



Our Single-use Plastic Policy

To help tackle the largest cause of ocean plastic pollution, we launched the Sky Ocean Rescue campaign in January 2017 and have committed to eliminate single-use plastic across our business. This policy is a guide to making the switch.

Target: Sky to remove all single-use plastic from Sky operations, products and supply chain by 2020

What we mean by single-use plastics

- Plastics items, including packaging, that are intended to be used only once for a short period of time (i.e. a week) before they are thrown away. This includes those that can be recycled (e.g. petroleum-based plastics, food and drinks packaging and containers, disposable items and materials used for temporary branding and marketing use), unless there is a legal and/or health and safety issue where single-use plastics are required (e.g. food gloves, food preservation, etc).

What we consider not to be single-use plastic

- Any non plastic product or packaging irrespective of the number of times it is used,
- Plastic products that are used multiple times with sustainable disposal method(s) at end of life
- Raw material production i.e. plastics used in the supply chain, which are segregated, collected and recycled into other use or sold as a raw material back into the supply chain.

All products or alternatives considered should aim to adhere to best-practice environmental, circular economy and audit practices. See addendum for unsustainable materials to avoid.

Business scope of single-use plastic impacts are:

1. Sky products and supply chain: Sky Q, Now TV, engineering fleet, logistics, etc.
2. Operations: catering, offices, call centres, technical sites, services, etc.
3. Branding and marketing across Sky and Now TV
4. Sky Merchandise e.g. packaging for Team Sky t-shirts, promotional giveaways
5. Broadcasting, filming (Sky commission) and events e.g. Premier League coverage

Suppliers

Sky will work with suppliers with the aim of ensuring that all products supplied to Sky will adhere to this policy and encourage suppliers to adopt the same standards within their organisation and supply chains:

- All suppliers that provide products to Sky that are packaged or contain single-use plastics
- Suppliers involved in the delivery or storage that repackage Sky products for protection or carriage.
- Direct and indirect suppliers that provide products used by Sky, manufacturing of Sky products or its employees e.g. food containers provided to Sky through a third tier supplier are in scope.

To comply with our commitments, our principles are:

- **Eliminate** – Avoid through redesign or behaviour change e.g. water fountains instead of bottled water, designing out plastic film for batteries, etc.
- **Reusable alternative** – Use reusable alternative item enabled by a system e.g. Cup Club, Keep Cup, etc.
- **Sustainable alternative from renewable source** – Use more sustainable materials from renewable source with better recycling outlets or biodegradability e.g. FSC paper, cellophane.
- **Recyclable material** – Use materials that have a high recycling rate that is not plastic e.g. glass and tin. Where single-use plastic is required by law, regulation or for health & safety (e.g. food packaging), aim to source appropriate recycled plastic that will be fully recyclable and compatible with kerbside collection.
- **Resource Efficiency (Supply Chain)** – Secondary materials (e.g. off-cuts) that are collected in a robust, easily auditable way in the supply chain and turned into another use or sold on as a raw material.





Addendum: Unsustainable materials to avoid

These materials have the potential to cause as much harm as single-use plastic to ocean health or are not considered suitable environmentally and should be avoided for both practical and reputational reasons.

- **Bio-plastics** are not currently considered a suitable alternative to single-use petroleum-based plastics. Bio-plastics look and feel like plastic and can confuse the end users, resulting in the potential contamination of plastic recycling streams. They often biodegrade over time but only in specific circumstances (e.g. heat treatment) not widely available to end consumers. Without these specific circumstances they behave just like petroleum-based plastics in the natural environment, and are therefore just as damaging.
- **Vinyls**, used for branding e.g. vehicles, office space etc., cannot be used with the SOR branding. They are not considered recyclable material at present and should be avoided.
- **Balloons**, when not properly disposed of, burst in the atmosphere, leaving a material that does not breakdown in the natural environment and, like single-use plastic bags, is often confused by marine life for something edible. Balloons made of any materials, including those advertised as 'biodegradable' or made of natural rubber, latex, should not be used. As with bioplastics, 'biodegradable' balloons will only degrade in specific circumstances, and their biodegradability is often impaired by the dyes and other chemicals used to make the rubber or latex suitable for balloons.