



Environmental Audit Committee

14 Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NB

Tel 020 7219 0715 Email eacom@parliament.uk Website www.parliament.uk/eacom

Rt Hon Phillip Hammond MP

Chancellor of the Exchequer

1 Horse Guards Road

London

SW1A 2HQ

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Dear

You will be aware of public concern around the impact of plastic pollution on our environment. My Committee's recent inquiry into disposable packaging highlighted the 700,000 plastic bottles that are littered every day. These are just one example of single-use plastics that can end up in our seas and oceans, killing wildlife and breaking down into harmful microplastics.

In your Budget on 22 November you announced:

I will investigate how the tax system and charges on single-use plastic items can reduce waste, because we cannot keep our promise to the next generation to build an economy fit for the future unless we ensure our planet has a future.

It is now three months since that announcement. Could you please tell us when the consultation will be launched, for how long it will run and whether it will be the Treasury or DEFRA who will run the consultation process?

I am copying this letter to Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Creagh MP

Chair of the Environmental Audit Committee