

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

**Reference no:** 5900

**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**

I don't believe that plastic is the way of the future. Phasing out plastic bags is a great step to ending our reliance on disposable everyday items and helping to keep not just NZ, but the rest of the world, clean and green.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Possibly truly compostable bags would be okay, but should have to hit standards to ensure it composts.

**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**

Yes

**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**

**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**

There are excellent reusable shopping bags, produce bags and wet bags currently on the market.

**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**

Taking the alternative of plastic bags out if the mix should help.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

We already try to avoid taking plastic bags where possible. I carry compact reusable bags in my handbag and we always have reusable shopping bags and fruit and vege bags in the boot of the car.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

I believe the temporary inconvenience will be outweighed by the benefits of being plastic bag free. People adjust. Another thing to consider phasing out would be single use plastic straws. With the exception of some people with medical conditions, they really are unnecessary and are probably even less reusable than plastic bags.

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