# Preventing Plastic Pollution Project IMMERSE Project 5th Teel

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#### Introduction

- ...
- ...
- ...
- Plastics and sustainability team
- Project area
- Project partners
- Enabling transformational change from first use to end of life
- Reducing and removing the legacy of plastic pollution
- Understanding plastic pollution from source to sea
- Communication
- Questions





## Plastic can be fantastic















## Why be concerned?

What's the big deal with plastic?

- Approximately 12 million tonnes enters the ocean annually
- 50% of plastic is used for single-use products
- Every piece of plastic ever made still
   exists (unless burnt, contributing to CO<sub>2</sub>)











## Why be concerned?

What's the big deal with plastic?









\*New risks may be emerging from micro-plastics and chemicals introduced into the air we breathe, the water we drink and food we eat.









## Plastics and climate change

- Most plastic is made from fossil fuels
  - Non-renewable
  - Important carbon stores
- Plastics share of global oil consumption
  - o 20% by 2050
  - Up from 6% in 2014
  - Move towards renewable energy sources e.g. wind, solar











## **UK Government and policy**

What has been done?

- Ban on microbeads in rinse-off personal care products
- Ban on plastic straws, stirrers and cotton buds
- Charge on single-use plastic bags
- Upcoming ban on single-use plastic plates, cutlery, balloon sticks and expanded & extruded polystyrene food and drink containers











## Government and policy

#### The future

- Plastic packaging tax
- Deposit Return Scheme
- Extended Producer Responsibility schemes
- Consistency in household and business recycling in England
- More single-use items to be banned



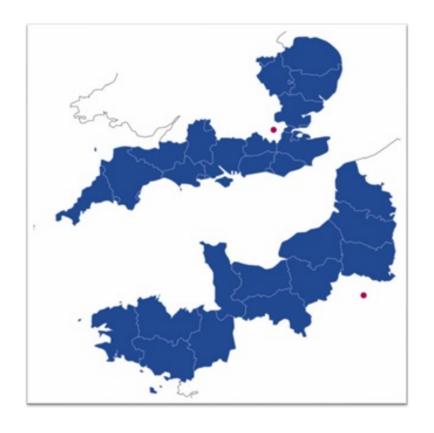








## **Project area**



#### Catchment

Tamar

Poole Harbour

Test and Itchen

East Hampshire

Medway

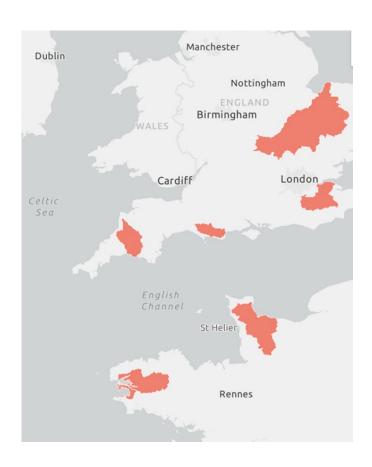
**Great Ouse** 

Baie de

Douarnenez

Rade de Brest

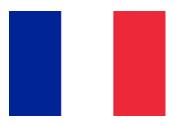
Baie des Veys











#### **Partners**



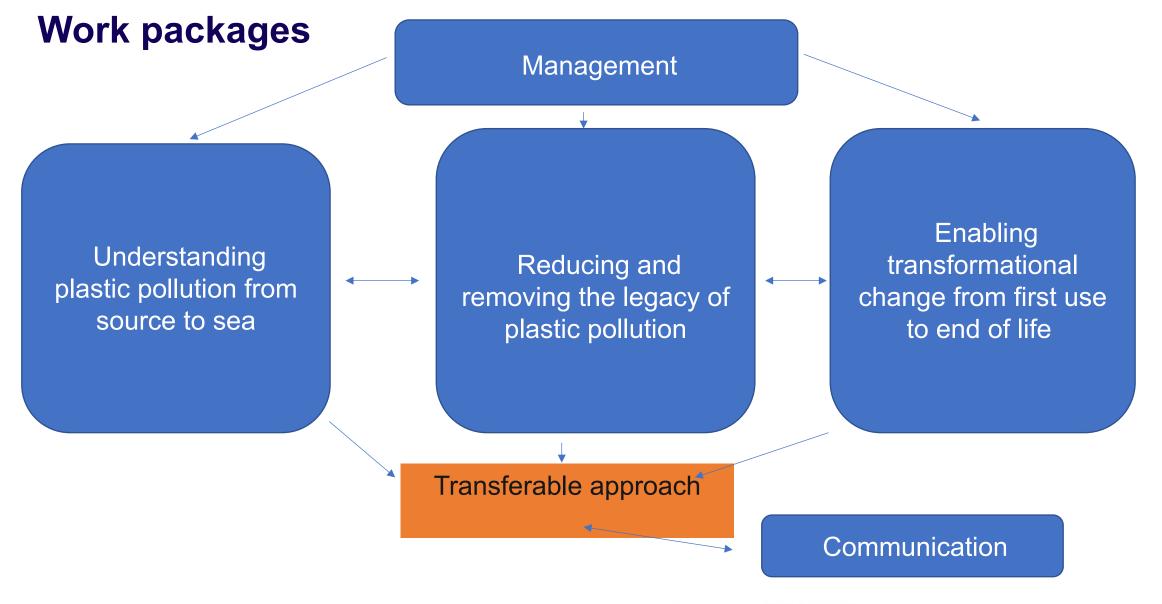




















## Business and retail engagement approaches

- Visits
- Webinars
- Business networks
- Training course
- Exhibitions
- Conferences
- Newsletters
- Resources
- Case studies
- Charters
- Business directory
- Activities
- Collaboration













#### Resources

- Waste audit tool
- Packaging guidance
- Guide on setting up a plastic champion network
- Webinar recordings
- Sector specific advice
- Posters on the 5Rs
- Case studies

















## **Agriculture and fishing**

#### Agriculture

- Farmer behavioural research
- Treeguard recycling
- County shows
- Agricultural events
- Waste management advice leaflet
- Training staff

#### Fishing

- Guidance for ports and harbour masters
- Fishing charter
- Angling shop charter sign-up















### **Key recommendations**

- Tailored support
- Relevant expertise and professional networks
- Partnerships and collaborations
- Existing support and certification opportunities
- Resources and tools
- National and cross-border engagement
- Explain business benefits













## **Business and retail in figures...**

215

Businesses signed up to a plastic reduction commitment

383

Businesses supported through training, events and workshops

16

Training materials produced





#### **Tourism and leisure resources**

### Kicking plastic out of sport

- Leaflets and guidance for sports clubs and venues
- Social media pack for Plastic Free July
- Event protocol
- Campsite guidance















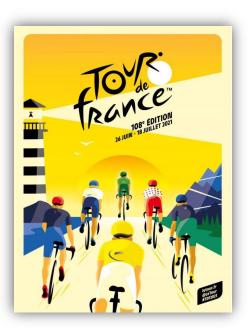


#### **Events**

Great Britain Sail Grand Prix Plymouth 2022



Tour de France Saint-Nic 2021



DEFRA Sports Day London 2022







#### **Education resources**

- Resources for land-based colleges
- Module for Young Farmers Club
- Bound for Beijing snakes and ladders game
- Interactive catchment map
- Analysis of approaches used to transform schools
- Plastic at home
- Catchment model









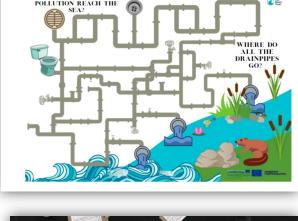


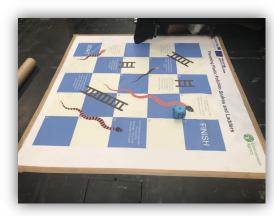


#### **Education resources**

- Snakes and ladders game
- Virtual reality headsets
- Plastic free bingo
- Lesson plans
- Activity sheets
- Films
- Factsheets
- Quizzes

















#### **Education events**

#### Over 470 events, including:

- Big Bang Fair
- World Ocean Day kids' conference
- Live online webinars
- Retention net activity
- Theatre production
- Young reporters in the arts, sciences and environment event











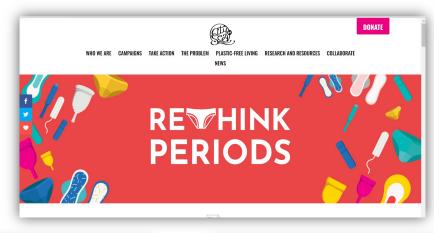






### **Education and schools plastic reduction commitments**

- Cross-border network
- Rethink Period training for schools
- Green Edge Award















#### **Communities resources**

- Waste reduction kits
- Litter picking kits
- Guidance documents















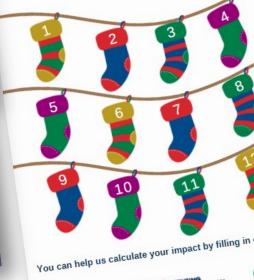
## Resources





## Christmas Plastics and Carbon Challenge

Click on a stocking each day to find out how to reduce your pi and carbon footprint, starting Thursday 1 December 2022



Interreg

## **Equipment installed**

- Cigarette voting bins
- Drain plaques
- Information signs















## **Sculptures & artwork**

The Waste Whale Plymouth



Artworks exhibition: Waste of our time Plymouth



Waste salmon sculpture Elorn











### **Events**

#### Science festival Brest 2020



## World Environment Day Portsmouth 2022











## **Plastic champions**

- Volunteers from 40 different UK governments departments and agencies
- Inspire behavioural change
- Physical and virtual resources
- Litter removed from the environment
- Thousands of single-use plastic items avoided
- LABOCEA started their own network















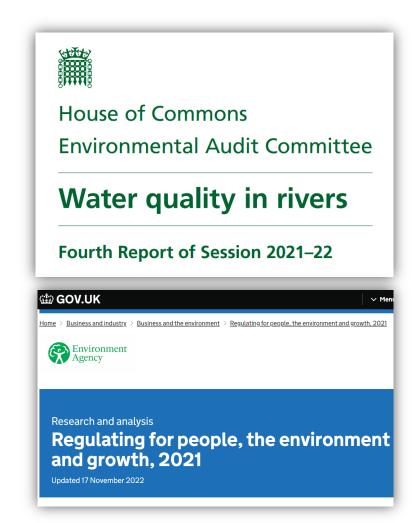
## Influencing government policy

#### Direct engagement with government officials

- EU One Ocean Summit
- DEFRA, EA, PHE and IUCN
- Treeguard recycling

#### **Contributions to government report**

- Transformation of plastics regulation and parliamentary report
- Regulating for people, the environment and growth reports
- State of the environment report
- Environmental audit committee's report on water quality in rivers











## Influencing policy

#### Governance

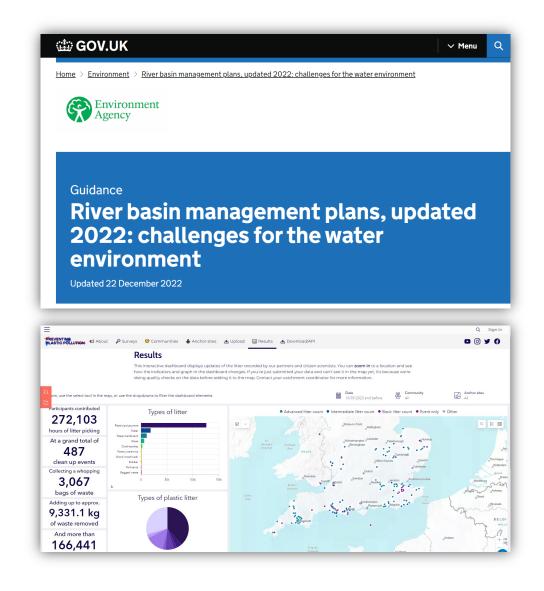
- River basin management plans
- Catchment based approach policy framework

# Development of platforms to inform future policy decisions

- Citizen science hub
- Risk mapping methodology

#### Policy and regulation guidance documents

Agricultural plastics











## Influencing policy

## Contributions to government Consultations

- Proposals to ban commonly littered
- single-use plastic items

#### Influential communication channels

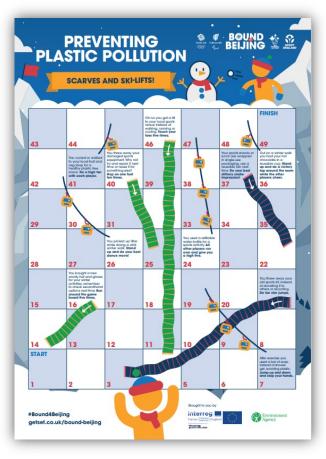
- State of our Rivers report 2021
- Plastic Champions Network

#### PPP on a global stage

- COP 26
- Olympics













# Reducing and removing the legacy of plastic pollution

- Testing of retention nets and traps
- Drain signs

















## Reducing and removing the legacy of plastic pollution

- Clean-up of beaches and coasts
- 94 tonnes removed
- 1,200 volunteers























# Reducing and removing the legacy of plastic pollution

 19 types of end of life facilities trialled



















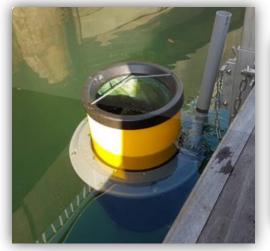
# Reducing and removing the legacy of plastic pollution

#### Passive collectors of plastic litter

- Sea bins
- Waste sharks

# Testing effective interventions to reduce the flow plastics into catchments

- Guppy bags
- Washing machine filters

















## **Understanding plastic pollution from source to sea 1**

- Develop tools for a transferable approach to the management of plastic pollution in watersheds
- Standardise microplastics sampling and analysis















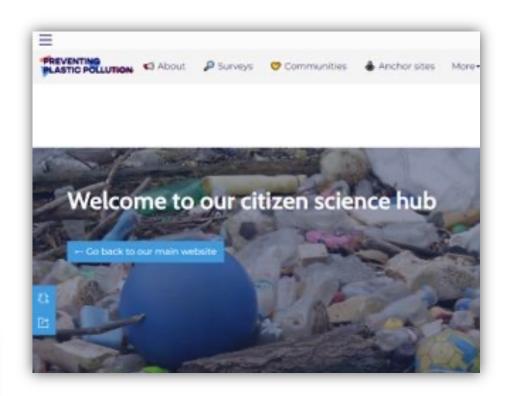




## Understanding plastic pollution from source to sea 2

 Creation of databases for macroplastics and microplastics in order to be able to process data from the 7 watersheds and make comparisons of inputs









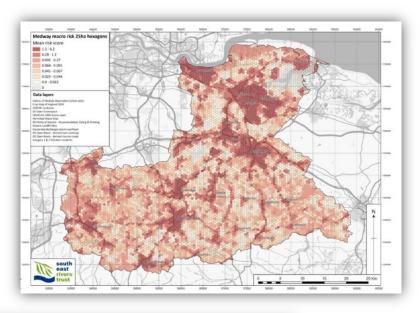


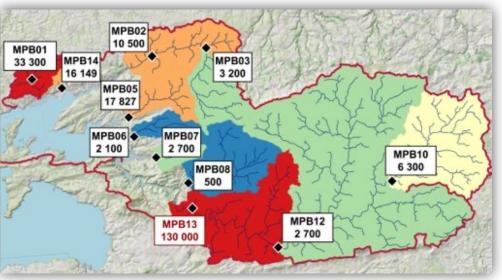


## Understanding plastic pollution from source to sea 3

- Catchment models
- Marine models
- Risk model





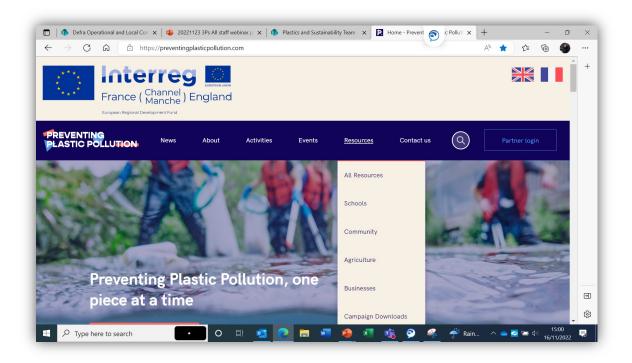






#### Resources

- Preventing Plastic Pollution website
- Preventing Plastic Pollution
- Instagram and Twitter: @plastic\_eu
- LinkedIn: Preventing Plastic Pollution











### **Questions**









