

Public consultation on the establishment of a quantitative reduction headline target for marine litter

Information about you	
<i>Your full name:</i> -open reply-(compulsory)	Mark Charlesworth
<i>Your contact email address:</i> -open reply-(optional)	Mark.Charlesworth@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk
<i>I'm replying as a(n):</i> -single choice reply-(compulsory)	National authority
<i>If responding on behalf of an organisation/association/authority, please provide the name:</i> -open reply-(optional)	Natural Resources Wales
<i>If responding on behalf of an organisation/association/authority, please specify all countries represented by your membership:</i> -multiple choices reply-(optional)	UK - United Kingdom
<i>How would you prefer your contribution to be published on the Commission website?*</i> -single choice reply-(compulsory)	Under the name indicated (I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is under copyright restrictions that prevent publication)
<i>How well informed are you about marine litter?</i> -single choice reply-(compulsory)	Fairly well informed
Questionnaire	
Feasibility -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Cost -single choice reply-(optional)	
Effectiveness -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Transferability/replicability in different marine regions -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Impact on stakeholders -single choice reply-(optional)	
Respect for the polluter pays principle -single choice reply-(optional)	
<i>Are there other relevant criteria which should be used when assessing actions aimed at reducing the presence and impact of marine litter? If so, please list these criteria:</i> -open reply-(optional)	Monitoring programmes should be designed to be able to detect trends at the level at which input reduction programmes are aimed, within the monitoring resources that are available.
Entanglement of marine species in discarded fishing gear, ropes and other litter -single choice reply-(optional)	4

Ingestion of litter by birds, fish and other species -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Health risk for humans due to consumption of affected seafood -single choice reply-(optional)	2
Spreading of invasive species -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Negative impacts on coastal tourism -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Damage to (fishing) vessels -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Costs associated with beach clean up -single choice reply-(optional)	4
<i>Are there other relevant negative impacts of marine litter which should be considered? If so, please list these impacts:</i> -open reply-(optional)	The role of microplastics in contaminant transport and cycling is not clearly known at present but likely to be significant. Also the combined effects of litter and contaminant is not well understood and requires further research. Impacts on, and damage to fishing gear have been estimated at £6,000-30,000 per fishing vessel per year.
Reject single use plastic bags and bottles and use re-usable alternatives -single choice reply-(optional)	
Drink tap water instead of bottled water/other bottled beverages -single choice reply-(optional)	
Give greater consideration to the packaging used when making purchasing choices -single choice reply-(optional)	
Separate waste at home and participate in systems for separate collection and deposit refund systems -single choice reply-(optional)	
Avoid littering (either on the beach, at sea or elsewhere) -single choice reply-(optional)	
Avoid flushing sanitary waste down the toilet -single choice reply-(optional)	
Participate in organised clean-ups -single choice reply-(optional)	
Are there other actions which could be undertaken by consumers to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions: -open reply-(optional)	
Invest in research and monitoring activities to identify the types and sources of marine litter -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Map existing relevant measures already being implemented and analyse gaps to be filled	4

-single choice reply-(optional)	
Establish action plans and/or targets for marine litter prevention and clean-up initiatives -single choice reply-(optional)	
Implement awareness-raising campaigns on the sources and impacts of marine litter -single choice reply-(optional)	
Develop initiatives to encourage/incentivise source separation -single choice reply-(optional)	
Develop initiatives to encourage/incentivise consumption of tap water -single choice reply-(optional)	
Install public water dispensers -single choice reply-(optional)	
Introduce (seasonal) bans on plastic bags in coastal cities, and/or bans on plastic bottles during beach events and concerts -single choice reply-(optional)	
Avoid plastic packaging in public procurement -single choice reply-(optional)	
Organise clean-up events -single choice reply-(optional)	
Ensure enforcement of existing public littering rules -single choice reply-(optional)	
Ensure adequate availability of public litter bins -single choice reply-(optional)	
Take action to ensure regulatory compliance of landfills and eradicate illegal dumpsites -single choice reply-(optional)	
Cooperate with tourist sector, waste managers and retailers -single choice reply-(optional)	
Exchange best practices with other municipalities -single choice reply-(optional)	
Develop initiatives to promote the circular economy, diverting waste from landfill to recycling or energy recovery -single choice reply-(optional)	
Cooperate in initiatives to promote fishermen as 'guardians of the sea', including monitoring and fishing for litter activities (collecting litter in large bags while fishing) -single choice reply-(optional)	
Are there other actions which could be	

undertaken by local/sub-national authorities to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions: -open reply-(optional)	
Which (if any) of the possible actions for local/sub-national authorities mentioned above are also of relevance for national authorities? -multiple choices reply-(optional)	Invest in research and monitoring activities to identify the types and sources of marine litter - Map existing relevant measures already being implemented and analyse gaps to be filled
Establish monitoring systems and environmental targets with a view to reducing litter inputs to the marine environment -single choice reply-(optional)	
Share information, and develop knowledge-sharing platforms with authorities from neighbouring states, local authorities, NGOs and other stakeholders on amounts and sources of marine litter (particularly from monitoring in the framework of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive) -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Assist local authorities and NGOs in monitoring the effectiveness of measures aimed at combatting marine litter -single choice reply-(optional)	
Provide guidance and resources to help local authorities select and implement measures to address marine litter -single choice reply-(optional)	
Promote best practice and encourage NGOs, local authorities and other stakeholders to launch relevant initiatives to improve behaviour, prevent littering and support clean-up initiatives -single choice reply-(optional)	
Support the development of Action Plans on marine litter within the framework of the four relevant Regional Seas Conventions (Barcelona, Bucharest, HELCOM and OSPAR) -single choice reply-(optional)	
Are there other actions which could be undertaken by national authorities to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions: -open reply-(optional)	
Establish target(s) for marine litter reduction -single choice reply-(optional)	
Support the actions of local and Member State authorities by funding research -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Support the actions of local and Member State authorities by facilitating exchange of information, experience and best practice (e.g. hosting a	5

<p>database of published marine litter survey information, guidance on marine litter monitoring, common recording templates, expanded marine litter toolbox etc.)</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Facilitate coordination efforts across regional seas and support networking between authorities and other stakeholders</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	5
<p>Support development of Strategic Regional Action Plans on marine litter within the framework of the four relevant Regional Seas Conventions (Barcelona, Bucharest, HELCOM and OSPAR)</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	4
<p>Support international activities to combat marine litter (e.g. the Honolulu Strategy and marine debris reduction commitments in Rio+20)</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Establish a harmonised EU monitoring strategy for marine litter</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Extend and improve producer responsibility over the entire product lifecycle (e.g. optimisation of packaging and production including design for re-use, recycling, prevention, low material demand, etc.)</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Are there other actions which could be undertaken by EU policymakers to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:</p> <p>-open reply-(optional)</p>	Current lack of understanding on the dynamics of marine litter and the potential cost of monitoring means that targets for marine litter reduction cannot be set with confidence at present. There is need to ensure that some of the above actions through international conventions and directives are complimentary
<p>Establish action plans and/or targets for marine litter prevention and clean-up initiatives</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Implement awareness-raising campaigns on the sources and impacts of marine litter</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Organise clean-up events</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Share information with local authorities and other stakeholders on the amounts and sources of marine litter (particularly from monitoring in the framework of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive)</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Assist local authorities in identifying target groups responsible for littering</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Launch relevant behavioural and preventive</p>	

<p>initiatives with other stakeholders</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Are there other actions which could be undertaken by NGOs to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:</p> <p>-open reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Promote the development of products and packaging which use less (plastic) material</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Promote the development of products and packaging made from innovative materials which are easier to re-use or recycle and which degrade less harmfully in the marine environment</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Extend and improve producer responsibility over the entire product lifecycle (e.g. optimisation of packaging and production including design for re-use, recycling, prevention, low material demand etc.)</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Exchange information, knowledge and best practices on innovative technologies, production processes and sustainable plastic packaging products</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Promote and finance initiatives aimed at increasing recycling of plastics</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Promote and finance marine litter initiatives</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Incorporate eco-labelling criteria in product design</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Are there other actions which could be undertaken by the plastics industry to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:</p> <p>-open reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Motivate and inform customers on sustainable consumption</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Develop, promote and participate in separate collection and deposit refund systems for plastic bottles and bags</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Promote the use of reduced, reusable or recyclable packaging in products, both upstream (through purchasing/procurement decisions) and down-stream (through promotion of such products to consumers)</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	

<p>Commit to targets for reduction of plastic packaging</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Exchange ideas and best practices with other retailers</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Are there other actions which could be undertaken by the retail sector to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:</p> <p>-open reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Sensitise tourists to the impacts of litter on the marine environment</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Provide eco-alternatives to plastic ashtrays and plastic cups on the beach</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Establish water dispensers in communal areas (e.g. hotel lobbies, beachfronts etc.)</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Participate in eco-tourism certification schemes</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Create and promote stewardship concepts such as adopt-a-beach</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Organise clean-up events</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Ensure adequate availability of litter bins</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Develop, promote and participate in separate collection and deposit refund systems for plastic bottles and bags</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Commit to targets for reduction of plastic packaging</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Exchange ideas and best practices</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Are there other actions which could be undertaken by the tourism/recreational sector to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:</p> <p>-open reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Inform, motivate and encourage citizens to improve source separation</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Organise training for professionals in waste operations</p> <p>-single choice reply-(optional)</p>	
<p>Develop techniques for more efficient recycling of a</p>	

wider range of waste streams -single choice reply-(optional)	
Exchange ideas and best practices with other waste professionals, municipalities and other stakeholders -single choice reply-(optional)	
Are there other actions which could be undertaken by the waste management sector to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions: -open reply-(optional)	
Train crew members on waste regulation and practices on board ships -single choice reply-(optional)	
Cooperate in initiatives to promote fisheries professionals as 'Guardians of the Sea', including monitoring and fishing for litter activities (collecting litter in large bags while fishing) -single choice reply-(optional)	
Cooperate in special trips to collect litter form identified hot spots -single choice reply-(optional)	
Retrieve abandoned or lost fishing gear -single choice reply-(optional)	
Notify authorities about lost fishing gear -single choice reply-(optional)	
Ensure adequate waste separation, minimisation and management on board ships, including adequate storage space for garbage -single choice reply-(optional)	
Are there other actions which could be undertaken by the fisheries sector to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions: -open reply-(optional)	
Train crew members on waste regulations and practices on board ships -single choice reply-(optional)	
Cooperate in an efficient waste notification system -single choice reply-(optional)	
Ensure that there are no disincentives for vessels to bring their litter ashore rather than dumping it at sea -single choice reply-(optional)	
Ensure adequate waste separation, minimisation and management on board ships, including adequate storage space for garbage -single choice reply-(optional)	
Are there other actions which could be undertaken by the shipping sector to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:	

-open reply-(optional)	
Apply a waste fee system aimed at a maximum delivery of waste from ships -single choice reply-(optional)	
Apply an efficient waste notification system -single choice reply-(optional)	
Improve the waste handling system including procedures, conditions, management of fees, payment of operators, etc. -single choice reply-(optional)	
Strengthen the inspection regime regarding waste delivery -single choice reply-(optional)	
Consult port users on the adequacy of port waste reception facilities -single choice reply-(optional)	
Provide clear and transparent information about the fee system in place -single choice reply-(optional)	
Record and monitor the amounts of ships' waste delivered in ports -single choice reply-(optional)	
Implement systematic exchange of information between enforcement authorities -single choice reply-(optional)	
Ensure that ports have access to facilities for off-loading and correct disposal of hazardous waste -single choice reply-(optional)	
Provide waste disposal bins and ensure that waste is not left in locations where it can be blown into the sea -single choice reply-(optional)	
Are there other actions which could be undertaken by port authorities to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions: -open reply-(optional)	
If you have any additional comments, please provide them in the box below (max. 1000 characters).	
-open reply-(optional)	
<p>A lack of understanding on the dynamics of marine litter and the potential cost of monitoring means that targets for marine litter reduction cannot be set and measured against with confidence at present. A significant amount of marine litter is sourced outside the Welsh national boundary due to prevailing winds onto beaches and the presence of some litter 'sinks'. Greater consideration of how reducing marine litter on a regional scale is therefore very important and also research on transport pathways and accumulation at litter sinks would be welcomed. The MSFD initial assessment showed that there are some problems associated with marine litter in the Celtic Seas region and negative impacts of marine litter have been observed in Wales Marine Protected Areas. Litter is considered a issue in almost all SACs and is considered a threat in a number of areas particularly in North Cardigan Bay. In some SACs marine litter is contributing to unfavourable condition.</p>	