

APPENDIX A

Tackling Plastics in Leeds

The Trust is very much aware of the amount of plastic that collects on the banks and flows down the river Aire in Leeds and have in the last few years run many clean up events to help tackle the issue of plastic pollution. This has often been done in partnership with River stewardship company and other liked minded public and private section organisations. The below lists 3 examples of projects undertaken in 2019:-

1. Mass Participation clean up with ASDA

The below is taken directly from the ASDA intranet

We teamed up with Canal & River Trust for one of the country's largest canal clean ups. Over 300 colleagues took part in the five-day event, starting at Newlay Locks and ending at Thwaite's Mill - that's over 10 miles of canal and river now clean.

A huge thank you to all colleagues that took part and collected a whopping 1841 kg of waste 809kg of which was plastic - this wouldn't have been possible without you.

All the plastic waste collected is being responsibly recycled into a commemorative bench for the canal, that will celebrate our colleagues' hard work and act as a reminder not to litter our water ways.



2. Leeds Dock clean up

In partnership with all the Leeds Dock businesses including Yorkshire Water, Sky & the Royal Armouries 45 people helped remove plastics from the river Aire around crown point bridge. Leeds city council supported with the removal of all the plastic waste which filled 2 vans.



3. Plastics capture initiative

In partnership with Yorkshire water & Leeds University we are looking at ways to capture plastics that accumulate along the Aire in Leeds. A call has gone out through iCASP, quote below from LU project lead.

'We have a start on the Aire plastics capture project! iCASP (Integrated Catchment Solutions Programme) based here at the University (I'm sure you already know of them through YWS and CRT involvement) will be carrying out some initial research through existing literature to establish what has already been done before in this area, and make recommendations on potential approaches moving forwards.

I hope this can lead to securing funding for an innovative project that actually captures/removes plastic litter from the river and helps us to engage the public on this.'