

Single Use Plastic Reduction Action Plan

Queen's University Belfast is committed to undertaking steps needed to eliminate the use of unnecessary single-use plastics on campus.

Overall Aim

Reduce and eliminate avoidable single use plastic on campus.

Responsibility

Responsibility for delivery of this plan is shared between Estates Directorate and Campus Food and Drink.

Key Actions

- Meet regularly with the Single Use Plastics Working Group with staff and student representatives from across the University.
- Measure and report on the University's overall waste performance. This will include reporting on waste reduced, reused, recycled and recovered.
- Audit and evaluate to enable mapping of single use plastics across the University to be undertaken.
- Identify opportunities for reducing single use plastic by undertaking audits in the following key areas: Laboratories, Catering, Commercial Premises and Offices.
- Liaise with stakeholders to share and learn best practice.
- Review audit, determine key actions and implement to further reduce plastic waste. This includes determining where plastic use is unavoidable and replace with sustainable alternatives. Collaboration with procurement and suppliers will be undertaken to achieve this.
- Continue to encourage staff and students to remove plastics waste and litter from the local environment via opportunities such as Spring/Autumn Clean Up.
- Awareness raising surrounding the impacts of single use plastics to students and staff will continue to take place via Queen's annual campaigns, engagement programs and via communication channels: social media, newsletters, campaigns.

Date of Issue: November 2019

Review Date: November 2027 (last reviewed 2025)