Microplastics Down the Drain:
- A case for treatment

Background
Contamination by microplastic particles is well-recognised as a significant issue of concern in marine and, more recently, in freshwater environments. There is good evidence for waste waters making a significant contribution to microplastics sampled in rivers and oceans. Microplastics find their way into waste waters via a number of different routes including drainage from households, commercial activities, storm drains, surface runoff etc. Wastewater treatment plants have an important role to play in removal of microplastics but treatment processes are not currently regulated. Nor can they intercept all sources and types of plastic from entering waterways, which then leads to contaminated freshwater and marine environments, with potentially damaging effects on aquatic life. Identifying and quantifying microplastics and measuring the efficacy of WWTWs is vital in order for us to understand the contribution of different waste streams to environmental contamination and the need for specific control measures.

Webinar Aims
This free to register webinar comprises presentations from three U.K. academic experts who will give an overview of the latest scientific advances in tackling the problem of waste waters. It will be followed by a Q/A session when there will be an opportunity to participate in open discussion of evidence gaps, research requirements, possible mitigation measures and regulatory needs.

Presenters:
Professor Richard Thompson OBE FRS University of Plymouth.
Dr Claire Gwinnett, Professor in Forensic and Environmental Science, Staffordshire University.
Dr Jesús Ojeda MRSC, Swansea University.

To register please go to this link:
https://eu01web.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5YkfuiurTwsHtlGoei4_3-FkUSIq9fqEusL

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