

Subject: FW: Submission on the proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags

Recipient: proposed-mandatory-phase-out-of-single-use-plastic-shopping-bags@submissions.mfe.govt.nz

Sender: wastefree@mfe.govt.nz

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-----Original Message----- From:

Sent: Friday, 17 August 2018 9:04

a.m. To: Wastefree Subject: Submission on the proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags
Dear Hon. Eugenie Sage, I support a mandatory phase-out on the sale and distribution of all single-use plastic bags. The phase-out must include a ban on false solutions, such as degradable (eg, oxo degradable, biodegradable and compostable) plastic. It must also include heavier weight singlet bags, lightweight boutique bags, and so called "emergency bags" of any thickness (microns). I do not support retailers such as Foodstuffs and Progressives introducing a thicker "plastic bag" to make money. The phase-out should take effect as soon as possible (within 6 months). Reasonably practicable alternatives to single-use plastic bags already exist in New Zealand, such as reusable cloth bags which are already available in many retail stores. In Europe, the brown paper bag is often used, and also paper bags with waxed layer is used to prevent leakage. A phase-out of single-use plastic bags should be the first step in addressing plastic pollution. I also support the call by Greenpeace and others for a national strategy to tackle the global scourge of plastic pollution. Yours sincerely, Alice Ge