

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

Michael Lowe

## Reference no: 292

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

But it doesn't go far enough in it's ambition

### 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

Other (please specify)

### Notes

Why not thicker?

### 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

It's their choice to provide a bag. If they want to save costs then they shouldn't provide a bag at all.

### 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

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### 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. Given how many new plastic bags will be introduced into the environment over this 6month period.

### Clause

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

### Position

Other (please specify)

**Notes**

1 month

**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**

However given the cost of implementing this it would be much smarter to hit more birds at the same time. I.e. Concurrently ban single use plastic straws, polystyrene food trays, plastic cutlery, sushi containers etc

**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**

People learnt to carry phones around, they can learn to carry a reusable bag. There are reusable bags on the market that can fold or thin size of a gold ball..

**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**

Other (please specify)

**Notes**

Make them expensive to they force behavioural change. People we learn overnight to remember their own

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Compostable bin liners. And for all Councils to provide kerb side composting collections

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

You need to be more Ambitious. Capture many more single use items in this policy to bring down the administration costs. Also introduce a Levi on single use plastic items