

As part of our continued efforts to make the DOCA events more environmentally friendly, we will be endeavouring to completely phase out single use plastics over the next year.

By 2021 we will no longer be providing plastic items such as plastic cups, cutlery, or plastic straws and will be looking more favourably on those that we work with who share this ethos.

We will be looking for market stall traders who are also reducing their environmental impact and considering this in the application process. Whether this is discounts for using reusable cups, using vegware or similar products, or using recycled products, we want to make the Devizes Street Festival and all of DOCA's events more environmentally friendly.

Typical plastics don't break down in landfill quickly; current estimates say it could be anything from 100 – 1000 years if at all. Compare that to some of the alternatives – wooden cutlery will biodegrade naturally in a few years. Vegware could break down in 10 years.

Below are a couple of different options and price comparisons on regularly used products. Different suppliers will obviously have different items and different prices, but these alternatives to plastics might be worth looking into.

Wooden cutlery

These are typically quite sturdy and are often of similar prices to plastic so are a good alternative to consider in the first instance. Some companies use recycled wood or are sustainably sourced.

We have recently replaced our plastic cutlery with wooden at the 2017 Winter Ales festival at our pie station.

Item	Wooden		Plastic	
	Pack cost	Cost/unit	Pack cost	Cost/unit
Knives	£2.90 for 100	0.029p	£1.20 for 100	£0.12p
Forks	£2.90 for 100	0.029p	£1.20 for 100	£0.12p
Spoons	£2.90 for 100	0.029p	£1.20 for 100	£0.12p
Tea spoons	£3.20 for 100	0.032p	£1.20 for 100	£0.12p
Chip forks	£4.60 for 1000	0.004p		
Ice cream scoops	£4.20 for 100	0.042p		

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/disposable-wooden-knives-pack-of-100/cd902>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/disposable-wooden-forks-pack-of-100/cd903>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/disposable-wooden-dessert-spoons-pack-of-100/cd904>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/fiesta-birch-wooden-teaspoon-110mm-pack-of-100/dk398>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/disposable-wooden-chip-forks-pack-of-1000/cd901>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/fiesta-birch-wooden-ice-cream-scoop-96mm-pack-of-100/dk399>

Other consumables

	Alternative		Plastic	
	Pack cost	Cost/unit	Pack cost	Cost/unit
Straws	£4.49 for 250	0.02p	1.49 for 250	0.005p
Chip trays	£35.99 for 500	0.07p	£19.99 for 500	0.03p
Drinking cups				

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/disposable-kraft-tray-large/ck936>

Packaging

Vegware

Vegware is a material made from plants but with similar strength to plastics and is a brand of similar products made from materials like corn or potato starch which are fully compostable, renewable, low carbon, and sustainably sourced.

These alternatives can be slightly more expensive, but for most items that are made in plastic there is a vegware (or similar) alternative.

	Alternative		Plastic	
	Pack cost	Cost/unit	Pack cost	Cost/unit
Knives	£2.50 for 50	0.05p	£1.20 for 100	£0.12p
Forks	£2.50 for 50	0.05p	£1.20 for 100	£0.12p
Spoons	£2.50 for 50	0.05p	£1.20 for 100	£0.12p
Burger boxes	£26.99 for 200	0.13p	£21.99 for 250	0.08p
Chip trays	£37.99 for 500	0.07p	£19.99 for 500	0.03p
Cold drink cups	£74.99 for 1000	0.07p	£34.99 for 500	0.06p
Hot drink cups	£54.99 for 500	0.10p	£28.99 for 1000	0.02p

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/vegware-compostable-knives/hc606>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/vegware-compostable-forks/hc605>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/vegware-compostable-spoons/hc607>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/vegware-compostable-clamshell-hinged-meal-boxes/gh026>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/vegware-chip-trays/gh025>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/vegware-cold-cups-12oz/gh014>

<https://www.nisbets.co.uk/vegware-hot-cups-8oz/gh020>

All prices correct and links live as of 14/06/18 from Nisbets.com