



**Information Governance Team**

Postal Address:  
Coventry City Council  
PO Box 7097  
Coventry  
CV6 9SL

[www.coventry.gov.uk](http://www.coventry.gov.uk)

E mail: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

Phone: 024 7697 5408

04 June 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**  
**Request ID: FOI712257514**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Single-Use Plastic Regulations.

You have requested the following information:

**Please provide the following information covering the period from 2020 to the present:**

**1. The number of inspections or compliance activities your authority has carried out in relation to single-use plastic regulations (for example bans on plastic straws, cutlery, polystyrene containers, and/or similar)**

We advise as per Section 1(1) of the Act that we do not hold all the requested information. We confirm that no data is held for 2020, 2021 and 2022, however the only items banned from October 1st 2020 were plastic straws, cotton buds, and drink stirrers. These items changed quickly to paper and wood versions.

From October 2023 see below:

2023 – One visit to a trader to discuss what packaging they will be allowed to use

2024 201 premises were visited as part of a business compliance project. The issue of Single Use Plastics was covered as part of these checks.

2025 35 further visits completed as part of the business compliance project (where SUP covered).

**2. The number and type of enforcement actions (and no actions) taken. This may include warnings, fixed penalties, prosecutions, or other enforcement actions available to your authority.**

Compliance was invariably secured voluntarily and without recourse to enforcement measures. X54 of the visits included verbal advice / warnings being given, including asking for plastic cutlery to be removed from sale. At this point an SUP advisory information sheet was also left on the premises.

### **3. Any local strategy, internal guidance, or policy documents used to monitor or enforce compliance.**

We have utilised an SUP Toolkit that was developed and issued by Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

A one-page guidance sheet created by Business Companion is available for officers to give to businesses. Business Companion covers Trading Standards law for England, Scotland and Wales. It is a government backed site that offers free and impartial advice.

We have a joint Regulatory Services business compliance project that encompasses Food, Licensing and Trading Standards. A checklist is completed in the business premises. Part of the Trading Standards aspect of this is to check for SUP.

Advice is given at the time of the visit and any non-compliance in any of the 3 areas is immediately reported to the specific team it relates to. They will then re visit and take the appropriate actions. All data gathered is recorded on our systems.

### **4. Any complaints or reports of non-compliance received by your authority. Please kindly provide the number and the outcome.**

Our records confirm two complaints were received. No enforcement action was necessary in both cases, as the complaints were regarding takeaways using plastic containers. Takeaways are exempt under the law if containers are filled at point of sale. The complainants were advised accordingly.

The supply of information in response to a FOI/EIR request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request email: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**