This Motion is proposed by Councillor Paul Wharton and seconded by Councillor Claire Hamilton.

**Reducing single use plastic (SUP) use in the Borough of South Ribble**

“Recent research shows, eight million metric tonnes of plastic ends up in the world's oceans each year, endangering marine life. There is also a growing understanding of the risks posed to human health by toxic chemicals present in plastics.

Six months after the introduction of the 5p bag charge, use of single-use plastics bags had already dropped by 85%. 300 million tons of plastic are produced around the globe each year. Of this, 50% is for disposable applications such as packaging.

The Government has announced a consultation into a possible tax on single use plastics, but this Council believes that we should eliminate their use as soon as possible.

Council therefore resolves to:

* Develop a robust strategy to make South Ribble Council a 'single-use plastic free' authority by the end of 2018 including an end to the purchase and procurement of SUPs through the Council's supply chain;
* End the provision of SUP products such as cups and cutlery in council buildings;
* Investigate the possibility of requiring pop up food and drink vendors at Council run events to avoid SUPs as a condition of contract
* Work with tenants and operators in commercial properties owned by South Ribble Borough Council to encourage the phasing out of SUP cups, bottles, cutlery and straws;
* Encourage the Borough's businesses, organisations and residents to go 'single- use plastic free' working with best practice partners to explore the creation of a 'plastic free network,' that could provide business support, practical guidelines and advice to help local businesses transition from SUPs to sustainable alternatives.”