

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

Scion (Gordon Tieman)

## Reference no: 508

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?

### Position

Other (please specify)

### Notes

Would like to see most single use plastics being phased out, not just bags of a specific thickness.

### Clause

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

### Position

Not sure

### Notes

Perhaps fast bio-degradable bags could be exempt at smaller retailers.

### 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

Not sure

### Notes

Unsure of how long it will take retailers to adjust to the ban, based on their size,

### 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, clean-up costs,from ocean and other waterways, further down the track will far outweigh the costs expected from banning the bags.

**Clause**

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

**Position**

Not sure

**Notes**

Unsure of specific companies and products but am fairly certain there are plenty of small local companies that will be able to benefit from this ban. Production of stylish small bags for multi use or development of bio-degradable single use bags. If not already available in NZ it should be easy to source from overseas.

**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**

voluntary incentive schemes by individual retailers

**Notes****Clause**

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

**Notes**

Making the bags no longer available will force people to change their habits. Might be an inconvenience at the start e.g. forgetting reusable bags etc. but eventually habits change. Similar changes in consumerism are noticed in the use of coffee mugs (instead of single use cups).

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Great start to reduction of single use plastic but why stop here. Would like to see a shift away from single use packaging material for example, motivating/subsidising people to use their own containers at supermarkets etc.