

Record of Delegated Executive Decision(s)

1. Subject of decision

North Tyneside Council Response to the Government Consultation on proposals to ban commonly littered single-use plastic.

2. Name and Title of Decision Maker

Cllr Sandra Graham, Cabinet Member for Environment.

3. Details of any Conflict of Interest and any Dispensation granted in respect of such Interest

None.

4. Executive summary

The purpose of this Government 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. Government 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.

Government is planning to take 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 was in the top 15 most littered items by count in Defra's 2020 Litter Composition Report.

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.

5. Alternative Options considered

To decline from submitting a response to the Government's consultation.

6. Decision(s)

The Cabinet Member for Environment has decided that a response to the consultation be submitted and approved the proposed course of action set out at section 1.2 of the report to allow the response to be submitted.

7. Reasons for the Decision(s)

By providing a response to the consultation, the Authority can directly lobby Government on the implementation of forthcoming waste policies.

8. Date Decision Made

27 January 2022

9. Is this decision subject to call-in and if so expiry date of call-in period

Yes, the call-in period expires at 5pm on the 8 February 2022

10. Date of Publication

1 February 2022

11. Implementation Date (if decision not called in)

After 5pm on 8 February 2022