

A COMMUNITY CALL TO

#ENDPLASTICPOLLUTION

Communities in the UK are counting on you to bring about a strong, legally binding Global Plastics Treaty. Here are their messages to you.



THE
PEOPLE
VS. **PLASTIC**

WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT AN AMBITIOUS GLOBAL PLASTICS TREATY IS AGREED?

PLASTIC FREE COMMUNITIES: BUSINESS, COUNCILS, SCHOOLS, VOLUNTEERS COMING TOGETHER TO RID THEIR WHOLE TOWNS AND CITIES FROM PLASTIC POLLUTION.

Rachel Yates, Lead for Plastic Free Penzance and Senior Communities Manager

We cannot keep producing, consuming and throwing away, thinking that it's okay. We all need to step up and start taking responsibility for plastic pollution. As communities and individuals we are doing what we can in our spheres of influence, including trying not to use single-use plastic. But the system needs to catch up with us. Producers and governments need to take responsibility and stop the production of single use plastic as well as enable alternative systems. To do that we need governments to stand up for what's right, not just for people but for the planet. It's time to find new ways forward in order to create a thriving future, for all living beings.

Emma Young, Lead for Plastic Free Thornbury

The Global Plastics Treaty is an important line in the sand to say we as a planet will no longer accept plastic to rule our lives. Along with many other members of the United Nations the UK must ensure that every part of the plastic lifecycle is limited and eventually plastic is phased out. The plastic that has been produced in the past remains with us and the planet far into the future. Let us accept our failure in creating it and move forward together to stop making it.

Jenny, Co-lead for Plastic Free Newbury and Thatcham

The Newbury Corn exchange, are spreading the message and leading plastic reduction, saving 1000s of pieces of single use plastic a year. At the last count, all our champions remove over 100,000 pieces of single use plastic from the environment each year! THAT's pretty incredible. If communities can do it, so can world leaders.

Greg Hewitt, Lead for Plastic Free Sheffield

Plastic pollution continues to litter our environment and waterways whilst big oil plastic producers want to triple production. This cannot be the future. I have been campaigning for 6 years now to reduce single-use plastics and plastic pollution but the brands keep on producing it and the situation is worse. The public are fed up of it. We want action on plastic. All eyes will be watching the Treaty negotiations. I'm determined to keep fighting, and so much so I'm organising a national Plastic Free Gathering in September, to hold the UK to account on what comes next. Please ensure that words transform into meaningful action.

Debbie Apted, Lead for Plastic Free Weston-Super-Mare

We need a strong and legally binding plastics treaty to expose and curb corporate lobbyists, especially from major polluting brands identified in the UK and beyond. The public are fed up of endless litter and single-use plastic, and it's now time for change and an end to greenwashing. Our planet's future depends on accountability globally and removing the need for virgin plastic.

Marion Montgomery, Lead for Plastic Free Stonehaven

I want to see real action against the producers of the huge amount of plastic packaging, for tighter restrictions against 'new' things entering the market to avoid the future carnages caused by allowing things like single use vapes to be put on sale to the public. In Stonehaven we run monthly beach cleans & have 14 accredited Plastic Free Champion Businesses including 3 Silver Champions.

Lindsey Newberry, Lead for Plastic Free Bembridge

Picture this: a seal entangled in plastic facing an early, painful death; ultimately ecosystem destruction. There are beaches in Asia drowning in plastic and plastic is in every corner of the earth and in us. It's a massive greenhouse gas emitter choking our natural world and us. One opportunity now to turn the tide on plastic pollution, please don't fail us.

Carol Febry, Lead for Plastic Free Cheltenham

We need to take a stand against the production of single-use plastics. It's compounding an already dire plastic pollution problem, which is killing our wildlife, damaging human health and contributing to climate change. To do this we need politicians to take urgent action.

Daniel Fredriksson, Lead for Plastic Free Saltburn

A Plastic Treaty is a really important start to getting to grips with the global plastic pollution problem. The science is clear, plastic pollution is choking our natural world, choking our rivers and seas and is harming people everywhere. We want a time-bound, legally enforceable reduction in plastic production!

Oliver Sterno, SAS Volunteer and Ex-Plastic Free Community Lead

It will require government power across the whole Planet to encourage and persuade such companies to develop more compliant ways forward. Unless this is achieved imminently, there is every likelihood that resistance to the advances towards the catastrophe awaiting us all will be ineffectual.



REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES: A UNITED COMMUNITY OF VOLUNTEERS ACROSS THE UK TAKING ACTION TO DEFEND OUR OCEAN FROM PLASTIC POLLUTION

Ruby George, Regional Representative for Wales

Living on the coast and working as a marine ecologist, I see the damage plastic causes every day. I've seen catsharks and seabirds caught in discarded fishing gear, and I've been swimming while plastic pollution floats around me. Ending plastic pollution is essential to protect our ocean and the people who rely on it.

Lydia Darby, Regional Representative for London

From micro plastics in human blood and our food chain, to plastic pollution on our beaches, we need to turn the taps off on plastic waste for the good of human, animal and ecological health. The world can't continue with business as usual. It's time for a treaty on meaningful change.

Charlie Allanson-Oddy Regional Representative for Scotland

Plastic pollution presents one of the biggest threats to ALL life on earth. With increasing evidence of micro-plastics found everywhere from the deepest oceans, our atmosphere and human blood, we risk becoming choked by our greed for profit driven plastic use which is delusional in its essence.

Fran Chorlton and Clare Osborn, SAS Volunteers and family of the late Claire Summers

The fight against plastic pollution is far from over. As we commemorate Regional Representative Claire Summers - who was an absolute force for reducing plastics in the community, cleaning the beaches and educating the next generation - we are raising our voices to demand that the UK government lead by example and put an end to plastic pollution for good. We will also be providing valuable data from our beach cleans to hold corporations and polluters to account.

Chani Courtney, Regional Representative Isle of Wight

Plastic is an addition that is harming everything from the soil, our bodies and most importantly the sea. My children litter pick and find fishing gear, plastic food wrapping and bottle tops before we get to sit by a rock pool and see the wavy tentacles of a beadlet anemone and a see through prawn. The individual is not the only solution, systemic change must happen at the world wide level. You have so much power, be brave and bold for tomorrow only exists if you choose action.

Marcus Kern, Regional Representative for Devon

We die, plastic doesn't. Long after we're gone plastic will circle this world; poisoning rivers, seas, mountains and every eco system on earth. Most plastics cannot be recycled. We're desperately repeating the myth of reusing plastics to each other to escape the horror of the pointless pollution of earth, our home.

Paul Ayling, Regional Representative for the South Coast

Plastic is the scourge of our oceans. Its production is at terrifying levels and increasing by the day. Already traces of plastic are found in the majority of living organisms, including humans. Where will this end? Plastic is a toxic substance that creeps insidiously into everything it touches. We must turn the tide of its proliferation, every living thing in our environment is at risk.

Lucy Jones, Regional Representative for Porthcawl

I'm tired of seeing our beautiful coastlines polluted with plastic waste. This isn't just about litter - it's about protecting marine life, preserving nature for future generations, and demanding real change from industries and governments. Every piece of plastic we remove and every voice raised is a step towards a cleaner, healthier planet.

Fi O'Connor, Regional Representative for Kent

Research is now proving what I long suspected. Microplastics are effecting pre natal development. The endocrine system has not evolved to cope with plastic. Plastic pollution must stop.

Ally Elly Regional Representative for the North East

A global plastic treaty is vital as this crisis touches us all. I've been to too many beaches where waves carry more plastic than shells. I think of my children growing up in a world where nature is poisoned. We owe it to them and ourselves to stop this tide before it drowns us.

PLASTIC FREE SCHOOLS: USING PUPIL POWER PUPILS TO ELIMINATE SINGLE USE PLASTICS FROM THEIR SCHOOLS

Paul, Cadets Vocational College, Plastic Free School

I didn't know the amount of rubbish and plastic in our nations oceans and rivers. It was shocking that people are getting sick by trying to enjoy the British coastline due to our own bad habits.

Leo, Stratton Primary, Plastic Free School

Can we stop pollution because it ruins the lives of different animals and if you eat those animals you will have the plastic inside you!!!

Nisha, Cadets Vocational College, Plastic Free School

Before ocean school, I didn't really have much knowledge on the effects we have on our oceans but now I am more aware and more inspired to make a difference around me to try stop as much rubbish being thrown into the ocean.

Trinity St Peter's C.E. Primary, Plastic Free School

The Plastic Free Schools programme has helped to raise awareness of the environment across the school in both children and adults. The children have written letters to major polluting companies, lobbied local MPs, and visited the Houses of Parliament to deliver letters to the government asking for action on plastic pollution. Give them this wish.

Katie, SAS Ocean School

Plastic is destroying our oceans and will eventually destroy us - we need you to do something about it now.

Oli, SAS Ocean School

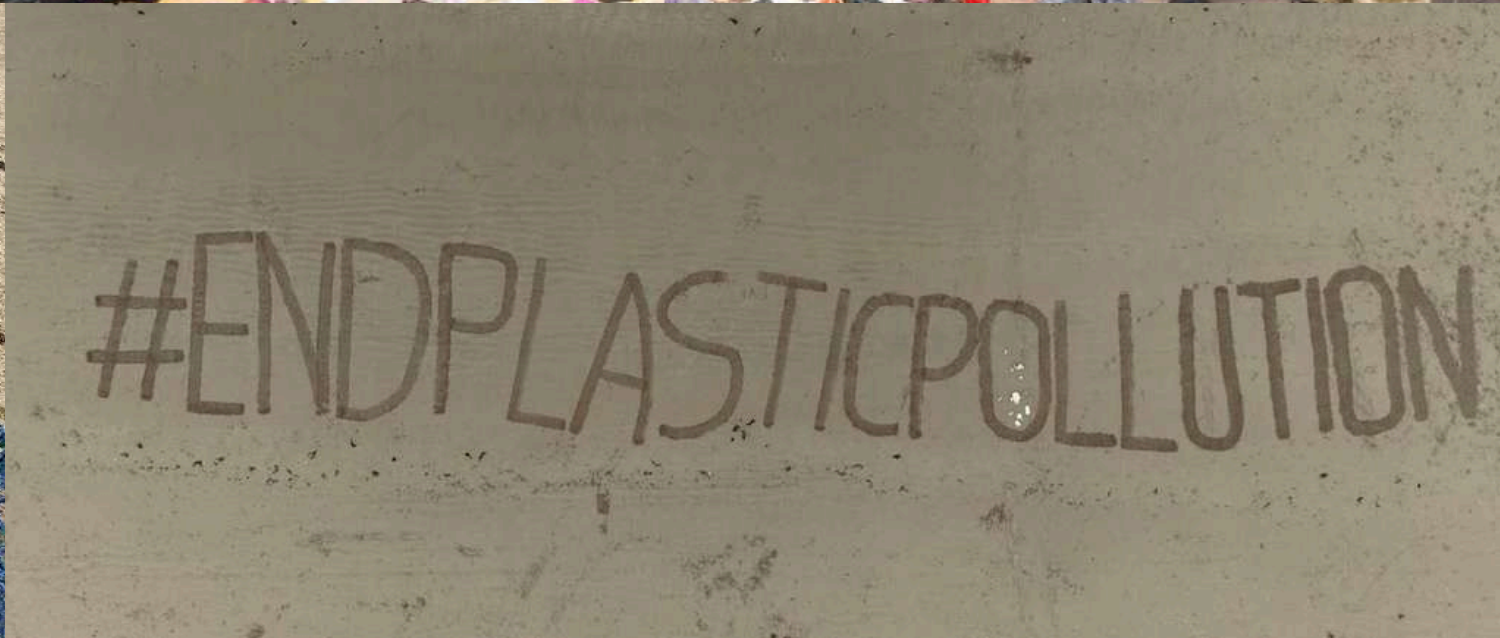
Our Ocean looks really clean from the outside but it's not until you actually go looking that you find everything else that's under the surface like little bits of plastic that are here. They fall into the oceans and they've got all of these little bits of plastic which could be then consumed by fish and birds. This is what's destroying our oceans and it will eventually destroy us we need to actually start doing something. Without any other wildlife in the ocean it's completely over.

THE PEOPLE VS PLASTIC HAVE SPOKEN. **IT'S TIME TO ACT.**

A Global Plastics Treaty (GPT) is our best opportunity to #EndPlasticPollution for good. You **MUST** support a legally binding international agreement that:

- 1) Cuts plastic production
- 2) Bans harmful chemicals
- 3) Enforces better product design
- 4) Phases out single-use plastics
- 5) Funds clean-up initiatives







Surfers Against Sewage
Unit 2, Wheal Kitty Workshops, St Agnes, TR5 0RD

Email: info@sas.org.uk | Telephone: 01872 553 001 | www.sas.org.uk

 facebook.com/SurfersAgainstSewage

 instagram.com/SurfersAgainstSewage

 twitter.com/sascampaigns

COMPANY REGISTERED NUMBER: 02920815 | CHARITY REGISTERED NUMBER: 1145877