



'Tackling the litter epidemic'

Main Webinar Chat Transcript

Q = Question C = Comment R = Response

C: Fiona Murray: I love 'binrastructure' - great word (& idea)

Q: Helen Lawless: Will the deposit return scheme include glass as well as plastic bottles?

R: Pippa Harper: Hi Helen, we are currently consulting on scope of the Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers. The consultation closes on June 4th so you have time to share your thoughts [Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme in England, Wales and Northern Ireland - Defra - Citizen Space](#)

There is also a live consultation on extended producer responsibility which contains proposals around passing the costs of dealing with packaging litter from local authorities back to producers, following the producer pays principle. I encourage everyone to engage if you have time! [Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging - Defra - Citizen Space](#)

C&Q: Rachel Forsyth: The updated countryside code refers to dog poo and the 'any bin will do' message. BUT the environment agency classifies it as offensive waste and our waste carrier BIFFA has started to push back on this. Can Defra departments work more closely together to resolve this conflict?

C: James Taylor: Unfortunately, we stopped the 'any bin will do' message as it meant our waste would not get recycled.

C: Pippa Langford: I think NE are looking to change the message so that dog waste doesn't get put into recycling bins, I can check this with colleagues
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R: Rachel Forsyth: Pippa the big challenge is general waste bins as BIFFA hand sort our waste to reduce the amount going to landfill (by a pretty substantial amount - 75%) and dog poo contaminates this so it can't be sorted.

C: Pippa Langford: I just had a message from the countryside code team, the code says "any public waste bin" because of feedback on the "any bin" message not being accurate enough

C: Rachel Forsyth: I think it's the changing way we manage waste that means dog poo in general waste bins is now causing problems - where it wouldn't have done a few years ago as it wasn't being sorted.

Plus, dog poo bins and special collections are expensive - it's not an easy solution!

R: James Taylor: your right Rachel, we are having the same issues.

C: Pippa Langford: wow, really interesting that it is not "new" visitors

C: Bethan Edmunds: Very useful insight especially with many new visitors during and after the pandemic

C: Jonathan Woods: I would agree visitors to national parks generally take more care and have respect, quite a lot of issues are from locals

C: Helen Lawless: Great info, thanks Lizzie!

C: Lisa Clayton: Great insight into the behaviour behind littering. Thanks Lizzie

C: Fi Darby: Fantastic insights, really useful!

C: Kate Willshaw: Hi, I'm Kate from Friends of the Lake District the organisation that commissioned the Lake District research. If you would like to contact me about it, my email is kate-willshaw@fld.org.uk

C: Gilly: Very interesting research thanks

C: Maz: Create an app to show locations of bins, show how easy it is to take to a bin or take it home

R: Pippa Harper: Hi Maz, great idea! Some authorities have this type of online reporting for their residents. You can also find nearby recycling at [Recycle Now | Where and How to Recycle](#)

Q: Kate Willshaw: Jonathan do you have evidence for that locals vs visitors dropping litter in national parks? I'd be really interested in seeing it!

R: Suzi Shilling : Hi Kate I worked on that campaign as comms for New Forest NPA here is the press release, happy to chat through [Retailers and landowners back ban the BBQ campaign - New Forest National Park Authority \(newforestnpa.gov.uk\)](#)

Retailers and landowners back ban the BBQ campaign - New Forest National Park Authority

Disposable BBQs and fires are now banned across vast swathes of the open countryside across Dorset and the New Forest. The campaign started in May 2020 when Brockenhurst business Streets Ironmonger...

www.newforestnpa.gov.uk

Q: Smith, Susan: A question to all of the speakers - here in the South of England we have had major forest wildfires caused by discarded disposable BBQs and they are now banned in many beach and countryside sites in Dorset & Hampshire. Interesting to see that 23% of people in the research plan to continue using them. Interested to know if there are any plans to tackle the use of these as a "disposable" item.

R: Kate Willshaw : Susan we've had similar here in the Lake District. I'm just wondering how disposable BBQs were banned in various places in the S of England, there appears to be a view up here that it has to be a voluntary moratorium rather than a ban <https://keswickreminder.co.uk/2021/05/21/plan-to-stop-disposable-barbecues-in-national-park-passes/>

C: James Taylor: We didn't see a huge increase in litter but we restricted vehicle access to our country parks through booking online in the height of covid

C: Kevin McGlynn: BBQs are not disposable - we should be talking about single use BBQs.

C: Lisa Clayton: I live in Dorset. There are a few retailers who have banned disposable BBQs but they are still available in supermarkets and petrol stations, so it is by no means banned here entirely.

C: James Taylor: Unfortunately, our provider wont filter general waste contaminated by dog mess

Q: Lizzie Kenyon: A question to all of the speakers - here in the South of England we have had major forest wildfires caused by discarded disposable BBQs and they are now banned in many beach and countryside sites in Dorset...

Also a note on the 23%, we didn't ask people whether they were planning to use a disposable or reusable BBQ, so this will be both, but we can safely assume I think that disposable BBQs are going to make up a significant proportion.

R: Jonathan Woods: Yes Lizzie the New Forest National Park has also launched a NO BBQs campaign

C: Pippa Langford: Interesting presentation Jonathan, thanks

R: Susan Smith: Kate Willshaw there are a mix of measures being used here. Many land manager/owners including us in the New Forest and Dorset, have banned their use, Bournemouth and Christchurch Council are using byelaws on the beach front to ban their use within certain hours, and Dorset Council have also taken some measures in high-risk areas. Agencies including ourselves, the fire service, the New Forest National Park, and local authorities are highlighting the bans and as Suzi Shilling highlighted the New Forest NPA are pushing a great campaign to put pressure on retailers.

R: Kate Willshaw: Thanks Susan thanks, that's really helpful to know that byelaws can actually be used to prevent BBQ use in certain places.

R: Lisa Clayton: Lizzie we have had byelaws for many years on our sites in Bournemouth with regards to no bonfires/BBQs. We are finding that it is getting the message out there about these byelaws and enforcement of them that is the weak link at the moment.

R: Gemma Summerfield: Lizzie we use a mixed approach to framing the no disposable BBQ - using Climate change/wildfire hazard/promoting use of our designated hire BBQ sites. Lisa how are you enforcing the byelaws? Patrols?

R: Lizzie Kenyon: We use a mixed approach to framing the no disposable BBQ - using Climate change/wildfire hazard/promoting use of our designated hire BBQ sites. Work to be done in helping people think about reusable alternatives which are less damaging.

C: Maz: Love that video!

C: Suzi Shilling: Love the ring of rubbish, great idea

R: Lisa Clayton: Gemma we have increased our patrols and are in the process of hiring a number of seasonal posts to increase our presence on site, especially towards the evening. We also had increased patrols from our local PCSOs towards the end of the summer last year which we are wanting to continue again this year.

R: Susan Smith: Lisa of course enforcement is the challenge! Last year we carried out joint patrols at peak times with the fire service, the NPA and other local partners - in just one weekend over the summer that resulted in over 60 BBQs being extinguished. Repeating that kind of enforcement on that kind of scale is a huge challenge! This year we are continuing joint patrols here in the New Forest with all partners working together, focussing on education and public campaigns, and we have also brought in the local tourist body to help us reach visitors to the area. But enforcement remains a challenging issue given the available resources.

Q: Maz: Is litter part of the national curriculum?

R: Gilly: No it isn't as far as I am aware -it really should be!

C: Maz: It needs to be compulsory in education.

R: Richard Breeden: We're working on it <https://www.trashfreetrails.org/trashmob-academy>

C: Lisa Clayton: Susan Smith your joint patrols sound amazing, but yes, hard to conduct on that scale all the time. Education, campaigns and enforcement are needed on a constant basis!

C: James Taylor: Thank you

C: Fiona Murray: That's been a great session! sorry I can't stay for the breakout rooms, have another meeting to scoot to.

C: Kevin McGlynn: Energy (sapping) drinks - you can carry them full but once you have drank them you don't have the energy to carry the empty bottle away.

Q: Ken Thomson: Do temporary "Quantity of Litter Here" signs at hot-spots work?

C: Pippa Harper: Very interesting chat in our breakout room. Just going to put our contact email addresses here again if anyone wanted to share ideas with us at Defra litter@defra.gov.uk flytipping@defra.gov.uk

C: Lizzie Kenyon: I have to leave for another meeting, apologies. Thanks everyone for inviting me and for your questions. Anyone who wants to get in touch, you can get me on at lizzie.kenyon@keepbritaintidy.org

C: Carly Harrod: [Countryside - Dog faeces - why we need to bin it! \(2021\) on Vimeo](#)

C: Lisa Clayton: Apologies, got to go as I've been called to a matter on one of our sites. Thank you for a thought-provoking session.

C: Martin Gray: Thanks for the interesting session need to head off to another appointment.

C: Maz: Thank you, really interesting.

C: Bridgette Hall: We probably underestimated how long we should give this hot topic. 90 mins is not enough with such good examples to take a look at.

C: Steve Hastie: Very interesting and useful, many thanks.

C: James Taylor: Thank you very much.

C: Julia Clively: Thank you, really informative and lots of useful info

C: Gilly: Thanks for an informative session

C: Inga Bock: Thanks for great presentations and great ideas!