

Chichester District Council

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

19 November 2019

Reducing Single Use Plastics – Monitoring and Review

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Committee note the progress on the Council's Single Use Plastics Action Plan.

3. Background

- 3.1 Single-Use Plastics (SUPs) have been an area of growing public concern due to their persistence in the environment, particularly when littering or other mis-disposal leads to them entering our seas. Alternatives that are reusable or not made of plastics are increasingly available. In May 2018, the Council resolved to produce a report and action plan aimed at continuing the reduction in single-use plastics used in Council premises and that minimises their usage across the District.
- 3.2 A SUPs action plan was produced which focusses on phasing out of SUPs from Council premises (admin buildings); reducing their use by local residents and businesses through awareness raising and promotion of alternatives; and support for local community groups working towards making Chichester District and its coastline a SUP free area.
- 3.3 The action plan was approved by Cabinet in October 2018 and it was agreed that the implementation of the action plan would be monitored and reviewed annually. This report represents the review of the plan.
- 3.4 The action plan is included in Appendix 1 but with an additional column to detail progress on the actions within the plan.
- 3.5 Key successes so far include:
 - Reducing single use plastic use in Council buildings, including removing plastic cups and milk pots, sourcing plastic free tea bags and desk wipes;
 - Installing a REFILL (www.refill.org.uk) station in the main reception at East Pallant House for the refilling of reusable water bottles;

- Waste bins have been reduced in Council offices and replaced with recycling bins;
- A series of briefings have been held for all staff to encourage them to reduce their use of SUPs and ensure they are recycled where appropriate;
- Refillable drinking glasses and water bottles were provided to staff where required;
- The staff network of Green Champions has been resumed to communicate messages on reducing the use of SUPs across teams and services;
- Crisp packet collection points have been set up across the Council for recycling by Terracycle, also collections for pens and batteries;
- Messages on reducing SUPs has been included on CDC's social media and an article has been included in Initiatives Winter edition;
- One of the Green Champions is writing weekly green tips on our intranet/workplace to remind staff of key messages and another Green Champion promoted their Plastic Free September Challenge;
- CDC supported the launch of the Chichester REFILL Scheme by Transition Chichester. REFILL is an APP for smartphones which lets you know the nearest place where you can refill a reusable water bottle;
- The use of Chinese lanterns and balloon releases has been restricted at events on CDC land;
- Engaged with Final Straw Solent, a community group originating in Emsworth, which work with communities and businesses across the Solent to minimise the amount of plastic entering our oceans (www.finalstrawsolent.org);
- Senior Business Waste and Recycling Officer appointed September 2019 who will deliver programme of targeted work focused on helping businesses to minimise both the financial and environmental impact of their waste.

3.6 There has been some stalling regarding the delivery of the SUPs action plan since the summer following the Climate Emergency Declaration, as that has become a priority for the Environmental Strategy team. However work on SUPs will be reinvigorated in the new year following the completion of some key work under the climate change agenda

4. Other Implications

	Yes	No
Crime and Disorder		X
Climate Change and Biodiversity Beneficial impact on wildlife, both terrestrial and marine from reducing SUPS	X	
Human Rights and Equality Impact		X
Safeguarding and Early Help		X
General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) Planned actions do require the gathering of personal or sensitive data.		X
Health and Wellbeing		X
Other (please specify) N/a		X

5. Appendix

Appendix 1 – SUPs Action Plan Monitoring Report

6. Background Papers

None