

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

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## Reference no: 491

**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

We got used to these bags being thrust upon us by the shops. We used to carry our own bags, and we can do so again.

### 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

Going for thicker ones just makes the waste worse.

### 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

But market stalls already use 'used' ones and they should be allowed to carry on until they have all disappeared.

### 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

If we all carry our own bags when we shop, why should anyone be exempt?

### 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

Pass the responsibility to the customers to bring their own bags

### 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

Make the process as fast as possible. Save more fish etc that way.

**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**

If Countdown and New World have already done it, it can't be that difficult.

**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**

Have you noticed how much prettier trolleys look when they exit a supermarket with the pretty bags which have been produced to replace the dreadful plastic. We should be making more of this aspect.

**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**

As above, make it trendy.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Have been doing without them for ages now and haven't missed them. Now we need similar campaigns to work on all the other plastic packaging our foodstuffs come in. I've been staggered at the number of plastic bags (all types) which I now collect and return to the bins at the supermarket. I know paper uses trees, but we managed when I was young, and we could do so again.

**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**

Keep reporting how many are using reusable ones and cheering them on. New World give 5c a bag discount when you take your own. Other shops could do this too.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

I get furious when the grocery packer asks if I want my meat wrapped in plastic. It already is in cling wrap!!!