



Welcome

The Ethical and Environmental Group are currently exploring how to reduce take away packaging waste from on campus catering outlets. To do so, we are building our understanding of why members of the GCU community use take-aways. By completing this quick survey, you can help inform our work and increase its effectiveness. If you would like more information about the campaign or the group please contact Ethical and Environmental Officer Caitlin Reid at EandE@gcustudents.co.uk

START →

Number of responses: 43

Question 1

How often do you get something to EAT from an on-campus catering outlet?

☐ 1 to 2 times a week

☐ 3 to 4 times a week

☐ 5+ times a week

☐ A few times a month

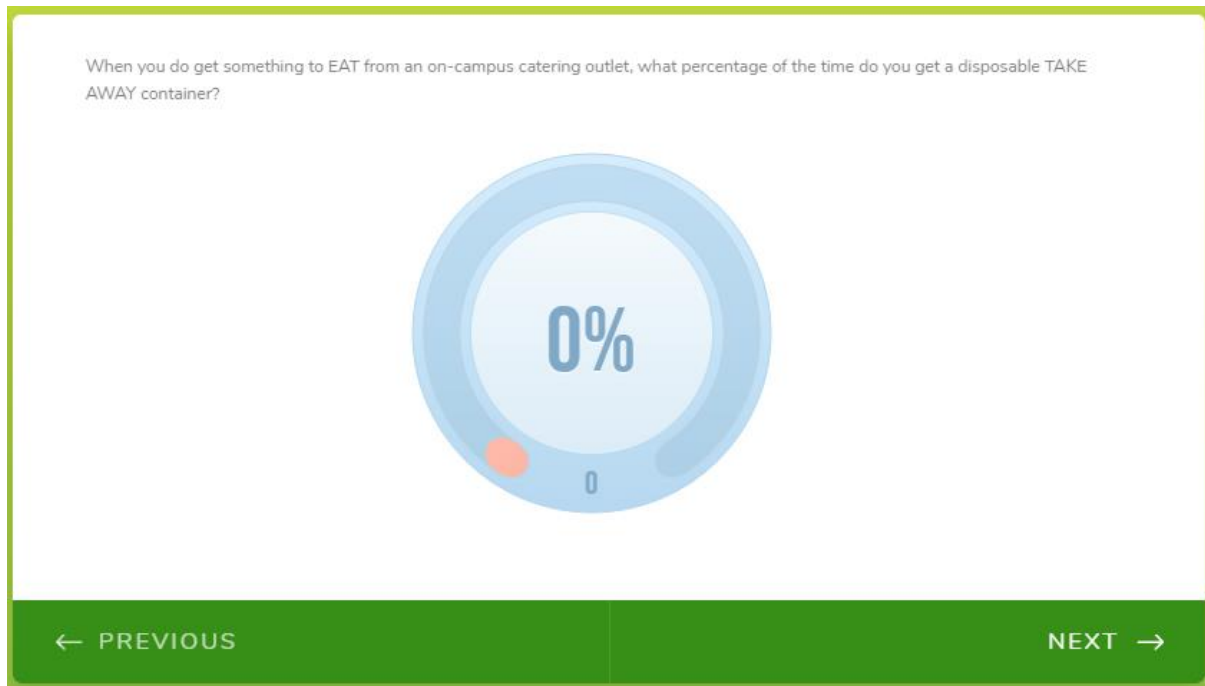
☐ Never

NEXT →

Response:

Never	6
A few times a month	11
1 to 2 times a week	20
3 to 4 times a week	4
5+ times a week	2

Question 2 (for all but 'never' on Q1)



Response:

Average Score 50.91%

Question 3 (for all but 'never' on Q1)

Why do you get a disposable take away container at these times?

- ☐ I'm going to eat somewhere else on campus
- ☐ I'm going to take it off campus to enjoy
- ☐ I forgot to bring my reusable container and will be taking it away
- ☐ A take away container is the only choice available
- ☐ Its easier to clean up after I'm finish
- ☐ I'm not sure why, I just do
- ☐ I never use a take away container
- ☐ Other

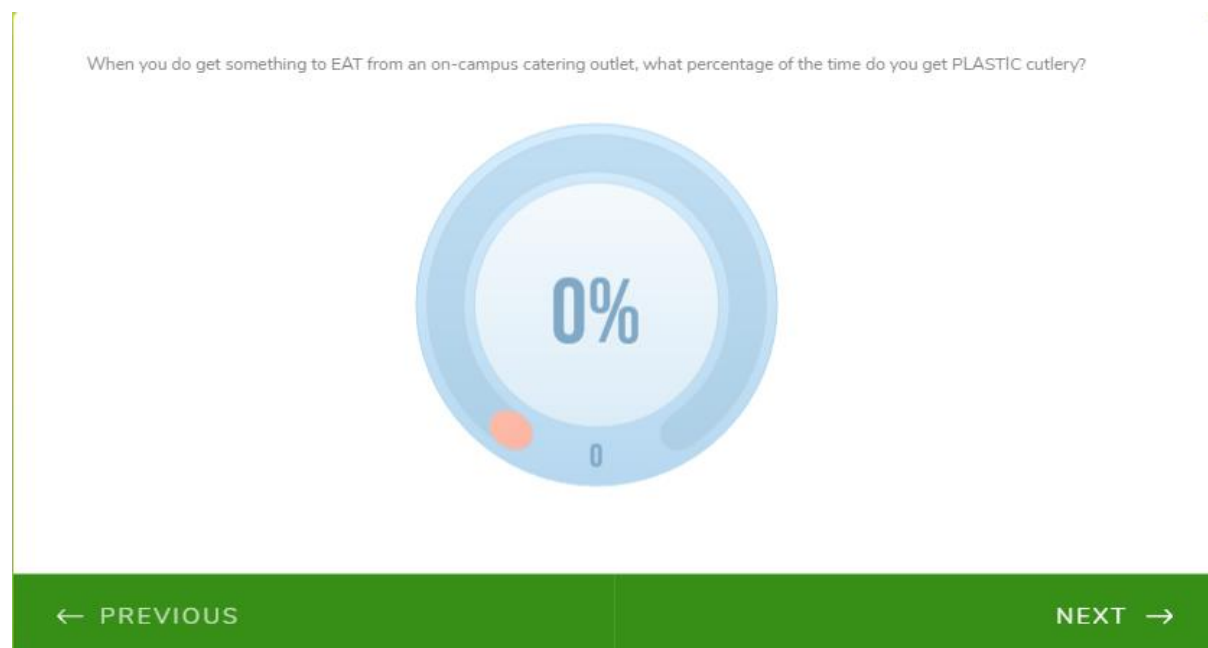
← PREVIOUS

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Response:

I'm going to eat somewhere else on campus	16
I'm going to take it off campus to enjoy	2
I forgot to bring my reusable container and will be taking it away	6
A take away container is the only choice available	17
It's easier to clean up after I'm finish	1
I'm not sure why, I just do	2
I never use a take away container	8
Other	3

Question 4 (for all but 'never' on Q1)



Response:

Average score 40.94%

Question 5 (for all but 'never' on Q1)

Why do you get PLASTIC cutlery at these times?

☐ I'm going to eat somewhere else on campus

☐ I'm going to take it off campus to enjoy

☐ I forgot to bring my reusable cutlery and will be taking it away

☐ PLASTIC cutlery is the only choice available

☐ Its easier to clean up after I'm finish

☐ I'm not sure why, I just do

☐ I never use the plastic cutlery

☐ Other

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Response:

I'm going to eat somewhere else on campus	8
I'm going to take it off campus to enjoy	1
I forgot to bring my reusable cutlery and will be taking it away	1
PLASTIC cutlery is the only choice available	9
It is easier to clean up after I'm finish	1
I'm not sure why, I just do	1
I never use the plastic cutlery	21
Other	0

Question 6

How often do you get a hot/cold DRINK from an on-campus catering outlet?

☐ 1 to 2 times a week
 ☐ 3 to 4 times a week

☐ 5+ times a week
 ☐ A few times a month

☐ Never


← PREVIOUS
NEXT →

Response:

Never	7
A few times a month	13
1 to 2 times a week	6
3 to 4 times a week	10
5+ times a week	7

Question 7 (for all but 'never' on Q6)

When you do get a DRINK from the on-campus catering outlets, what percentage of the time do you get a TAKE AWAY cup?



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Response:

Average score 60.92%

Question 8

Why do you get a take away cup at these times?

☐ I'm not going to drink it somewhere else on campus

☐ I'm going to take it off campus to enjoy

☐ I forgot to bring my reusable cup and will be taking it away

☐ A take away cup is the only choice available

☐ Its easier to clean up after I'm finish

☐ I'm not sure why, I just do

☐ I never use take away cups

☐ Other

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Response:

A take away cup is the only choice available	9
I forgot to bring my reusable cup and will be taking it away	13
I'm going to drink it somewhere else on campus	4
I'm going to take it off campus to enjoy	2
I'm not sure why, I just do	4
Its easier to clean up after I'm finish	2
Other	1
I never use take away cups	10

Question 9

Do you regularly use a travel mug/keep cup etc?

YES NO

← PREVIOUS NEXT →

Response:

Yes 31

No 12

Question 9a (for those answering yes to Q9)

What are the benefits of using a travel mug/keep cup?

← PREVIOUS NEXT →

Response:

Convenient

Costs less

Discount, feeling good for sustainability

drastically reduces waste associated with single-use cups

Environmentally friendly

Good for the environment and cheaper due to discount

Helps to prevent waste

I don't have to use a one-time use mug

I hate the waste of throwaway plastic - I tend to save them and recycle them at Pret or Costa

I know it's clean

It is more sustainable, less waste, nicer because it is my cup

It means I don't have to dispose of anything and it is good if studying in the SA

It's easy to take with you and helps reduce your personal waste of any plastic or other material

Keeps my coffee longer warm , no waste

Keeps tea warm longer , reduces single use cups

Less waste

Less waste

More sustainable

no plastic waste

No waste, cheaper

Prevents unnecessary waste

Reducing waste

Reusable

Reusable, prevents waste of single-use/non-recyclable coffee cups, saves 10p, helps the environment, promotes sustainability

Save money, larger size, more enjoyable to drink, save the earth, etc.

Small discount, bigger cup, better for environment

The discount on the coffee!

You get money off your order and you can get multiple cups a day without using throw aways each time.

You prevent waste and it is a little cheaper. It makes me feel good.

You're not putting a single-use cup into the waste system and adding to existing pollution.

Question 9b (for those answering no to Q9)

What are the barriers to using a travel mug/keep cup?

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Response:

Don't own one

Risk of spillage.

I forget it

No barriers

Forgetfulness and lack of wash facilities

Carrying the cup everywhere.

They're not my style

I wouldn't say there are any barriers personally. I just haven't thought about it, too busy with uni work

Never thought about it until now

Have to carry it around when you have finished your drink and can take up room in your bag

Not bought one yet

Question 10

Do you regularly use a reusable water/drink bottle?

YES NO

← PREVIOUS NEXT →

Response:

Yes	35
No	8

Question 10a (for those answering yes to Q10)

What are the benefits of using a reusable water/drink bottle?

← PREVIOUS NEXT →

Response:

Again helps prevent the waste of using a plastic bottle that will go in the bin about an hour later

Always have access to it. Cheaper.

Always having water on me and able to fill it up with the water coolers around campus

Always having water on me and not having to put anything in the bin, it's more environmentally friendly

Better for environment , less plastic , cheaper

Better for the environment and cheaper

Can refill as needed for free

Can refill for free so can drink as much as you like

Can refill water

Constant water, free. No plastic being thrown away

Convenience

Convenient water fountains around uni, reduces plastic bottles used, cheaper

drastically reduces the waste produced by single-use plastic

ease of use

easy to fill around campus, save money, save the earth

environmentally friendly

Free water, reusable

I always have water with me and do not have to use a one-time use bottle

I can track how much water I drink each day (Nalgene). I can fill it up on campus.

I don't have to throw it away and I can refill it on campus.

It is recyclable

It means you don't use single-use plastic or non-recyclable products which cause pollution and can harm wildlife, air quality etc.

It's unnecessary to buy plastic bottles when there are plenty of facilities on campus that allow to refill your bottle. Also it reduces personal waste again.

Less plastic waste, better conscience

less waste

Less waste, cheaper

More sustainable

No cost, can fill it up on campus

no plastic waste

No waste! No plastic

Not wasting plastic on bottles and not having to buy water when it is free from taps

Reducing waste and single use plastic

Saves money and hate plastic waste

Saves money, reduces waste, reduces plastic, promotes sustainability, helps the environment

Question 10b (for those answering no to Q10)

What are the barriers to using a reusable water/drink bottle?

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Response:

Have a travel mug

I forget it

Forgetfulness and lack of facilities to get sparkling water

Cleaning it

Again none, I just forget that I should really be using one

Can never find a water fountain

Not bought one yet

Question 11

Do you regularly use a reusable take away containers?

YES NO

← PREVIOUS NEXT →

Response:

Yes 22

No 20

Question 11a (for those answering yes to 11)

What are the benefits of using a reusable take away containers?

← PREVIOUS NEXT →

Response:

Better for the environment

Can bring own food and hate plastic waste

Can bring own food to campus, save the earth, save money

Can pack own food into them, and reused plastic

Convenience

Efficient, various sizes, cheap, can use anywhere.

I bring my own food

I can bring my own food from home and don't have to make use of on campus cafeterias and food that is usually wrapped in plastic or some packaging. Also on campus facilities usually provide plastic containers for take away. Reusable take away containers allow me to reheat my food easily and enormously reduce plastic waste

I can bring my own food from home.

I use these when bringing food to uni

Incentives from refectory

It means you're not contributing to pollution by sending your container to landfill after you've used it (presuming the single-use container is not biodegradable. But even if it was, if you use a reusable container it means the energy needed to make that and the pollution caused by making it and

transporting it etc only occurred once instead of single use containers causing this pollution many times.)

Less waste

less waste

Less waste, and I can use them at home to store left overs.

Less waste, easy to clean, cheaper

Means I can bring other food from home

Prevents packaging waste

reduces waste

Reducing waste

same as previous

They are recyclable

Question 11b (for those answering No to Q11)

What are the barriers to using a reusable take away containers?

← PREVIOUS

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Response:

Don't use take away containers

Don't own any

How much do you want me to carry??

Also not my style

It doesn't cross my mind to bring empty food containers when take away containers are provided with any meal regardless

Don't know

Don't use take away containers at all

I rarely but take away food

availability

remembering to bring my own container, or having to use the throw-away when I need food delivered

Too bulky. Expensive.

Don't need any

it's difficult for me to carry them around with me (take up a lot of space)

I don't get take away food often and containers are expensive

Not advertised as an option


I don't eat on campus a lot!

just not convenient

Have to carry around a tub in your bag- inconvenient and bulky

Question 12

Should take away coffee cups be phased out at campus catering outlets?



← PREVIOUS


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Response:

Strongly no	1
No	2
Slightly no	0
Neither yes nor no	4
Slightly yes	0
Yes	13
Strongly yes	23
Overall	
Yes 85%	
Neither 9%	
No 6%	
Average score 6.05	

Question 13

Should plastic cutlery be replaced by a more sustainable take away (i.e. not metal) cutlery option at campus catering outlets



← PREVIOUS

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Response:

Strongly no	1
No	0
Slightly no	0
Neither yes nor no	0

Slightly yes	0
Yes	6
Strongly yes	36
Overall	
Yes 98%	
No 2%	
Average Score 6.7	

Question 14

What are other ways the GCU Community could reduce the use of disposable take away packaging at campus catering outlets?

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← PREVIOUS NEXT →

Response:

Ban it altogether. Issue everyone on fresher's week/start of their course with a reusable bottle (for cold fluids), reusable keep-cup (for hot fluids) and reusable box for food. It could be something that students can choose whether to accept or not, as many may already have their own reusable items and might prefer to decline getting more. Or you could have a system where, if you forgot to bring your reusable items with you, you could 'rent' one from uni catering outlets for free by swiping your card or showing your card or something like that and then once you're finished with your tub or mug or whatever it is, you have to return it within say 1 week or you will incur a charge, kind of like the system for taking books out the library. Uni would have to wash them though for hygiene reasons. Also, I read an article online about a uni that did not see a strong increase in the number of people using reusable items even although they charge 20p less per drink if you brought your own cup for it to go in, so they changed the system so that you got charged 20p more if you did NOT bring your own cup. Then they saw a big increase in the number of people bringing their own mug. The price for those bringing their own cup stayed the same, but the psychology of it seemed to work on people. (To make that easier to understand as I don't know if I explained it well: Say a cup of tea cost £1.50, under the original system it would cost £1.30 to those who brought a cup with them. However, under the new system, they advertised the price of tea as £1.30, but if you did not bring your own cup for it to go in, you were charged 20p extra, making the charge £1.50)

Bring their own lunch box.

Charge a higher price for using disposable take away packaging - people are still using it just to sit in the canteen when they could just as easily use a plate. Especially for soups, make the re-usable

ceramic bowls bigger (some people use the disposable bowls because they are bigger than the ceramic ones).

There are companies that create disposable cutlery from wood, places like M&S are already providing take away wood cutlery instead of plastic.

Higher quantity of metal cutlery should also be provided as there has been times I have intended to use a metal fork and there have been none left, so had to use a plastic one.

You could also have a discount (e.g. 50p off) for people who use their own coffee cups (not sure if you already do this).

Charge a larger fee to do that.

Charging even more for the takeaway container. Educate students more about the harm of these containers. Switch to compostable packaging and have adequate composting bins throughout the campus.

Do not offer a take away option , just use plates.

Recyclable packaging

Don't have them as an option

People will adapt

Don't offer it, people only use it cause it's there

Either offer sustainable packaging or only have sit in options available.

everything wrapped in plastic should be without it

Get rid of Starbucks plastic cups at SA

Get rid of the large take-away soup containers and replace them with bigger soup bowls. The same should be done with the salad bar. Everyone who buys food should sit in. Take-away should not be supported.

Have a coffee mug/flask return scheme (relies on loyalty). Have coffee mugs or reusable mugs available to use at each catering outlet, customers can use these for their hot/cold drinks purchase but bring them back once they have finished with them.

Having an area to clean personal reusable containers or keep cups. Realistically students don't want to take dirty things home with them.

If I had no other option, I would buy a reusable cup.

Or if they advertised a discount for using reusable things It would encourage to buy reusable cups/tubs

If students were reminded of the harmful effects of take away packaging, and reusable containers were available in campus cafe's

Incentivise use of bringing your own reusable Tupperware/bottles.

look at the sizes available

Make it cheaper if we take our own reusable packaging

More recycling bins that recycle the take away packaging

E.g. buy juice in a plastic bottle but very little plastic recycling bins located next to the food areas

More seating along with sustainable crockery and cutlery. Maintenance of the tables and chairs in the refectory, mainly. Accountability of students actions and inactions when related to damage of provided facilities (never gonna happen)

Offer a good discount for using reusable containers

Offer bowls at salad bar and not plastic containers

Offer more incentive schemes

Offer sandwiches without the plastic wrapping and potentially in bees wax paper or more sustainable plastic packaging. Allow students to bring their own reusable tubs from home and ask kitchen staff to fill the food in there. If out of hygiene issues that's not possible, allow students, similar to the salad bar, to do self-catering so that they can freely use their home wares.

Offering washing facilities for take away containers so you don't have to carry about dirty cups/containers all day after using them/ can use multiple times a day

Only use plates, and accept personal food containers. Discontinue the provision of all single-use food containers and cutlery.

Promote the idea more and create benefits

Providing crockery of varying/suitable sizes

reduce use of lids on take away coffee. You don't need one if you're sitting in the cafe

Use proper basic crockery & cutlery, give discounts on people bringing in their own reusable tubs/cups, or for buying such an item at the counter

Use real plates

Don't offer takeaway

Cheaper options if using reusable

Use recycled paper plates and bamboo cutlery like ikea. Have more free water refill stations.

When I do buy food to takeaway it is sandwiches - could the packaging not be mixed materials?

You may not be able to get rid of completely but look into using other sources such as biodegradable containers or more environmentally friendly and educate students around campus for info on where to put rubbish etc.

Question 15

If you would like to be kept inform of the campaign to reduce takeaway packaging on campus and the work of the Ethical and Environmental group, please enter your GCU email:

example@example.com

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Question 16

Please describe yourself

☐ 1st year undergraduate student

☐ 2nd year undergraduate student

☐ 3rd year undergraduate student

☐ 4th year undergraduate student

☐ 5th year undergraduate student

☐ Post-graduate taught student (MSc, PGCert etc)

☐ Post-graduate research students (PhD, Professional Doctorates)

☐ Other student (INTO, Advance Highers etc)

☐ Staff

☐ Visitor

← PREVIOUS

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Response:

1st year undergraduate student	4
2nd year undergraduate student	5
3rd year undergraduate student	11
4th year undergraduate student	7
Post-graduate taught student (MSc, PGCert etc.)	9
Post-graduate research students (PhD, Professional Doctorates)	1
Staff	4

Question 17

What is your course of study?

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Applied Psychology

BSc (Hons) Environmental Management

BSc (Hons) Nursing

BSc Occupational Therapy

BSc(Hons) Applied Psychology

Climate Justice

Climate Justice

Climate justice

Digital Design

Environmental management

Forensic Investigation

Health and life science

International Business and Finance

International business with H.R.

International marketing

International Marketing

ITMB

Journalism

Media and Communication

Microbiology

MSc Bimolecular and Biomedical Sciences

MSc OT

MSc. Social Business and Microfinance

Nursing

**PeC Supporting Student Learning and
Engagement**

PhD

Physiotherapy

Physiotherapy

Radiotherapy and Oncology

Social Business & Microfinance

Social sciences

Social sciences

Question 18

How would you define your gender?

← PREVIOUS SUBMIT

Response:

Female	29
Male	4
Non-Binary	1
No Response	8

End Survey