

Plastic pollution

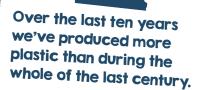
The facts

Every day, in the UK alone, we use over 15 million single-use plastic bottles.



Most plastic bottles put in the recycling bin aren't actually 'recycled'. Instead, they're downcycled into items like clothing and carpets.

Virtually every single piece of plastic ever made exists in some form on this planet.



Plastic constitutes approximately 90% of all the rubbish floating in the oceans, with 46,000 pieces of plastic per square mile.

When clothing that contains plastic (e.g. a garment made from polyester) is washed thousands of micro-fibres are released. These are too small to be filtered by the washing machines or water treatment works and end up in our oceans.



More than 40% of plastic is used just once before it's thrown away

Of the estimated 13 billion plastic bottles used in the UK every year, only around 3 billion are put in the recycling bin.

The UK bottled water market is worth over £2.1 billion



Approximately a truck load of plastic waste enters our oceans every minute.



Tap water is actually more thoroughly regulated than bottled water.