

Louise McLornan

From: Joe Mcdonald <Joe.Mcdonald@asda.co.uk>
Sent: 25 February 2019 12:12
To: Democratic Services
Subject: FAO Louise McLornan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Louise

Thank you for your recent letter to Asda regarding plastic reduction. Asda has been very proactive on this issue, not least based on our customer insight where plastic reduction is top of mind. Asda's Plastic Unwrapped programme sets significant targets for the business to reduce or recycle as much plastic as possible. Nikki Dixon, Asda Senior Manager for Plastic Reduction was able to travel to Belfast last October to address the Business in the Community Responsible Business Summit and outline progress on our plan.

In summary Asda's Plastic Unwrapped programme pledges to use less plastics and recycle more. The overall target is to reduce as much as possible plastic packaging in own brand products and by 2025, Asda pledges to make all packaging 100% recyclable.

Highlights in the past year include:

- removing single use plastic bags from our stores;
- going single use plastic free in our home offices;
- removing plastic from products such as greeting cards and turnips, saving over 100 tonnes of plastic from these simple initiatives;
- moving from plastic to cardboard pizza bases removing 194 tonnes of plastic;
- All produce moved from black trays to clear;
- Founder members of the WRAP UK Plastics Pact.

Full details of the programme can be found at this link: <https://corporate.asda.com/blog/2018/02/05/plastics-unwrapped-our-pledge-to-use-less-and-recycle-more>

If you wish to discuss this further please let me know.

Best regards

Joe

Joe McDonald

Senior Manager, Corporate Affairs NI

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M&S

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Mrs L McLornan
Belfast City Council
City Hall
BELFAST
BT1 5GS

26 February 2019

Dear Mrs McLornan

Thank you for taking the time to get in touch about the way we manage and reduce single use plastics within our company.

We've already started phasing out non-recyclable black plastics from some of our products such as our ready meals, Mini Bite tubs and fruit and vegetables. We'll extend this to our meat, fish and poultry ranges by summer 2019. We're also looking at innovative solutions to reusing and recycling it in the future.

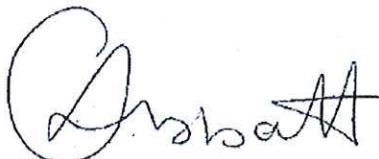
Our goal is to only use plastic packaging where there is a clear and demonstrable benefit. We're rethinking our packaging – designing plastic out, replacing it with planet friendly alternatives and making sure that any we do use will be easy to recycle by 2022. We're working towards our target of removing 1,000 tonnes of plastic packaging from our business by spring 2019 as part of our plan to be zero waste by 2025. You can read more here: Our Plastics Plan

In line with our 2025 Plan A commitment to be a zero-waste business, we are slashing plastic use in our Cafes and Foodhalls. As well as removing single-use plastic bags, cutlery and straws, we've also introduced a 25p discount on all hot drinks for customers who bring their own cup and dramatically increased our commitment to hanger recycling, saving the business nearly £3m in total.

By making this change we'll be removing 50 million items of single-use plastic from UK high streets. Plastic cutlery is often only used once and then thrown away. To reduce this waste, we are phasing out all plastic knives, forks and spoons – replaced with FSC-wood cutlery. Wooden cutlery will be available for stores to order from Europackaging from 1st September.

Thanks again for getting in touch.

Yours sincerely



Chloe Abbott
Retail Customer Services

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Mrs. Louise McLornan, Democratic Services Officer
Chief Executive's Department
Democratic Services Section
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast BT1 5GS
Northern Ireland

19 March, 2019

Dear Mrs McLornan,

Thank you for contacting us in relation to your concerns about plastic packaging and keeping us abreast of legislative developments in Belfast.

Lidl remains committed to reducing its environmental footprint and fully supports the need to tackle the important issue of plastic waste. We identify this area as a precompetitive space and a complicated issue where industry collaboration is essential to achieve impactful progress.

Lidl has already implemented several plastic reduction initiatives. In relation to loose fruit and vegetables, we introduced numerous additional loose options recently, bringing the overall loose lines to approximately 20% of our range. We must be vigilant in our approach to ensure we are working towards SDG Goal 12.3 and supporting the objectives of the Food Waste Charter. We will continue to trial the removal and adaptation of packaging and any impact on food waste, and have some exciting innovations in the pipeline.

In March last year, we published a number of commitments outlined below.

- By 2022, Lidl will reduce plastic packaging volumes by 20%
- By 2025, 100% of own- brand packaging will be widely recyclable, reusable, or renewable
- By 2025, 50% of material used in own- brand packaging will come from recycled materials
- Ban on microbeads in cosmetic and household products

We have decided to discontinue the sale of single use plastic items including plastic drinking straws, disposable cups and glasses, plates and cutlery and plastic-stemmed cotton buds in stores nationwide. We are currently working with suppliers to replace the products with biodegradable alternatives and are committing to the end of 2019 as a deadline.

Yours sincerely,

Deirdre Ryan
Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, Lidl Ireland & Northern Ireland

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Louise McLornan

From: customer.service@tesco.com
Sent: 31 May 2019 13:13
To: Louise McLornan
Subject: Re: Emailing: 180219 ltr Tesco HQ re NOM Plastics << Reference ID: 8586679 >>

Hi Louise

Thank you for your email.

I am sorry to hear you have not had a reponse back to your letter in which you sent into us regarding the use of plastic on our packaging.

We're committed to reducing plastic packaging and we'll only use packaging where it serves a clear purpose.

This is an issue which is really important to us, so we've set ourselves these targets:

- Our packaging will be fully recyclable by 2025.
- End the use of hard to recycle materials from our UK packaging by the end of 2019.
- Halve packaging weight by 2025 compared to 2007 levels.
- All paper and board used will be 100% sustainable by 2025.

You can read more about what we're doing on our website:

<https://sustainability.tescopl.com/sustainability/packaging/our-position/>

Thanks very much for getting in touch, please let us know if there's anything else we can help with.

Kind regards

Chris Bain

Tesco Customer Service
Tesco Customer Engagement Centre

Louise McLornan

From: Customer.Service <customer.service@sainsburys.co.uk>
Sent: 31 May 2019 14:05
To: Louise McLornan
Subject: Your Sainsbury's Case ID: ENQ-2987432

Dear Louise,

Thanks for your email regarding the Issue of single use plastics.

Respecting our environment is really important to us, especially as we are well on our way to meeting our target of being Britain's greenest grocer. With this in mind, I'm sorry that you've had to question our approach.

Sainsbury's will end the use of dark coloured plastics (which are difficult to recycle) across fresh foods by the end of 2019 and entirely by March 2020 as well as remove all plastic packaging from Christmas crackers this year.

Sainsbury's will also introduce a trial scheme for customers to 'pre-cycle' by providing an area for customers to remove unwanted primary and secondary packaging in store and leave it for recycling. This means that food remains protected through the supply chain but offers the customer the option to recycle before they take the item home.

In addition, from today, Sainsbury's will remove plastic packaging from sweetheart and savoy cabbages, cutting a further 100 tonnes of plastic packaging over the next year, as part of a drive to significantly reduce plastic packaging.

Sainsbury's has previously implemented measures that are already leading to a reduction of 8,101 tonnes of non-recyclable plastic and use of "virgin plastic" every year. Over the next twelve months, Sainsbury's will remove a further 1280 tonnes of plastic from products and ensure all plastic packaging is reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025.

Sainsbury's four-point plan for cutting plastic use falls under the four headings of remove, reduce, replace and recycle.

For the first time Sainsbury's is setting out in detail where plastic is being completely removed, where plastic is being reduced and where non-recyclable plastic is being replaced with recyclable alternatives.

Greenpeace says we have pledged to reduce plastic by 77 tonnes and, in fact, we will reduce plastic by well over 2,400 tonnes in the next 12 months alone. For Sainsbury's branded products, 67% of the plastic that we use is widely recyclable and 100% will be widely recyclable packaging by 2025. We have ambitious targets to continue to reduce plastic across our product range.

Greenpeace says Sainsbury's has pledged to reduce plastic by just 77 tonnes; in fact this refers to just one initiative removing 77 tonnes of plastic from greetings cards

We have pledged to remove plastic from the following:

175 tonnes – reducing plastic content from water bottles

5 tonnes – switching plastic trays to wooden on plants and flowers

65 tonnes – ready meals

50 tonnes - removed plastic stems from cotton buds, replacing them with a biodegradable option

37 tonnes – removed plastic straws

131 tonnes – removing plastic bags from organic bananas; cauliflowers, easy peelers, brassicas and tomatoes

77 tonnes – removing plastic sleeve from greetings cards

55 tonnes – reducing thickness of clothing bags on underwear and shirts and removing plastic sleeves from slippers

1000 tonnes – removing plastic sleeves from clothing

800 tonnes – reusing and recycling clothing hangers

14 tonnes – removing plastic cups and cutlery from all offices

12 tonnes – reducing weight of olive oil bottles

61 tonnes – changes to poultry packaging

TOTAL = 2,482 tonnes

From 24th April, we will offer 25p off hot drinks across all of our cafes when a customer brings a re-usable cup. We also encourage customers to bring in Tupperware containers to our counters.

Greenpeace released a report in November 2018 ranking grocers in terms of current plastic usage. In this report,

Greenpeace ranked Sainsbury's 3rd out of 10 for tonnage of plastic packaging per market share and 3rd out of 10 for plastic that is widely recyclable.

I've popped a copy of your email to our Trading Team. They'll be able to keep your comments in mind when they are redesigning the packaging.

Thanks for taking the time to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Claire | Sainsbury's Careline
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customer.service@sainsburys.co.uk | 0800 636 262
twitter.com/sainsburys | facebook.com/sainsburys

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Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd (3261722 England)
Registered Offices: 33 Holborn, London, EC1N 2HT

Sainsbury's Argos is a trading name of both:

1) Argos Limited, Registered office: 489-499 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom, MK9 2NW, registered number: 01081551 (England and Wales); and
2) Sainsbury's Supermarkets Limited, Registered office: 33 Holborn, London, EC1N 2HT, registered number: 03261722 (England and Wales).

All companies listed above are subsidiaries of J Sainsbury plc (185647).