, how would your business respond?

- Seek to buy single-use plates and cutlery made of alternative material domestically
- Seek to import single-use plates and cutlery made of alternative material
- Don't know
- Stop using single-use plates and cutlery in your business

19. If you manufacture single-use plates and cutlery domestically, how would you expect a ban on these items to affect your activity?

- Would likely continue to produce food and beverage containers using alternative materials domestically
- Would likely switch from manufacturing food and beverage containers to importing these items
- Would likely shift production from food and beverage containers to other types of items
- Would likely cease all activity
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

20. If applicable, if a ban on EPS food and beverage containers was to be implemented, how would your business respond?

- Seek to buy containers made of alternative material domestically
- Seek to import containers made of alternative material
- Don't know
- Stop using containers in your business

21. If you manufacture EPS food and beverage containers domestically, how would you expect a ban on these items to affect your activity?

- Would likely continue to produce food and beverage containers using alternative materials domestically
 - Would likely switch from manufacturing food and beverage containers to importing these items
 - Would likely shift production from food and beverage containers to other types of items
- Would likely cease all activity

- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

22. Our estimations of the costs of single-use plastic plates and cutlery compared with alternatives are shown in the below table. Do you agree or disagree with our estimations?

	Plastic	Alternative
Plate	£0.005	£0.01
Cutlery	£0.0085	£0.017

	Agree	Disagree - overestimated	Disagree - underestimated	Don't know
Plate (plastic)				
Cutlery (plastic)				
Plate (alternative)				
Cutlery (alternative)				

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional). We welcome evidence to suggest how the price per unit of items made from alternative materials will change as the scale of production increases.

23. Our estimations of the costs of EPS compared with paper alternatives are shown in the below table.

	EPS	Paper
Box	£0.04	£0.14
Cup	£0.03	£0.04
Pot	£0.02	£0.06
Trays and Cones	£0.03	£0.07

Do you agree or disagree with our estimations?

	Agree	Disagree - overestimated	Disagree - underestimated	Don't know
Box (EPS)				
Cup (EPS)				
Pot (EPS)				
Trays (EPS)				
Cones (EPS)				
Box (Paper)				
Cup (Paper)				

Pot (Paper)				
Trays (Paper)				
Cones (Paper)				

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional). We welcome evidence to suggest how the price per unit of items made from alternative materials will change as the scale of production increases.

24. Do you agree or disagree with our assumption (outlined in the accompanying impact assessments) that the additional costs from alternative materials will remain the same for the appraisal period?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Plastic plates			
Plastic cutlery			
Plastic balloon sticks			
EPS food containers			
EPS beverage containers			

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

25. At end of life, we have assumed the below outcomes for plastic and wooden cutlery.
Do you agree or disagree with these assumptions?

	Plastic	Wooden
Recycled	10%	0%
Energy from waste	63%	56%
Landfill	26%	23%
Commercial composting	0%	20%
Terrestrial litter	1%	1%
Beach litter	0.01%	0.0012%

Note: figures are rounded so do not sum to 100%.

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

26. At end of life, we have assumed the below outcomes for plastic and paper plates.

	Plastic	Paper
Recycled	10%	10%
Energy from waste	64%	57%
Landfill	26%	23%
Commercial composting	0%	10%
Terrestrial litter	0.5%	0.5%
Beach litter	0.0005%	0.000005%

Note: figures are rounded so do not sum to 100%.

Do you agree or disagree with these assumptions?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

27. At end of life, we have assumed the below outcomes for EPS and paper alternative products. Do you agree or disagree with these assumptions?

	EPS	Paper
Recycled	0%	0%
Energy from waste	77%	71%
Landfill	23%	28%
Commercial composting	0%	0%
Terrestrial litter	0.5%	0.5%
Beach litter	0.0005%	0.000005%

Note: figures are rounded so do not sum to 100%.

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

28. Do you agree or disagree with our assumption that litter disamenity values remain the same for the appraisal period?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, please give reasons and any supporting evidence, including modelling (optional).

29. In determining the number of businesses that will be affected by a ban on EPS food and drink containers and single-use plastic plates and cutlery, we used Standard Industrialisation Codes (SICs) to identify categories of businesses likely to be affected. However, we have assumed that fast-food restaurants are more likely to use EPS food and beverage containers and single-use plastic plates and cutlery than restaurants and therefore estimated the number of fast-food restaurants in England rather than using all the businesses in the “restaurants and mobile food service activities” SIC. Do you agree or disagree with this assumption?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Plastic plates			
Plastic cutlery			
EPS food containers			
EPS beverage containers			

If possible, please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

30. Do you agree or disagree with our estimation that 131,722 businesses will be affected by familiarisation costs for a ban on EPS containers?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

31. Do you agree or disagree with our estimation that 141,680 businesses will be affected by familiarisation costs for a ban on single-use plastic plates and cutlery?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

32. We have assumed that, on average, it would take 30 minutes of a full-time employee's time for businesses to familiarise themselves with the item bans.

Do you agree or disagree with this assumption?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, please provide reasons and any supporting evidence. If applicable, please provide evidence on whether small and micro-sized businesses experience differing familiarisation time. Please elaborate on the rationale for expecting an impact of a varying magnitude.

33. In calculating additional fuel costs to businesses from transporting heavier paper items, we have assumed a mean distance travelled of 62 miles. Do you agree or disagree with this assumption?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

34. For our central scenario we have assumed that 60% of the costs businesses incur as a result of a greater unit price of alternative items will be passed to consumers. Do you agree or disagree with this assumption?

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Plastic plates and cutlery			
EPS containers			
Plastic balloon sticks			

If possible, please give reasons and any supporting evidence (optional).

35. Do you anticipate any additional costs and/or constraints to a) industry and b) consumers from this proposed ban on single-use plastic plates, plastic cutlery, plastic balloon sticks, EPS food containers, and EPS beverage containers?

	Industry			Consumers		
	Yes	No	Don't know	Yes	No	Don't know
Plastic plates						
Plastic cutlery						
Plastic balloon sticks						
EPS food containers						
EPS beverage containers						

If possible, please elaborate on these costs and/or constraints, including supplying any evidence you may have.

We welcome evidence on whether any impacts on industry would differ according to business size i.e., whether small and micro businesses are likely to be disproportionately affected.

Additional questions

36. Apart from a ban, are there any other approaches that government should consider?
Please provide any evidence in support of your recommended approach.

37. Is there anything else you would like to tell us relating to the proposed ban on the supply of single-use plastic plates, cutlery, balloon sticks and food and beverage containers made out of EPS?

Consultee feedback on the online survey

Thank you for taking your time to participate in this online survey. It would be appreciated, if you can provide us with an insight into how you view the tool and the area(s) you feel is in need of improvement, by completing our feedback questionnaire.

Overall, how satisfied are you with our online consultation tool?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know

Please give us any comments you have on the tool, including suggestions on how we could improve it.