

Policy	Plastic Free Policy		
Department	Estates		
Approval Date:	September 2024	Issue Date:	September 2024
Last Amended Date:	October 2025	Next Review Date:	October 2026
Other Relevant Documents	Health and Safety Policy Fire Safety Policy Risk assessments for waste disposal and environmental hazards		

No.	Index
1.	Purpose
2.	Definitions
3.	Scope
4.	Objectives
5.	Implementation Measures
6.	Monitoring and Review
7.	Roles and Responsibilities
8.	Supporting Documents

1 Purpose

This policy outlines our commitment to eliminating single-use plastics within YMCA, London City and North. It supports our broader environmental goals and aligns with national sustainability directives including the UK Single-Use Plastics Directive.

2 Definitions

HOE – Head of Estates.

ECL – Estates Compliance Lead

3 Scope

This policy applies to all of the services and properties managed or owned by YMCA, London, City and North.

4 Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to eliminate single-use plastics from daily operations, promote reusable and compostable alternatives, raise awareness among staff, residents, and visitors, and ensure progress is monitored and reported annually.

5 Implementation Measures

The Estates team will ensure that all future purchases avoid single use plastics unless no viable alternative exists, replace plastic items in facilities with sustainable alternatives, require contractors to comply with the plastic free standards outlined in this policy, engage residents through signage and newsletters to encourage participation, and enhance waste segregation and recycling infrastructure to support plastic reduction.

6 Monitoring and Review

Monitoring and review activities will encompass audits of waste streams, an annual evaluation of procurement records, collection of feedback from site leads and residents, and updates to policies in response to legislative changes and evolving best practices. These processes will be overseen by the Head of Estates (HOE) and the Estates Compliance Lead (ECL).

7 Roles and Responsibilities

The Head of Estates holds overall accountability for enforcing and reviewing the policy; Site Leads are responsible for day to day monitoring and reporting; the Procurement Team must ensure compliance in purchasing; and all staff and contractors are expected to follow the policy and report any non-compliance.

8 Supporting Documents

- Health and Safety Policy September 2025
- Fire Safety Policy October 2025
- Risk assessments for waste disposal and environmental hazards October 2025