

# Catering Consumables

## Single-use plastics alternatives



# Contents

Introduction	3
Material Index	3
Cups	3
Cold beverage cups	3
Hot beverage cups	4
Disposable cup lids	5
Cutlery	6
Forks	6
Spoons	7
Knives	8
Food Packaging	9
Bowls	9
Plates	10
Containers	11
Lids	12
Sandwich packs	13
Specialist other	14
Napkins	16
Stirrers	16
Straws	17
Understanding Disposal Methods	18
Biodegradable	18
Compostable	18
Recyclable	19
Reusable	19
National Impact	20
Get ready to make the switch?	20



# Introduction

NHS Supply Chain is committed to supporting the reduction of single-use plastics within the NHS. Our Catering Consumables and Equipment framework offers trusts the opportunity to switch to more sustainable catering consumable products.

The following products have been identified as options for NHS trusts to consider in their plan to reduce their use of single-use plastics. All products listed are available to order through NHS Supply Chain.

## Material Index

Material	In full
Bagasse	
CPLA	Crystallized Poly Lactic Acid
EPP	Expanded Polypropylene
MFP	Moulded Fibre Pulp
Paper	
PP	Polypropylene
PLA	Polylactic Acid
rPET	Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate
Wood	

## Cups

### Cold beverage cups



#### UTC417

7oz Clear Cold Cup

Material: Polypropylene

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Berry Superfos



#### UTP501

7oz Cold Cup

Material: PLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



#### UTC3289

4oz Cold Drinking Cone

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Alliance

# Cups

## Hot beverage cups



**UTP401**

12oz Double Wall Cup

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP466**

12oz Single Wall Cup

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP457**

12oz Single Wall Cup

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP494**

12oz Double Wall Cup

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UMB673**

12oz Single Wall Cup

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Biodegradable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UMB675**

12oz Double Wall Cup

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Biodegradable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UMB679**

12oz Double Wall Cup

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Biodegradable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UMB672**

12oz Double Wall Cup

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UMB692**

12oz Double Wall Cup

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP400**

**8oz Double Wall Cup**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UMB674**

**8oz Double Wall Cup**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Biodegradable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP446**

**8oz Single Wall Cup**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTB085**

**16oz Single Wall Cup**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UMB684**

**4oz Kraft Ripple Cup**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering

## Cups

### Disposable cup lids



**UYZ029**

**12 / 16oz Hot Cup Lid**

Material: PLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UYZ039**

**8oz Hot Cup Lid**

Material: PLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTB086**

**8oz Hot Cup Lid**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTC3221**

**8oz Domed Lid**

Material: PLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTC3222**

**12oz Domed Lid**

Material: PLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTB088**

**10 / 20oz Lid (89mm)**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance

## Cutlery

### Forks



**UJB529**

**3.75in Fork**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTC399**

**6.5in Fork**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UJZ1190**

**160mm Fork**

Material: Wood

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP472**

**158mm Fork**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering

# Cutlery

## Spoons



**UJZ1191**

**160mm Dessert Spoon**

Material: Wood

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



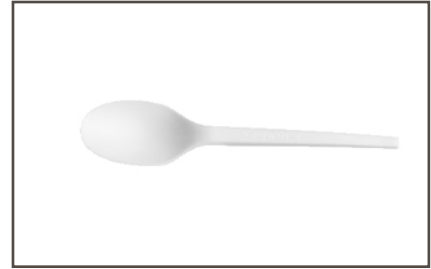
**UJB530**

**168mm Dessert Spoon**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTC401**

**6.5in Dessert Spoon**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP461**

**160mm Dessert Spoon**

Material: Wood

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP483**

**158mm Dessert Spoon**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UJB531**

**114mm Teaspoon**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP443**

**110mm Teaspoon**

Material: Wood

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UJZ1192**

**110mm Teaspoon**

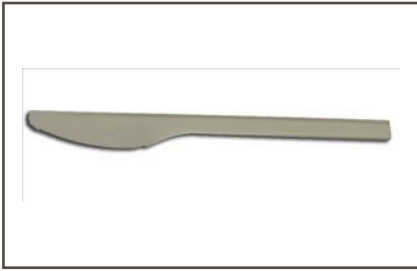
Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance

# Cutlery

## Knives



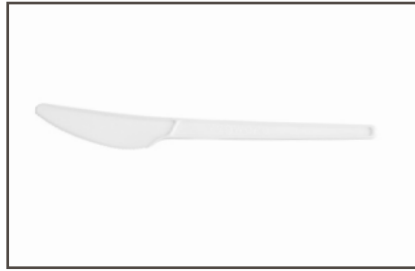
**UJB528**

**170mm Knife**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



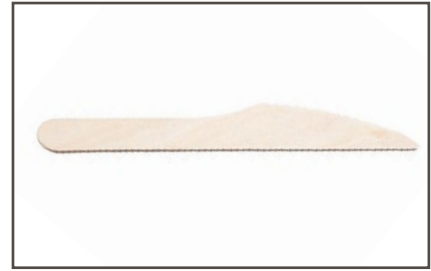
**UTC400**

**6.5in Knife**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



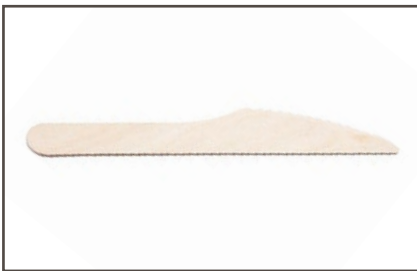
**UTP439**

**160mm Knife**

Material: Wood

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UJZ1189**

**Knife**

Material: Wood

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP481**

**170mm Knife**

Material: CPLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



# Food Packaging

## Bowls



**UTP5220**

12oz Chinet Round

Material: MFP

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP5221**

8oz Chinet Round

Material: MFP

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP441**

12oz Bowl

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP313**

16oz Chinet Round

Material: MFP

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance

# Food Packaging

## Plates



**UTP425**

**25cm Disposable Plate**

Material: MFP

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP496**

**10in Disposable Plate**

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP492**

**9in Disposable Plate**

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTA091**

**9.75in Disposable Plate**

Material: MFP

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP5218**

**22cm Disposable Plate**

Material: MFP

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP5219**

**17cm Disposable Plate**

Material: MFP

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP5249**

**23cm Disposable Plate**

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP5250**

**17.5cm Disposable Plate**

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP5251**

**15cm Disposable Plate**

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance

# Food Packaging Containers



**UTC382**

4oz Trifle Dish

Material: rPET

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTC383**

6oz Trifle Dish

Material: rPET

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTB097**

4oz Cold Portion Pot

Material: PLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTZ146**

12oz Soup Container

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP491**

650ml Container with Lid

Material: PP

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP456**

450ml Container with Lid

Material: PP

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering

# Food Packaging

## Lids



**UTP471**

12 / 21oz Flat Tumbler Lid

Material: rPET

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTB099**

2 / 4oz Portion Pot Lid

Material: PLA

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance

# Food Packaging

## Deli pots



**UTP475**

175ml Deli Pot with Lid

Material: rPET

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP444**

350ml Deli Pot with Lid

Material: rPET

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP470**

16oz Deli Pot with Lid

Material: PP

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering

# Food Packaging

## Sandwich packs



**AHB834**

**85mm Sandwich Pack**

Material: rPET

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP493**

**65mm Hinged Sandwich Pack**

Material: rPET

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP463**

**65mm Sandwich Pack**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP495**

**75mm Sandwich Pack**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTP357**

**1100ml Sandwich Box**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance

# Food Packaging

## Specialist other



**UXB512**

10 x 10in Paper Bag

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UXB432**

6 x 6in Hinged Clamshell

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UXB433**

8 x 6in Hinged Clamshell

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UXB434**

9 x 6in Hinged Clamshell

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP486**

Heavy Duty Foodbox

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP482**

8 x 9in Clamshell

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP480**

5 x 7in Clamshell

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP453**

9 x 6in Clamshell

Material: Bagasse

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP464**

Large Hot Food Box

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP458**

**Medium Hot Food Box**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP462**

**Window Food Box**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP474**

**Large Window Food Box**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP468**

**Medium Window Food Box**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP452**

**Hinged Food Box**

Material: EPP

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP488**

**Large Hinged Food Box**

Material: EPP

Disposal: **Recyclable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UFH717**

**15cm Deep Gastronorm**

Material: PP

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance

# Napkins



**MWK033**

33cm 2ply Kraft Napkin

Material: Paper

Disposal: Compostable

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTP436**

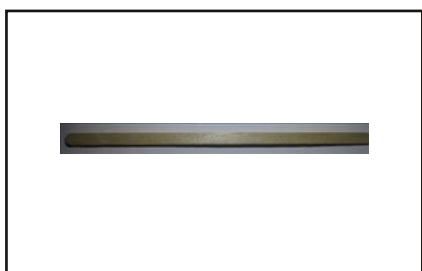
33cm 2ply Kraft Napkin

Material: Paper

Disposal: Compostable

Supplier: Alliance

# Stirrers



**UJB523**

140mm Drink Stirrer

Material: Wood

Disposal: Compostable

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



**UTZ129**

5in Drink Stirrer

Material: Wood

Disposal: Compostable

Supplier: Alliance



# Straws



**UTS025**

**8in White Straw**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Bunzl Catering



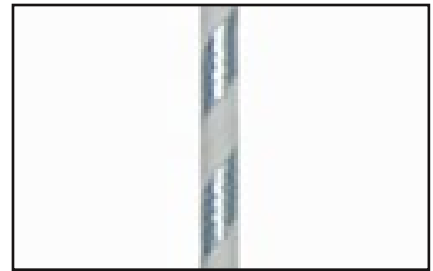
**UTS033**

**5.25in White Straw**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



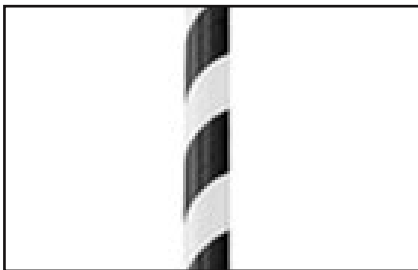
**UTS034**

**20cm Silver Stripe Straw**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTS035**

**20cm Black Stripe Straw**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTS036**

**20cm Blue Striped Straw**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTS037**

**20cm Red Striped Straw**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTS038**

**20cm Green Striped Straw**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTS019**

**20cm White Straw**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance



**UTS031**

**20cm Black Straw**

Material: Paper

Disposal: **Compostable**

Supplier: Alliance

# Understanding Disposal Methods

Sustainable products can be disposed through a variety of methods, and specific infrastructures are required in most cases to enable effective disposal. What follows is a short guide to help explain each of these methods, and what should be considered when purchasing sustainable alternatives.

## Biodegradable

Biodegrading is the naturally occurring breakdown of materials, either by microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi or through other biological activity. A product that is able to break down naturally due to this process is not inherently eco-friendly. An example of this being most plastics, which over time will break down, resulting in the creation of microplastics, which impact the ecological balance on a microscopic scale infiltrating the food chain water cycle.\*

An alternative is bioplastics, which is plant biomass such as corn starch, sugar and wheat. These should fully break down naturally and in some instances be compostable.\*

Biodegradation is a natural process with no human intervention.\*

## Compostable

Compostable products are those which decay into biodegradable materials, ultimately turning into nutrient rich matter that can be used to aid the growth of new plants. Compostable products have a circular life cycle, in which the plant-based product is produced, disposed of, processed and then reproduced in a non-ending cycle. This type of product is particularly well suited to catering consumables. The products do not need to be sorted or cleaned of all food and drink contaminants prior to disposal, as the biodegradable contaminants can also be processed in this way.

Special conditions are required for the composting process. These conditions do not naturally occur at appropriate levels in landfill sites. If disposed of through the appropriate commercial method, bioplastics used for compostable catering products will decompose at a rate similar to other organic and biodegradable materials. Home composting is not an adequate waste stream for bioplastic products as they do not sustain the required conditions for the relevant period of time to enable breakdown of the molecular bonds.

Composting is a human controlled process which ensures that optimal conditions for microbes are met in order to reach the result faster. All compostable material is biodegradable, the difference in categorisation is time. For something to be compostable, it must break down within 12 weeks.\*

---

\* Alliance environmentally conscious guide: <https://www.alliancenaional.co.uk/e-catalogues.html>

## Recyclable

Recycling is defined as “the action or process of converting waste into reusable material”. There are various materials that can be recycled including metal, paper, cardboard, glass, and plastics.

By using recycled material in the production process manufacturers are able to reduce the amount of energy used through processing raw materials, this also helps reduce the amount of waste being taken to landfill.

The best method of sorting recyclable material within the trust is to provide separate bins, one for each type of material to be disposed in. Bins need to be clearly labelled to allow for easy identification.

## Reusable

The nature of reusable products means that waste generation from single-use alternatives is avoided. Collection and incorporation of recycled materials back into the manufacturing process still requires additional energy, with only a small percentage of which being provided from renewable sources.

The Catering Consumables and Equipment framework offers a whole range of reusable catering products. To see the range of products available through our catalogue please click on the following links:

**Crockery** - <https://my.supplychain.nhs.uk/Catalogue/browse/126/crockery>

**Feeding aids** - <https://my.supplychain.nhs.uk/Catalogue/browse/610/feeding-aids>

**Glassware** - <https://my.supplychain.nhs.uk/Catalogue/browse/593/glassware>

**Stainless steel cutlery** - <https://my.supplychain.nhs.uk/Catalogue/browse/599/stainless-steel-cutlery>

# National Impact

During 2019 / 2020 the NHS bought 184 tonnes of Plastic Catering Consumables.

In 2020 the NHS collectively purchased:

- **131,646,625** plastic cups
- **39,911,500** pieces of plastic cutlery
- **1,000,013** plastic stirrers
- **8,718,250** plastic drinking straws
- **4,145,200** items of food packaging

NHS Supply Chain is committed to supporting the reduction of single-use plastics in our supply chain and if every NHS trust moved to a sustainable alternative listed within this brochure, we could collectively support the reduction of single-use plastics in the NHS and achieve our organisations KPI target of reducing plastics in catering consumables by at least **50 tonnes during 2021 / 2022**.

## Ready to make the switch?

Get in touch with your local Customer Relationship Manager here <https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/contact/account-managers/> and find out how many tonnes of single-use plastic your trusts could save.

To ensure continuity of supply, trusts wishing to switch must submit a **demand capture form** with four weeks' notice via their NHS Supply Chain Customer Relationship Manager.

For additional information on alternative products please email our Catering Consumables Specialists at [hotelservicessupport@supplychain.nhs.uk](mailto:hotelservicessupport@supplychain.nhs.uk).

Please take a look at the resources available at [www.supplychain.nhs.uk/sustainability](http://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/sustainability) to understand more about our sustainability strategy and how we can support trusts and ICSs in their work.

