

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

**Reference no:** 737

**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**

These are destroying our environment. People are often misled by (bio)degradable and compostable bags to think they are environmentally friendly.

**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**

All plastic bags. Just because it is thicker and costs 15 cents does not mean people will not use it as a single use bag. By making thicker bags an option surely just as much plastic volume will enter landfill or the environment?

**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**

Across the board. We need to take a hard line on this. Small business will not suffer if people begin bringing reusable bags everywhere

**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**

0 - no exemptions

**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**

I understand it takes time. To make changes but surely not 6 months

**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**

Monet vs the future of our planet. Easy choice.

**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 can be trained into bringing reusable bags. It has happened elsewhere in nz

**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**

Countdown is doing a terrible job of this with their 'bag for life ' campaign. Where it's the incentive to keep using and look after bags?

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Nothing. First world problems. If the lack of plastic bags is the most concerning thing in your life that's a worry

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Also need to look at produce bags and incentives for companies to package without Plastic. Don't wimp out.

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