

PL4: Facts and figures answers



122	Tonnes of cigarette butts, matches and tobacco packaging estimated to be littered each day throughout the UK.
34 million	Cost (£) to clear up smoking related litter in Scotland each year.
80	Cost (£) of a penalty notice for dropping a cigarette end – it's a criminal offence.
4.5 trillion	Cigarette butts make their way into the environment every year across the globe.
10 million	More than _____ people could be fed if food crops were grown instead of tobacco in low- and middle-income countries
2 million	Single use vapes are dumped in general waste every week.
360 million	Single-use vapes bought every year in the UK (2023).
600 million	Trees chopped down every year to make cigarettes. <i>(destroying animal habitats and decreasing the clean air we breathe)</i>
9	Percentage of plastic that is recycled.
79	Percentage of plastic that accumulates in landfills or the natural environment.
12 billion	Tonnes of plastic waste will be in landfills or the natural environment by 2050.
5000	Lithium from disposable vapes that are thrown away in one year is enough to make _____ electric car batteries.
10 million	Tons of plastic currently end up in the oceans each year.
84	Megatons of CO ₂ emissions in a year from manufacturing cigarettes (2014). <i>(This is equivalent to one fifth of the CO₂ produced by the commercial airline industry each year).</i>
38	Cigarette butts contribute up to _____% of the total amount of litter collected on beaches (Worldwide).
50	The plastic pollution from cigarette filters in Scotland is enough to fill _____ bin lorries.

Sources:

- [Fast Facts: Smoking related litter](#)
- [Fast Facts: E-cigarette waste \(2022\)](#)
- Seven charts that explain the plastic pollution problem <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-42264788>
- World Health Organisation report, Tobacco: Poisoning our Planet <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240051287>
- 2023 Research on Single-use vapes [Number of disposable single-use vapes thrown away have in a year quadrupled to 5 million per week - Material Focus](#)