

## **Agreed Council Motion, December 2017**

“Council notes:

- There are significant environmental problems with disposing of single use plastics, which release toxic chemicals when they break down, are a non-recyclable material and therefore a waste of energy and economic value, and also contribute significantly to waterway litter in York, which can then contribute to long lasting plastic pollution on beaches and in the marine environment.
- The harmful effects this has on marine life and the increased amount of plastic entering the food chain.
- Existing initiatives aimed at reducing the numbers of single use disposable coffee cups being used for take-away drinks, such as the ‘Freiburg cup’ and the York manufactured ‘iamreusable’ cup.

Council therefore:

- Requests the appropriate Scrutiny Committee to consider the merits of undertaking a scrutiny review in order to investigate the council’s use of single use plastics in its buildings etc. and through its procurement arrangements, and how the behaviour of others may be influenced in relation to this particular form of pollution in support of the coalition’s broader environmental policies. Options to reduce the use of single-use disposable cups in York should include working with Make it York (possibly via its new service level agreement with the Council) and the York BID to reduce waste and tackle litter and rubbish collection challenges within the city centre.”

## **Economy and Place Policy Development Committee**

March 2018

The Chair referred Members to the agreed Council motion regarding the disposal of single use plastics. It was agreed that a task group be set up

to undertake a policy development review of the Council's use of single use plastics, and how the Council might influence its use by others.

The committee resolved:

A Task Group be formed to undertake a Policy Development Review of 'The Use of Single Use Plastics'

However, in subsequent discussion with officers it became clear that this topic should have been considered by the CSMC as it about developing the Council's procurement policy on plastic goods.

The Council motion and topic suggestion has therefore been added to CSMC's June discussions around their work plan for the coming year.