

# A PLASTIC PLANET

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## LAUNCHING APP and THE LANGUAGE OF PLASTIC

Early 2017, A Plastic Planet (APP) launched with a single goal: to campaign for the choice to buy food and drink wrapped in plastic-free packaging. Always consumer facing, APP's goal is to help inform the shopper who wants to buy products without plastic packaging. Recognising the need for crystal clear language that cuts through the confusion of recycling symbols and the green washing of plastics, APP believes in using simple terminology: Packaging either contains plastic, or it is plastic-free. Our definitions are as follows.

## CONVENTIONAL PLASTIC

Conventional plastic is what we see everywhere - PET, PS, PVC, PP, PE etc. The vast majority is derived from unsustainable fossil fuel sources, although conventional plastic can now also be manufactured from plants to produce a product with the same chemical structure, and critically, the same indestructible qualities. Plant-derived conventional plastic is sometimes called "bio-plastic" or "drop in bio-plastic" - a perfect example of the confusing language used to describe plastic. Similarly 'oxo-biodegradable' plastics may sound good but are now known to simply degrade down to tiny plastic fragments. For absolute clarity, we call all three of these kind of plastics **Conventional Plastic** as they all take hundreds of years to break down into micro-plastics and nano-plastics that are damaging our marine life and polluting our planet at an unprecedented rate.

## PLASTIC FREE

APP calls all the materials in the following two groups plastic free.

- Bio-Materials: Bio-materials are the future. Exciting new and old materials include wood pulp, plant cellulose, food waste, grass, algae, and mushrooms. These materials can be made into trays, punnets and clear, flexible films that look and behave like conventional plastic, but with two key differences: At the start of their lives, these materials can be sustainably sourced ideally in full or in part. At the end of their lives, they can be composted into bio-mass to regenerate depleted farming soils. We support all compostables that comply with the necessary compliance ie EN 13432 or OK Home Compostable.
- Other materials: Metal, paper, carton board and glass are also plastic free. Aluminium, tin and glass can be recycled in an infinite loop. Paper, sustainably sourced through FSC™ or PEFC™ certification, can also be recycled and is one of the most all around versatile packaging materials. Steel and tin plate cans are of course free of plastic, but often have plastic linings. Similarly work is still needed to remove hidden plastic in products like Tetrapak.

## Contact Details

Please complete the box below with your contact details.

Your contact details	
Your name	
Your position	
Your company name	
Your company www	
Telephone	
e-mail	

**TABLE 1: YOUR PACKAGING MATERIALS**

Please fill in Table 1 to describe your plastic free packaging material and Table 2 to describe which foods and outlets are currently using your packaging.

A: BEGINNING OF LIFE questions					
Section 1: Packaging source materials					
1	What is your packaging made from? If it is a composite mix of the materials shown below, tick all that apply.				
	<i>Please tick the correct boxes. Yes, No, Don't Know. If we have missed a material that you use, please simply add a line(s) to include it.</i>				
	<b>GLASS/RUBBER</b>	Yes	No	DK	
	Glass				
	Rubber				
	<b>METALS</b>	Yes	No	DK	
	Aluminium				
	Steel				
	<b>BIO MATERIALS</b>	Yes	No	DK	
	Wood pulp				
	Sugarcane				
	Plant				
	Cellulose				
	Grass				
	Food waste				
	Algae				
	<i>Other (please insert here)</i>				
2	<b>Fossil based, but certified compostable</b>	Yes	No	DK	
	Fossil-based plastic				
	What % of the packaging that is fossil-based?	%			
	<i>Please add any additional notes you think may be useful in the context of plastic-free packaging here.</i>				
	Does your material have EN13432?	Yes	No	DK	
	<i>Please be sure to complete C, Section 1, Question 2a on industrial composting certification.</i>				
Section 2: Conventional plastic components					
1	Is there any conventional fossil-based plastic in your packaging, even if the % is small (eg the pull ring, the lid or liner)?	Yes	No	DK	
	Please tick the box:				
2	If yes, describe the plastic component(s) below and indicate the % of the total volume that is made from conventional plastic	%			
	<i>Describe the packaging component here</i>				

### Section 3: Advantages over conventional plastic

<b>1</b>	<b>What advantages does your packaging have in comparison to conventional plastic packaging?</b>
	<i>Please describe any advantages your packaging possesses over conventional plastic packaging. For instance, your packaging may allow fruit to breath better.</i>

### Section 4: Health

<b>1</b>	<b>Does your packaging contain BPA or any BPA derivatives (BPAS, BPAF), plasticisers containing phthalates or any other deleterious chemicals that can cause endocrine disruption or adversely affect human health?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>
	<i>Please tick the correct box:</i>			
<b>2</b>	<b>If yes.</b> Please describe below and where possible, include data and/or studies that have been carried out to assess potential health risks.			

### Section 5: Manufacturers for each component

	<b>For each component in the packaging, please supply the details of the manufacturer(s).</b>			
<b>1</b>	<b>COMPONENT 1</b>			
	Component:	<i>eg NatureFlex</i>		
	Supplier:	<i>eg FUTAMURA</i>		
	<b>Source material (eg Sugarcane), please describe below:</b>			
	<i>Describe here</i>			
	Contact person			
	Address			
	Country			
	Tel			
	e-mail			
<b>2</b>	<b>COMPONENT 2</b>			
	Component:	<i>eg Punnet</i>		
	Supplier:	<i>eg ESP</i>		
	<b>Source material (eg Sugarcane), please describe below:</b>			
	<i>Describe here</i>			
	Contact person			
	Address			
	Country			
	Tel			
	e-mail			

**Section 6: GMO**

<b>1</b>	<b>Do you use any GMO or chemicals in your packaging materials?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>
	<i>Please tick the box:</i>			
<b>2</b>	<b>If yes. Please describe below</b>			
	<i>Describe here</i>			

**Section 7: Volume**

<b>1</b>	<b>Is there a limit regarding the volume of food or drink that can be viably packaged in your packaging? If yes, please indicate the upper and lower limits below.</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>
	<i>Please briefly describe here.</i>			

**Section 8: Inks and labeling**

<b>1</b>	<b>What type of ink is used on your labeling? Please describe below</b>			
	Manufacturer			
	Contact person			
	Website			
	Country			
	e-mail			
<b>2</b>	<b>Does it compost?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>
	Home compost			
	Industrial compost			
<b>3</b>	<b>What is the label made of, please describe below.</b>			
	Manufacturer			
	Contact person			
	Website			
	Country			
	e-mail			
<b>4</b>	<b>Does it compost?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>
	Home			
	Industrial			

**B: WORKING LIFE questions****Section 1: Heating and boiling**

1	Can your packaging be used for re-heatable food or drinks?	Yes	No	DK
	<i>Please briefly describe here.</i>			

  

<b>Section 2: Freezing</b>				
1	Can your packaging be used for frozen food or drinks?	Yes	No	DK
	<i>Please briefly describe here.</i>			

**C: END OF LIFE questions****Section 1: COMPOSTING**

	For packaging materials that can be composted, please complete this section. If the material cannot be composted, please skip to Section 2.			
1a	<b>HOME Composting</b>	Yes	No	DK
	Is the packaging 'OK Home Compostable'?			
	Please provide the certification <a href="#">here</a>			
	How long does it take to home compost? (days)			days
	What are the final elements, please describe below.			
	<a href="#">Eg Biomass, CO2 &amp; water</a>			
1b	Does your country have a Home Composting collection system for its population? If yes, please briefly describe below.	Yes	No	DK
2a	<b>INDUSTRIAL Composting</b>	Yes	No	DK
	Is the packaging industrially compostable?			
	Please attach EN13432 certification <a href="#">here</a>			
	How long does it take to home compost? (days)			days
	What are the final elements, please describe below.			
2b	Does your country have an Industrial Composting collection system for its population? If yes, please	Yes	No	DK

	briefly describe below.			
	If you have any published/grey literature on trials that you would be OK to share, we'd be very interested to read them, please attach <a href="#">here</a> .			
<b>Section 2: GLASS - Recycling</b>				
	<b>For glass materials, please complete this section.</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>
a	Can your packaging be recycled from curbside collection in the UK/your country?			
b	If there is no curbside collection, please describe how the shopper can recycle your packaging below. Eg do they take it to a neighbourhood bottle bank?			
c	If you have information on the % of your packaging that is <u>actually</u> recycled, please provide any links or documents here.			
d	What is your packaging recycled into? Please briefly describe below.			
<b>Section 3: ALUMINIUM - Recycling</b>				
	<b>For aluminium materials, please complete this section.</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>
a	Can your packaging be recycled from curbside collection in the UK/your country?			
b	If there is no curbside collection, please describe how the shopper can recycle your packaging below. For example, do they take it to a neighbourhood bottle bank?			
c	If you have information on the % of your packaging that is <u>actually</u> recycled, please provide any links or documents here.			
d	What is your packaging recycled into? Please briefly describe below.			
<b>Section 4: PAPER - Recycling</b>				
	<b>For paper/pulp materials, please complete this</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>DK</b>

	<b>section.</b>			
a	Can your packaging be recycled from curbside collection in the UK/your country?			
b	If there is no curbside collection, please describe how the shopper can recycle your packaging below.			
c	If you have information on the % of your packaging that is <u>actually</u> recycled, please provide any links or documents here.			
d	What is your packaging recycled into? Please briefly describe below.			
<b>Section 5: ANY OTHER MATERIALS</b>				
	<b>For any other materials not captured above, please complete this section.</b>			
1	What is the material?			
2	Can your packaging be recycled from curbside collection in the UK/your country?			
3	If there is no curbside collection, please describe how the shopper can recycle your packaging below.			
4	If you have information on the % of your packaging that is <u>actually</u> recycled, please provide any links or documents here.			
5	What is your packaging recycled into? Please briefly describe below.			
<b>Section 6: Marine impact</b>				
	We understand that a universally accepted metric and assessment system is still under development for marine impact. That said, if you have any data on the impact your packaging has on affect marine life including any relevant documentation (e.g. ASTM D6691), please attach <a href="#">here</a> .			

**TABLE 2: FOODS/DRINKS & OUTLETS USING YOUR PACKAGING**



## D: FOOD VERSATILITY & CURRENT USAGE Questions

### Section 1: Products

1	Which foods or drinks can be packaged using your packaging? If we have missed items, please add as many lines as you need below.	Yes	SKU	No
<b>FRESH</b>				
	<b>Fresh vegetables</b>			
	<i>Please list which ones here (eg lettuce):</i>			
	<b>Fresh fruits</b>			
	<i>Please list which ones here (eg cherries):</i>			
<b>DRY</b>				
	Dry products (pasta)			
	Dry products (coffee/tea)			
	Dry products (bread)			
	Add here			
<b>DAIRY</b>				
	Cheese			
	Butter			
	Yoghurt			
	Add here			
<b>PROTEINS</b>				
	Fish			
	Meat			
	Add here			
<b>LIQUIDS</b>				
	Milk			
	Fruit juices			
	Water			
	Add here			
<b>OTHER</b>				
	Add here			
	Add here			
	Add here			
	Add here			
<b>Section 2: Brands</b>				
1	Which brands are currently using your packaging? <i>Please list them in the table below.</i>	SKU No		
	Eg Teapigs			
<b>Section 3: Current availability</b>				
1	Which supermarkets currently carry products using	Tick for Yes		

your packaging? Please tick or cross.	Cross for No
ASDA	
Co-op	
Greggs	
Iceland	
Lidl	
M&S	
Ocado	
Sainsbury	
Tesco	
Waitrose	
OTHER (please add supermarkets not listed above)	

Thank you very much for your time to complete this form.

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