

**NOTICE OF MOTION****GREEN GROUP****UNNECESSARY SINGLE-USE PLASTICS**

This Council resolves to:

Request that a report be brought to Policy, Resources and Growth Committee on the options for bringing an end to the use of unnecessary Single Use Plastics (SUP) in Brighton and Hove, taking account of the following measures to:

- a) enable Brighton and Hove City Council to become a full signatory of the 'Plastic Free Pledge', by phasing out the use of unnecessary SUPs in all City Council buildings, and working with commissioning partners to end the purchase and procurement of SUPs through the BHCC supply chain;
- b) encourage the city's businesses, organisations and residents to go 'plastic free,' working with best practice partners in the city to explore the creation of a 'plastic free network,' that could provide business support, practical guidelines and advice to help local businesses transition from SUPs to sustainable alternatives;
- c) to incentivise traders on Council land to sell re-usable containers and invite customers to bring their own, with the aim of phasing out SUPs; including investigating the possibility of requiring food and drink vendors to avoid SUPs as a condition of their event permission, strengthening the existing Sustainable Event Commitment Form and guidance circulated to exhibitors and traders

Proposed by: Cllr Mac Cafferty

Seconded: Cllr Littman

**Supporting Information**

There is a need to be aware of the damaging impact that Single Use Plastics (SUP) have on both our environment and public health, recognising that as a coastal city (and also a designated Biosphere), Brighton and Hove has a key role to play in reducing plastic waste.

(1) Unnecessary (*i.e. excluding medical items*) Single-Use Plastics (SUP) used once before disposal e.g. bottles, cups and straws, are not widely recycled. Studies from Columbia University show SUPs can take up to 600 years to degrade, breaking into fragments that cause damage to the environment and permeate the food chain.

Recent studies found that 72% of U.K tap water samples were contaminated with plastic fibres, and a third of all fish caught off the British coast contained plastic.

(2) The Plastic Free Pledge encourages organisations and individuals to reduce SUP waste <https://plasticfreepledge.com/> A petition calling on the Council to issue guidelines to local businesses on plastic reduction is here: <http://bit.ly/2gtwqFC> and a petition calling on Government to reduce and end SUPs here: <http://bit.ly/2xSFLhs>

(3) Several trailblazing businesses and organisations in Brighton and Hove have already implemented plastic free alternatives, such as Brighton Catering Supplies, Silo, HisBe supermarket and The Tempest Inn. In particular, 56 venues in Brighton and Hove have pledged to limit or remove many SUPs, such as plastic straws.

