



## Marine Litter Action Plan for Wales

The Marine Litter Action Plan for Wales (MLAP) is delivered through a network of organisations and communities who form part of the Wales Clean Seas Partnership. Each partner has made a commitment to contribute to achieving the objectives of the MLAP over the next three years. Welsh Government, who provide communication support via a regular newsletter and web site, facilitates the Partnership.

Wales Clean Seas partners make a public pledge to collaborate and report on progress to tackle marine litter aligned to UN Clean Seas campaign. The Partnership aims to apply the principles of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act through building a collaborative approach to delivering the MLAP with a focus on taking action to address the root causes of marine litter.

Wales Clean Seas Partners met in November 2019 to review progress and the research evidence from the first three years of the MLAP 2017-20 and agreed to contribute to a set of common actions for 2020-23

## Marine Litter Action Plan 2020-23

### 1. Focus on preventative action to reduce litter at source through:

- a. Working with Welsh Government to develop and implement the Beyond Recycling strategy and specifically the Wales Litter Prevention Plan.
- b. Maximising the scale of volunteer involvement to build consensus for greater preventative action by business and working with Government to shape appropriate legislative change.

### 2. Support and connect the community and volunteer led responses through:

- a. Continuing focus on building scale, coverage, coordination and impact of **beach cleans** with improved mapping of activity, hot spots and gaps
- b. Supporting community led action such as the SAS Plastic Free Communities network, Ocean Guardians
- c. Working through coastal town & community councils to maximise the value of blue flag status.

- d. Building on the success of spatially focused initiatives eg to address litter supply via catchments; through connecting community action on the All Wales Coast Path.

### **3. Promote, support and connect behaviour change initiatives through:**

- a. Continuing the development and expansion of education programmes and youth engagement
- b. Focusing on high profile, high impact targeted initiatives - Refill Wales, Stop the Block, 2 Minute Beach Cleans
- c. Working with Visit Wales and the tourism sector to promote the Clean Seas Wales message, provide guidance on solutions and engage visitors
- d. Working with the fishing industry, (including the recreation sector) ports and harbours to improve management of fishing gear and provide capacity for fishing for litter schemes

### **4. Communicate and measure impact through:**

- a. Promoting common “Clean Seas Wales” messaging
- b. Contributing case studies to the Clean Seas Wales newsletter and web site
- c. Setting common measures for reporting on beach cleans
- d. Producing annual report on progress against Clean Seas Wales pledges

Wales Clean Seas Partners are asked to complete their pledges setting out three priority actions, which will contribute to the achievement of the Marine Litter Action Plan 2020-23. These will be made public on the Wales Clean Seas web site.

Partners will be asked to provide annual reports on the progress in delivering the pledges.