

英国政府已证实，英格兰地区将禁止使用塑料餐具、餐盘和聚苯乙烯托盘等一次性物品。英国环境大臣特蕾丝·科菲说，此举将有助于保护环境，造福后代。

Each person in England gets through an average of 18 **single-use** plastic plates and 37 plastic items of **cutlery** every year, according to government figures. Just ten per cent are recycled. A plastic fork can take 200 years to **decompose** in **landfill** or in the ocean.

政府数据显示，英格兰人均每年使用 18 个一次性塑料餐盘和 37 件塑料餐具，而其中只有 10% 被回收利用。一个塑料叉在垃圾填埋场或海洋中可能需要 200 年才能降解。

Now the Environment Secretary Thérèse Coffey is set to ban a range of single-use plastic items, mainly relating to takeaway food and drink. She said the move would prevent billions of pieces of plastic from polluting the natural environment.

现在，英国环境大臣特蕾丝·科菲计划禁用一系列一次性塑料制品，主要针对外卖食品和饮料使用的餐具。她表示，该举将防止数十亿块塑料污染自然环境。

Similar bans have already been introduced in Scotland and Wales, while single-use plastic straws, **stirrers** and **cotton buds** were banned in England in 2020.

类似的禁令已在苏格兰和威尔士实施，而英格兰于 2020 年已经禁用一次性塑料吸管、搅拌棒和棉签。

This latest move follows a long consultation but does not cover items found in supermarkets or shops. The Government said it would address those by other means. Environmental campaigners have welcomed the ban but called for a wider-ranging plastic reduction strategy.

这项最新举措是经过长时间的公共意见征询后决定的，但禁令不包括超市或商店中的一次性塑料餐具。政府表示将通过其它方式解决这类塑料问题。环境保护主义者对这项禁令表示支持，但呼吁制定更广泛的减少塑料的战略。

1. 词汇表

single-use	一次性的
cutlery	餐具
decompose	降解，分解
landfill	垃圾填埋场
stirrers	(饮料) 搅拌棒
cotton buds	棉签

2. 阅读理解：请在读完上文后，回答下列问题。（答案见下页）

1. How many single-use plastic plates do people in England use on average, each year?

2. True or False? *A single-use plastic fork takes a maximum of two years to decompose in landfill or in the ocean.*

3. What single-use items were banned in the England in 2020?

4. What items are not covered by the new ban?

3. 答案

1. How many single-use plastic plates do people use in England on average, each year?

On average, people use 18 single-use plastic plates in England, each year.

2. True or False? *A single-use plastic fork takes a maximum of two years to decompose in landfill or in the ocean.*

False. A plastic fork can take 200 years to decompose in landfill or in the ocean.

3. What single-use items were banned in the England in 2020?

Single-use plastic straws, stirrers and cotton buds were banned in England in 2020.

4. What items are not covered by the new ban?

This latest move follows a long consultation but does not cover items found in supermarkets or shops.