

Article 2

Cigarette waste: what you need to know

As local authorities crack down on cigarette litter, make sure you know the score, so you never end up on the wrong side of the law.

Bin your butts

The law says that cigarette butts left anywhere else but in a bin are litter.



Don't tread the fine line

Cigarette ends are subject to the same laws as other litter – which means dropping just one could earn you an £80 fine.



When is a bin not a bin?

When it's a plant pot, gravel-filled tub or any other container. You may not be dropping your cigarette end on the floor, but this still counts as littering – and street clean-up teams still need to come along and clean up after you.



Drains aren't OK

Though drains are great for waste water, throwing cigarettes in is a whole different story. Smoking debris spreads toxins into our rivers and seas – so under no circumstances should you put butts down the drain.



Stay prepared on the go

Carry a portable ashtray with you and you'll never find yourself in a situation where you risk a fine. They're inexpensive (some companies even give them out for free) and handle cigarette ends cleanly and conveniently until you find a bin.

