

# Your submission to Proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags

Fiona Hill

## Reference no: 195

**Submitter Type:** Individual

### Clause

1. Do you agree with the proposed mandatory phase out of the sale or distribution of single-use plastic shopping bags in New Zealand, including those made of degradable (eg, oxo-degradable, biodegradable and compostable) plastic? Why / why not?

### Position

Yes

### Notes

### Clause

2. We have proposed a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags. This could include under 50 microns or under 70 microns in thickness. If you agree with a mandatory phase out, which option do you prefer, and why?

### Notes

I think we need to be careful about the types of bags that are considered to be ok. They should not have any plastic in it

### Clause

3. Are you aware of types of single-use plastic shopping bags that should be exempt from a mandatory phase out?

### Position

No

### Notes

### Clause

4. Do you currently manufacture, sell, provide or import for sale or personal use these types of single-use plastic shopping bags:

### Position

No

### Notes

### Clause

5. Should smaller retailers be exempted from a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags? Why / why not?

### Position

No

### Notes

### Clause

7. The proposed mandatory phase-out period for single-use plastic shopping bags is at least six months from when regulations are Gazetted, subject to consultation. Do you agree with this timing?

### Position

Yes

### Notes

People need time to adjust, also there need to be support systems in place to assist people to remember their bags. What will happen if people continue to use them?

### Clause

8. Do you agree that the benefits expected from implementing a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags exceed the costs expected from implementing the phase out? Why / why not? Please consider both monetary and non-monetary costs and benefits (those that can be measured by money as well as those that can't).

### Position

Yes

### Notes

**Clause**

9. Do you think that reasonably practicable alternatives to single-use plastic shopping bags exist in New Zealand? Why / why not?

**Position**

Yes

**Notes****Clause**

10. How can people be encouraged to reuse multiple-use shopping bags enough times to offset the environmental impacts of producing them? (select one or more)

**Position**

national information campaign and mobile phone app for shoppers

**Notes**

I think people need to be encouraged to do things like write shopping bags on their shopping lists, keep the bags in their car and things like. Stores need to also have signage to remind people in carparks. Perhaps there could be a message on the back of the VTNZ case that people put their car registration cards into, to remind people to take their bags.. something in the car would be good.

**Clause**

11. What would help you and your family adjust to life without single-use plastic shopping bags?

**Notes**

We already use reusable bags.

**Clause**

12. How can data on single-use plastic shopping bags and other single-use plastics entering the market and monitoring of reductions be improved?

**Notes**

I think there should be publicity on baseline use and how it changes. It would be good if there was monitoring of beaches and waterways at regular intervals at the same locations to document what happens over time.

**Clause**

13. Please provide any additional comments or suggestions about the proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags.

**Notes**

I'd like to know what the sanctions are going to be if people continue to use or import plastic bags. Also maybe when overseas tourists come to NZ they should be given a complimentary reusable bag :)