



Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

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Sir Robert Goodwill MP
Environment, Food and Rural
Affairs Select Committee
House of Commons
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10 August 2023

Dear Robert,

RESULTS FROM THE SINGLE-USE CARRIER BAGS CHARGE 2022-23

I am writing to let you know that the seventh full year's data under the Single Use Carrier Bags Charges (England) Order 2015 has now been published on data.gov.uk.

For the period 7 April 2022 to 6 April 2023, the overall number of single-use carrier bags sold by the 119 retailers who registered and reported data was 406 million. This represents a substantial decrease in single use carrier bag use, from last year's reporting period, which was 496 million.

For this reporting year, Tesco and Waitrose reported that they did not sell any single-use plastic carrier bags, while the remaining main supermarkets (Asda, Marks and Spencer, Morrisons, Sainsbury's and The Co-operative Group) sold 133 million single-use plastic carrier bags in England in 2022 to 2023, compared to 197 million in 2021 to 2022. This is a decrease of 64 million bags (33%) and a reduction of over 98% on the number of SUCBs sold compared to 2014, the year before the charge was introduced (when 7.6 billion were distributed).

The carrier bag charge continues to be effective and demonstrates the important role we can all play in reducing and reusing plastic. It's important we continue to build on this, however, as there is more we can all do to reduce waste and tackle plastic pollution.

In line with the legislative requirements, data can be viewed on GOV.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/carrier-bag-charge-summary-of-data-in-england>.

Yours sincerely,

REBECCA POW MP