

#OneLess Cambridge



*Joined the **#OneLess** pioneer network in Jan 2019





At a glance

#OneLess Cambridge is a team of undergraduate and postgraduate students and researchers at the University of Cambridge, campaigning to remove plastic water bottles across campus and encourage city-wide refilling and reusing.

@OneLess_Cam

Eliminating plastic water bottles

#OneLess Cambridge successfully worked with Cambridge University Catering Service to remove plastic water bottles from all catering outlets, previously selling 40,000 plastic bottles a year! Since October 2018 when the removal was introduced, water and soft drinks are now sold in cans and glass bottles, and water refill points are available for staff and students to fill-up with a reusable bottle. Overall, the Catering Service has removed over **2.5 million** items of single-use plastic, replacing with a Vegware alternative for the time being.

Plastic free Colleges

Two colleges followed suit in 2019, with both Darwin and Corpus Christi removing all singleuse items in college catering. This included plastic water bottles which are no longer sold in the college bars, and where tap water is available instead. #OneLess Cambridge is using the efforts of both colleges as a case study to engage with more College Green Officers at the University, so that more colleges can make the change and go #OneLess.

40,000 a year - the number of plastic bottles no longer sold in University catering



2.5 million single-use plastic items removed from catering

Beyond campus

#OneLess Cambridge has attended a variety of sustainability events at the University, resulting in over **200** staff and students taking the #OneLess pledge to ditch bottled water for good. Further afield, #OneLess Cambridge has recently been supporting Cambridge City Council to explore how the city can promote and repurpose existing water refill points, so that citizens can refill when out and about without buying unnecessary plastic water bottles.

200 staff and students across the University pledging not to use single-use water bottles

We are all so used to a disposable culture, but by expanding and promoting access to tap water and alternative products, the University has been able to remove not just plastic water bottles but millions of other items of single-use plastic across campus in just a few years. This demonstrates why #OneLess Cambridge is such an important campaign, and why reducing single-use plastic is an issue the University feels so strongly about. (Lucia Corsini, #OneLess Cambridge)



The decentralised decision-making structure at the University offers a unique challenge. Each college has different processes and ways of doing things. By engaging with College Green Officers, #OneLess Cambridge has ensured that colleges can learn from each other on reducing plastic in



What's next

#OneLess Cambridge is continuing to raise awareness about single-use plastic on campus and shine a light on why it is an urgent environmental issue. The team is also continuing to work with College Green Officers to ensure that more colleges can make the switch and become plastic bottle free.



Join the #OneLess pioneer network



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