

OUR PLEDGE

To reduce single-use plastic consumption

Why does this matter?

Since the 1950s it's estimated that **8.3 billion** tonnes of plastic has been produced

causing significant environmental damage, especially by unnecessary single-use plastic. The Government has launched the 25 Year Environment Plan which has pledged to eliminate all avoidable plastic waste by 2042. As a result, they have introduced measures such as:

-  Abolishing plastic straws.
-  Abolishing carrier bags.
-  Abolishing food packaging.
-  5p carrier bag charge all English retailers.

NHS Property Services has committed to minimising our negative environmental impacts through waste management as part of our corporate social responsibility strategy. It is of upmost importance to us to contribute to the reduction in single-use plastic.

Where are we now?



City of London 'Plastic Free City' campaign

The City of London has launched a 'Plastic Free City' campaign to encourage all businesses within the square mile to reduce their use of unnecessary single-use plastic, so **we have pledged our support to this campaign on behalf of our occupancy at our Head Office at 99 Gresham Street.**

We have currently joined at an entry-level by meeting four of the eleven required actions:

-  No plastic straws provided onsite.
-  No single-use plastic cutlery provided onsite.
-  No single-use plastic cups provided onsite.
-  Readily available tap water for all.

What is our goal?

Our goal is to eliminate the use of single-use plastic within NHS Property Services wherever possible.

How are we going to get there?

Our first initiative is to elaborate on the campaign actions we have already met by:

Discouraging the use of **unnecessary single-use plastic** being bought on site by employees and instead, encourage the use of **available alternatives**

Simultaneously, we are developing new initiatives to increase our reduction efforts and meet more of the actions. These include:



Switching to low/zero plastic cleaning products



Providing ample reusable cups for hot and cold drinks



Removing all single use coffee pods



Introducing a stationery recycling scheme

We are also meeting with our property's facility manager to work together on how we can achieve these. For example:

Purchasing a **coffee machine** to eliminate the need for single coffee sachets 0000



Stockport office adopting campaign initiatives

We are also adopting this campaign in our Stockport office as our second largest hub, and will look to adopt this more widely in our other hubs across England.

Top Tips: How you can reduce your single use plastic consumption

- If you buy lunch, use cutlery provided in office kitchens or bring your own from home instead of getting plastic cutlery.
- Use a reusable water bottle and coffee cup.
- Have a reusable bag available so that you can say 'no' to plastic carrier bags.
- Put any recyclable plastic such as food packaging into the appropriate recycling bin.
- Avoid using straws unnecessarily when out and about.