

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

## Reference no: 28

**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

Single use plastic is having a massive impact on our environment and our use of and dependence on SUP needs to stop.

### 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?

### Position

less than 70 microns in thickness

### Notes

As per point 1, with the addition that heavier plastics can be worse for the environment and there is no indication that slightly heavier plastic gets enough reuse for it to be worthwhile

### 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

No, all single use plastic bags should be banned.

### 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

I am not involved in the manufacture or provision of these bags

### Clause

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

### Position

No

### Notes

No there should be no exemptions. A ban is a ban and we need to drive lifestyle changes for consumers.

### Clause

6. If smaller retailers are exempted from a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags and they are defined by their number of full-time equivalent employees, what should that number be?

### Notes

N/A

### 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

No

**Notes**

No I believe the phase out period should be shorter - we need quick action on this important issue. Having a shorter phase out period will require some more pre-work to make sure retailers and consumers are ready.

**Clause**

7a. If no, what do you think would be a more appropriate phase-out period?

**Position**

two months

**Notes****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**

Absolutely - long term environmental change and sustainability is more important than short term private profit

**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**

Plenty of multi use bags exist and we can reuse cardboard packaging (eg how Bunnings and some Pak N Save stores currently do)

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Unsure

**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**

By providing hard data consumers can see the impact of their choices.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Please proceed with banning single use plastic - sooner rather than later and with no exemptions. The future of our planet and our environment depends on it.

**You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.**