

City of Lincoln Council actions to support the plastic free Lincoln campaign

The following table outlines how the council are supporting the campaign towards plastic free community status for Lincoln:

OBJECTIVE 1 LOCAL GOVERNANCE	
Your local council makes a resolution supporting the journey to Plastic Free Community status	
Requirements to achieve objective 1	Council Actions
Council to work with Plastic Free Community leaders on the motion or resolution supporting Plastic Free Communities	<p>Cllr Bushel, Cllr Preston and Cllr Metcalfe met with Plastic Free Community Leaders in July 2019 to discuss the issues and opportunities for actions the council could take to promote the reduction of single use plastic.</p> <p>A Single use, Plastic free motion was passed by Full Council on the 24th September 2019.</p> <p>https://www.lincoln.gov.uk/downloads/file/808/single-use-plastic-notice-of-motion</p> <p>Cllrs and officers attend the Plastic Free Lincoln (PFL) quarterly steering group meetings and are in regular communication with PFL community leaders</p> <p>Steering group meetings were less frequent during 2020 due to Covid. However regular meetings have commenced during 2021.</p> <p>Communication through the Plastic Free Lincoln social media has remained active throughout 2020/21.</p>
Council must lead by example to remove single-use plastic items from their premises and council events.	<p>A plastic free audit to review where single use plastic items are still in use within CoLC buildings and services and identify replacements was completed in September 2019 and reviewed in September 2020. Next review will take place in Sept 2021. The majority of SUP has been removed from Council premises and will be removed from council events in 2021. There remains a small number of items, provided by contractors, that we are working on resolving. For example plastic plant pots used by Continental Landscapes for annual plants in council parks and gardens.</p> <p>As public events did not take place during 2020 this has not yet been put to the test to establish the extent to which it is possible to remove all SUPs.</p> <p>Christmas Market 2019 - A letter was sent to stall holders requesting that they make every effort to abscond from using single</p>

use plastic for all food service. Disposables and serve ware – including straws and hot drink lids – should ideally be made from biodegradable materials such as paper, card, wood or leaves and be fully compostable. For all traders who provide plastic bags for customers, they are asked to consider replacing them with a non-plastic or reusable alternative.

Christmas Market December 2020 –

The council adopted a Christmas Market Environment Policy (March 2020) to enforce a limit of single use plastic.

<https://www.lincoln.gov.uk/downloads/download/145/environmental-policies>

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) has introduced a new law, as of July 2020 the supply of single-use plastic straws, cotton buds, and drink stirrers in England has been banned, except for exempt uses.¹

The Government will launch the consultation this Autumn, seeking views on what single-use items should and can be banned in England. The Government will consult on whether items such as single-use plastic plates, cutlery and polystyrene cups could join the list of single-use items that have already been banned.

Due to Covid 19 Pandemic the 2020 Christmas market has been cancelled and the events team furloughed.

Christmas Market 2021 – to require stall holders, in line with the Council's Environmental Policy Statement to replace single use plastic items with non plastic, biodegradable or recyclable materials wherever possible.

To review contracts with suppliers of goods and services to the council to identify where SUP are in use and where there is a viable alternative request that SUPs are eliminated. The council will aim to eliminate SUP from the supply chain wherever possible by 2022.

Lincoln 10k event –

The Council have been planning the Lincoln 10k event which is due to take place on the 31st of October 2021. At previous events an estimated 10 000 bottles of water have been provided for runners.

In 2021 the Council are committed to significantly reducing single use plastics at the event with the following measures:-

CUPS AND WATER / FUEL

¹ [Straws, cotton buds and drink stirrers ban: rules for businesses in England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/straws-cotton-buds-and-drink-stirrers-ban-rules-for-businesses-in-england)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using paper cups allows better distribution of fluid across the course and decreases wastage. There was a huge wastage of liquid when using 500ml bottles of energy drinks and 330ml bottles of water, where runners would take a few sips and then discard the bottle. • Paper cups are much easier to collect than plastic bottles. The clean-up operation is essential for the permission of the event. To receive an event licence the city needs to be given back to the community as quickly as possible after runners have passed along the route. • To ensure that runners are rehydrated as quickly as possible plastic water bottles will be provided in the finisher 'goody bags' for the 2021 event and this will be reviewed for future years.
<p>Council to encourage plastic-free initiatives, promoting the campaign and supporting events.</p>	<p>Due to covid Pandemic restrictions there has been fewer in person events during 2021, with a lot more online events taking place.</p> <p>The following are an example of the type of events throughout the year:-</p> <p>Saturday 16th May 2021 Community Litter Pick</p> <p>22nd May – Coverage of Plastic free Lincoln on Look North</p> <p>26th June 2021 PFL attended the Soul Escape festival to talk to people about reducing plastic.</p> <p>Plastic Free July Challenge</p> <p>15th July Lincoln eco Pantry and PFL talking about plastic free periods via Zoom.</p> <p>Thursday 27th July – Zoom room event talking about plastic free homes.</p> <p>However the plastic free Lincoln facebook page and CoLC Social media</p> <p>Lincoln Social Responsibility Charter – a commitment to plastic free initiatives and reduction in Single Use Plastics has been added to the Social Responsibility Charter for businesses.</p> <p>Councillor Involvement - To build on councillors' existing environmental work such as the litter picks to further encourage these activities throughout the city.</p> <p>Increase the supply of free drinking water in the city centre - A water refill station will be installed in the central market in 2021. City to Sea refill app provides information on where the nearest refill facilities are – currently showing 49 in Lincoln (as of June 2020) https://refill.org.uk/get-the-refill-app/</p> <p>Communication –</p> <p>Further Information about plastic free Lincoln is provided on the City Council's website</p>

	<p>https://www.lincoln.gov.uk/environmental-issues/green-sustainable-living-1/5?documentId=346&categoryId=90</p> <p>Promotion of plastic free Lincoln campaign have been included in the Your Lincoln magazine.</p>
<p>A representative of the council must be named on the Plastic Free Community steering group.</p>	<p>Cllr Preston and Rebecca Taylor, Small Business Support Officer attend the Plastic Free Community steering group and provide a venue for face to face meetings free of charge at the Terrace.</p>