

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY PANEL

**Minutes from the Meeting of the Environment and Community Panel held on
Tuesday, 12th June, 2018 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall,
Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn**

PRESENT: Councillors C Sampson (Chairman), Miss L Bambridge,
Mrs C Bower, A Bubb, Mrs S Collop, Mrs S Fraser, G Hipperson, T Parish,
Mrs J Westrop and Mrs M Wilkinson

Portfolio Holders:

Councillor I Devereux – Portfolio Holder for Environment
Councillor B Long – Leader of the Council

Officers:

Barry Brandford – Waste and Recycling Manager
Sharon Clifton – Communications Manager
Vicki Hopps – Environmental Health Manager
Honor Howell – Assistant Director

EC1: **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR**

RESOLVED: Councillor Lesley Bambridge was appointed Vice
Chairman for the Municipal Year.

EC2: **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hopkins and
Taylor.

EC3: **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: The Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed as a
correct record and signed by the Chairman.

EC4: **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

EC5: **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was none.

EC6: MEMBERS PRESENT PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 34

There was none.

EC7: CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

EC8: FOOD HYGIENE UPDATE

The Environmental Health Manager presented the Food Hygiene update, as attached.

The Chairman thanked the Environmental Health Manager for her presentation and invited questions and comments from the Panel, as summarised below.

Councillor Mrs Fraser asked the Environmental Health Manager if Nail Salons were required to be licensed. The Environmental Health Manager explained that they had to adhere to Health and Safety Legislation, but were not required to be licensed by the Borough Council. She explained that the Council could inspect premises and ensure that any chemicals were being used safely and properly. She acknowledged that it was easy for anyone to buy equipment, chemicals and tattoo machines online which could be dangerous.

The Environmental Health Manager referred to the resources and staff available in the team and explained that they only had the resources available to react upon information. She encouraged Members to let her know if they were aware of any premises or activity which they felt should be investigated.

In response to a question from Councillor Hipperson, the Environmental Health Manager explained that there was an age of consent of 18 for tattoos, but not one for piercings. She explained that a fine of up to £500 could be issued if authorities were aware of underage tattooing. The Environmental Health Manager explained that the Council had a tattoo hygiene rating scheme in place.

Councillor Parish asked about training and education. The Environmental Health Manager explained that the Council did run Food Hygiene courses and did go into Primary Schools to teach the importance of hand washing.

RESOLVED: The update was noted and a further update would be scheduled on the Work Programme for approximately a years' time.

EC9: SINGLE USE PLASTICS

The Waste and Recycling Manager presented the Panel with information on Single Use Plastics, as attached.

The Communications Manager explained that as well as the environmental impact of single use plastics, the Panel needed to consider issues such as littering, personal responsibility and behavioural change. She explained that the Council did run campaigns to promote recycling, they also provided information such as bin calendars and details of what could and could not be recycled. Work was also carried out in schools and face to face with the public to ensure that the right things were being recycled and to reduce contamination.

The Panel was informed that the Council preferred to educate and inform the public, however it was acknowledged that enforcement action could be taken as a last resort, for example for fly tipping.

The Panel was reminded that this item was brought to the Panel for consideration at the request of several Members. Officers sought Members assistance in the way forward.

The Chairman thanked the Waste and Recycling Manager and the Communications Manager for their report and invited questions and comments from the Panel, as summarised below.

Councillor Mrs Wilkinson asked about recycling blister packs from medication. The Waste and Recycling Manager explained that because blister packs were made up from multiple components they were often not recyclable. However the cardboard box that they came in could be recycled.

In response to a question from Councillor Mrs Bower it was explained that newspapers were sent to North Wales for recycling and there was a good market for this at the moment. The Waste and Recycling Manager acknowledged that there was not a market for some grades of paper, however the recycling contractor had a 'zero to landfill' policy and this resulted in a cost to dispose of this material.

Councillor Parish suggested that the Council should look at reducing the areas of waste which caused litter and contamination, for example single use plastics. He felt that there was a lot of plastic used which was unnecessary. He referred to a scheme running in Hunstanton in which businesses would refill water bottles and he asked if this could be extended throughout the Borough. He also made reference to incineration and how it was a way of getting rid of waste and creating energy.

The Communications Manager explained that the Council could review their Procurement procedures and look at alternative ways of working. She explained that Members needed to determine the Council's approach.

Councillor Mrs Westrop suggested that the Panel needed to look at existing and future campaigns to reduce waste, procurement and Council Policies. She explained that she had initially requested that the item be considered by the Environment and Community Panel after some Members had raised concern about the use of single use plastics in publicity campaigns.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Long referred to comments made about the incinerator and reminded those present that previously residents had not wanted an incinerator and therefore the Council had opposed it. He explained that contractor had 'zero to landfill' policy and did incinerate some waste.

Councillor Bubb referred to packaging materials and explained that they needed to be recyclable as well and that the Council needed to set an example for the public.

The Vice Chairman, Councillor Bambridge referred to plastic water bottles and explained that often the label on the bottle was not recyclable, so she often used glass bottles instead. She explained that it was important to look at behavioural changes, for example encouraging people to bring their own shopping bags.

In response to a question from Councillor Hipperson, the Waste and Recycling Manager explained that paper residue was often put on fields. He explained that this provided additional structure to the soil and the de-inking process contained phosphorous which was beneficial to soil and was cheaper than using chemicals.

The Chairman recommended that the Panel establish an Informal Working Group to look at issues in more depth and report back to the Panel in due course.

RESOLVED:

1. An Informal Working Group be established to look at Single Use Plastics.
2. Councillors Bower, Bubb, Fraser, Parish and Westrop be appointed to the Informal Working Group.
3. The Informal Working Group to report back to the Environment and Community Panel at their meeting on 5th March 2019.

EC10: **NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

RESOLVED: The Panel made the following Outside Body nominations, to be presented to Council:

Borough Council/College of West Anglia Liaison Board – Councillor Smith

King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee – Councillors Bubb, Smith and Westrop

Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub Panel – Councillor Westrop and Fraser (sub)

Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Fraser and Smith (sub)

West Norfolk Community Transport Project – Councillor Fraser

EC11: **WORK PROGRAMME AND FORWARD DECISION LIST**

The following items were identified for possible inclusion on the Work Programme:

- Update on the Docks
- Hare Coursing
- Grass Cutting

RESOLVED: The Panel's Work Programme was noted.

EC12: **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Environment and Community Panel would be held on 24th July 2018 at 6pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm



Food Safety Update

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Vicki Hopps
Environmental Health Manager



Minute Item EC8:

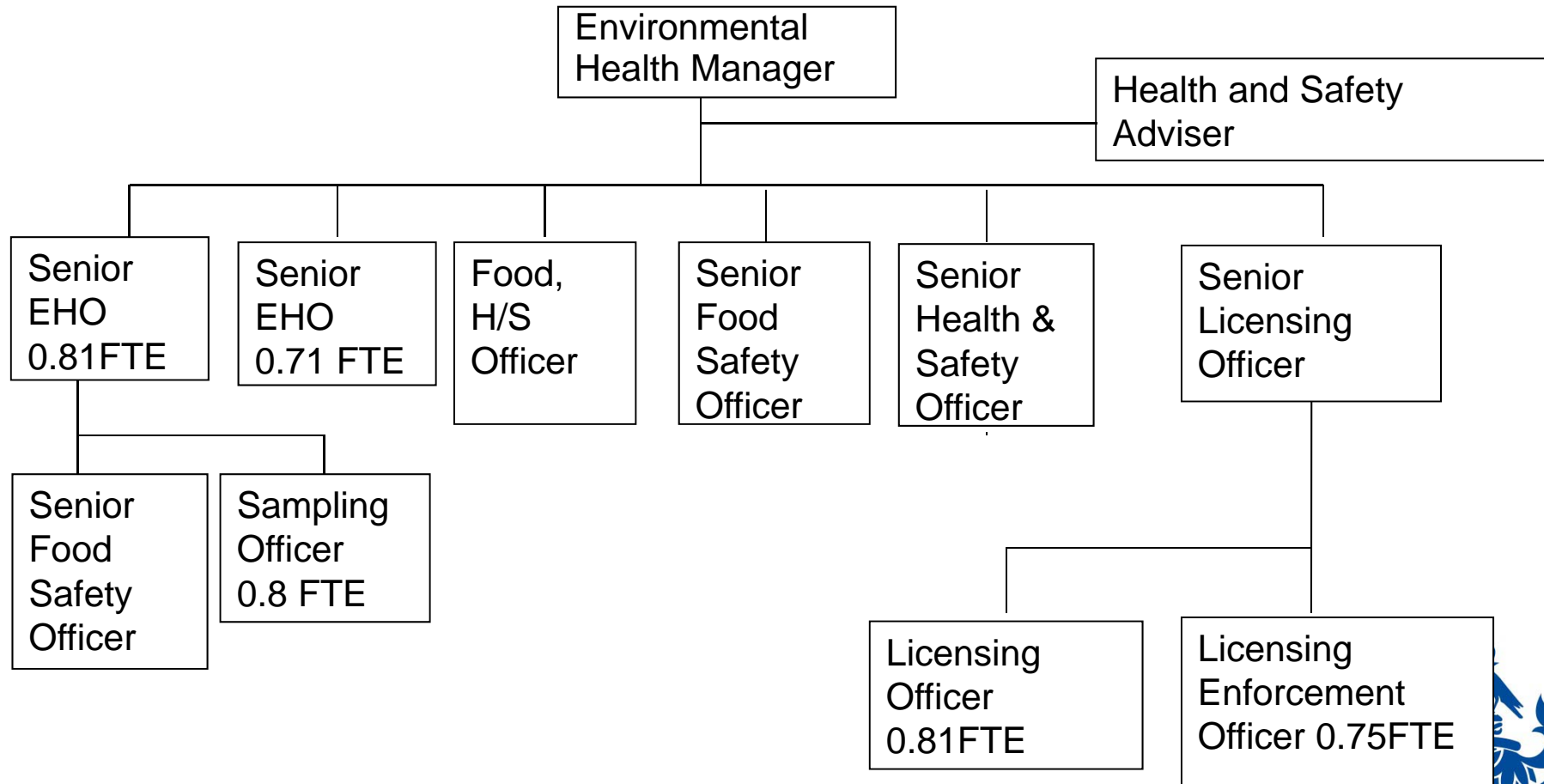
What's included

- Who we are – changes in staffing
- Performance 2016/17 and 2017/18
- Food Hygiene Rating Scheme – where we are
- Improvement in FHRS
- Better Business for All
- Large Outdoor Music Event
- Infectious Diseases
- The future / emerging issues....



Food, Health & Safety and Licensing

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Posts lost

- Licensing Manager 1 FTE
- 0.5 FTE Admin food/health and safety
- 0.30 FTE Licensing Admin
- Admin moved to central team within in Planning Support



What we do

- Food hygiene inspections
- Food complaints
- Food, water and shellfish sampling
- Investigate infectious diseases
- Ship sanitation certificates
- Export certificates
- Health & safety inspections
- Investigation of accidents
- Health & safety complaints
- Cooling towers
- Notification of asbestos removal work
- Lifting Operation thorough examination reports
- Registration of skin piercers
- Sunday trading
- Education and training
- Etc.....



2016 /17 a look back

2016/17	Interventions Achieved			Due Interventions Outstanding		
	Orig	Adj	Tot	Orig	Adj	Tot
Premises Rating - A	21	0	21	0	0	0
Premises Rating - B	91	0	91	8	9	9
Premises Rating - C	189	0	189	28	33	33
Premises Rating - D	174	0	174	66	84	84
Premises Rating - E	24	0	24	110	383	383
Premises Rating - Unrated	165	0	165	0	0	0
Premises Rating - Outside	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	664	0	664	212	509	509

Average 56.6% achieved



2017/18

2017/18	Interventions Achieved			Due Interventions Outstanding		
	Orig	Adj	Tot	Orig	Adj	Tot
Premises Rating - A	11	0	11	0	0	0
Premises Rating - B	88	0	88	6	-1	5
Premises Rating - C	164	0	164	24	-3	21
Premises Rating - D	241	0	241	31	0	31
Premises Rating - E	305	0	305	298	33	331
Premises Rating - Unrated	166	0	166	0	90	90
Premises Rating - Outside	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	975	0	975	359	119	478

Average 67.1% achieved

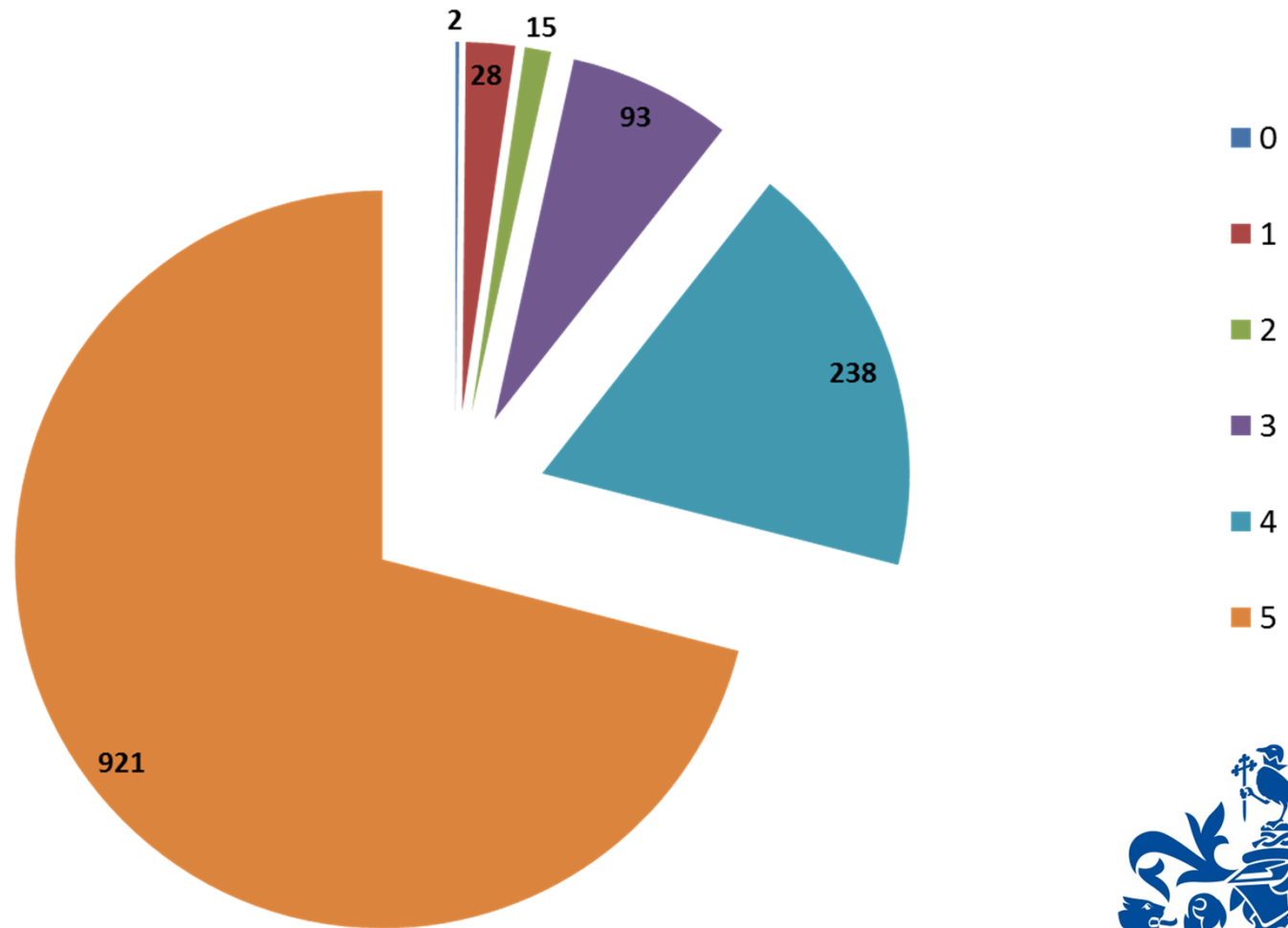


Intervention Strategy for Food Safety

- Priority for pro-active inspection work are Category A, B and C premises,
 - A - 6 monthly; B – annually; C – every 18 months; D – every 2 years
- Interventions for D rated premises will be on the basis of alternative interventions and official control intervention on a rotational basis.
- Unrated and overdue premises will be targeted via a triage system
- The key alternative enforcement strategy used is self-assessment questionnaires for E rated premises.
- Additionally education and advice in the form of Level 2 and Level 3 training



Food Hygiene Ratings – Distribution Over Time



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Improvements in FHRS

- 0-2 average score of most takeaways in Norfolk St.
- Prosecution for Food Hygiene and H/S offences



The Good News

- 4-5 is the score of the majority of places currently in Norfolk Street



Better Business for All

- To support businesses in the New Anglia LEP area to thrive and grow because it is good for our area.
- To make it simple and straightforward for businesses to work with us so it is as easy as possible for them to comply with the law; and
- To ensure our actions demonstrate that we regulate openly, fairly, transparently and proportionately.



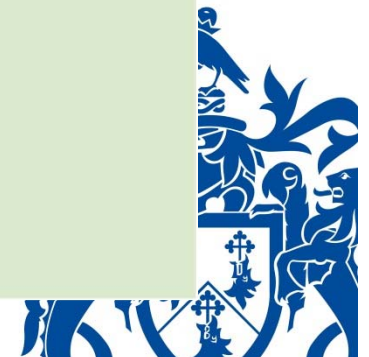
Anticipated outcomes for business

Improving Business Confidence by:	Reducing Costs to Business by:	Realising Wider Economic Benefits by:
<p>Regulators having greater empathy and understanding of business needs.</p> <p>Ensuring a no wrong door approach to regulation which will ensure that business gets the advice they need from the right people.</p> <p>Reserving enforcement for those businesses who deliberately disregard compliance thus giving a level playing field for businesses.</p>	<p>Providing accurate advice on compliance.</p> <p>Finding appropriate solutions to enable compliance and minimise risk.</p> <p>Assisting businesses to get it right first time.</p> <p>Ensuring advice differentiates between legal requirements and good practice.</p>	<p>Supporting businesses to thrive and grow</p> <p>Providing advice to business start-ups, those who wish to grow and those who wish to export.</p> <p>Work with partners including NALEP and the Growth Hub to ensure a seamless service to business and ensure the right support is provided.</p> <p>Linking businesses to DIT for support on exports</p>



Anticipated outcomes for regulators

Improving Business Compliance by:	Improving service efficiency and promoting growth opportunities by:	Improving relationships with business by:
<p>Better communication of regulatory standards to businesses.</p> <p>Better targeting of effort towards higher risk, lower performing businesses.</p> <p>Helping to access relevant information advice in more efficient ways through channels that businesses use and trust.</p>	<p>Helping businesses to save on the cost of compliance.</p> <p>Attracting and growing compliant businesses to the New Anglia area.</p> <p>Avoiding duplication of regulatory effort.</p>	<p>Helping businesses understand that regulators are there to help them to comply first time.</p>



Houghton Hall music festival

- Involves whole service area:
 - Food Safety
 - Private Water Supplies
 - Health and Safety
 - Licensing



Private water supply plant room



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Pipework and tanks

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Food vendors setting up



One Venue



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Staging areas

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Floating restaurant

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Day one of the festival



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Infectious diseases

- Campylobacter – outbreak association with sous vide chicken;
- Sampling smoked sausage, salad
- Influx of cryptosporidium



FSA re-modelling food enforcement

- Still no further forward!!!!
 - Watch this space.....



Any Questions????

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Single Use Plastics



Plastics are highly useful

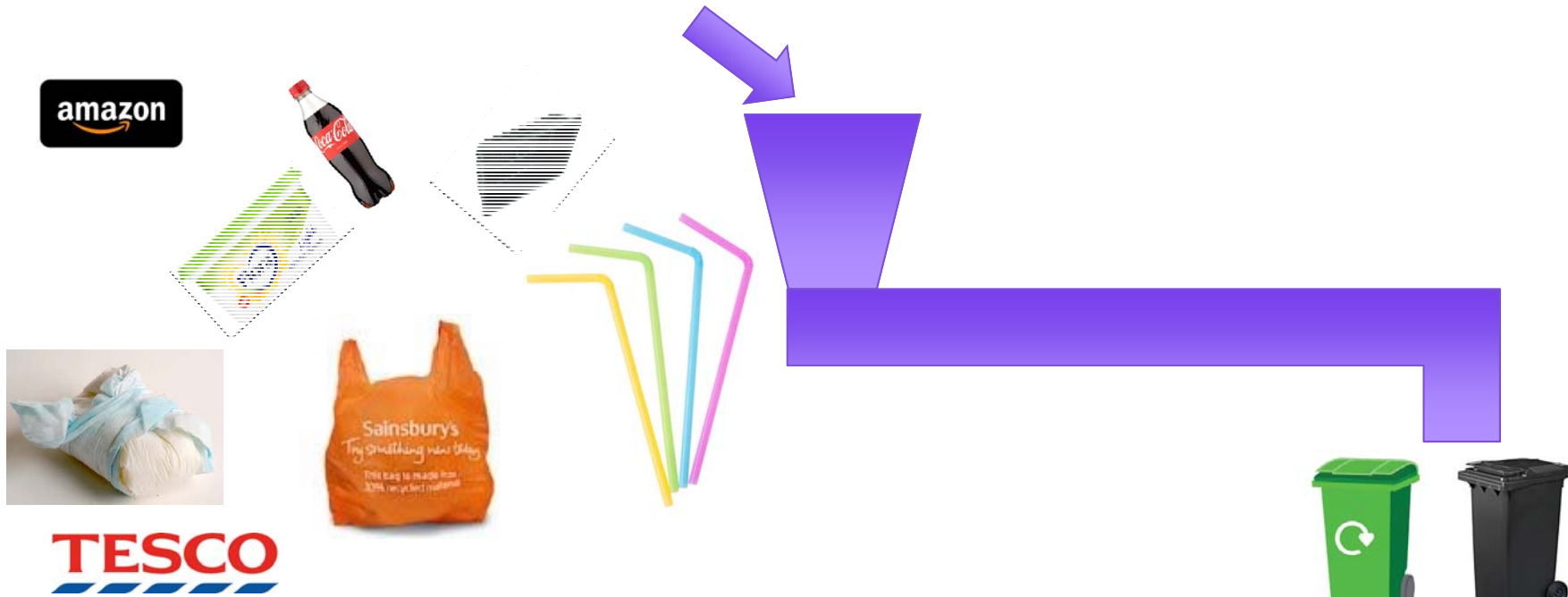


Plastics are not all bad



We are at the end of waste pipe

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We can not control what comes to us

We prevent plastic harm

- We provide people with bins
- We collect in dust carts
- We store inside
- We move in sheeted lorries
- We wrap or bale all of our plastics
- We know where they all go
- They remain in Europe



We have to deal with it

- Recycle the widest range of materials
- Recycled materials must be marketable
 - Biodegradable plastics can not be recycled
 - There is no market for some of the proposed alternatives
- The Environmental Impacts of some alternatives are worse than plastic



Environmental Costs

- Life cycle analysis
 - The total environmental cost of any item
 - 90% is created in the making of a product
 - Greatest benefit is to make an additional use of any single use product, if you can't avoid its first use.
 - If you cant avoid or reuse then remanufacture or recycle
 - Finally dispose of responsibly

