

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

## Reference no: 89

**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**

less than 70 microns in thickness

**Notes**

Need to drastically modify behaviour so it is worth taking a hard stance from the outset, no point introducing charges for thicker bags to enable continued single bag use.

**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**

These stores are in a position to have a close relationship with their customers, to seek opportunities to use recyclable paper bags, and to sell reusable bags in low volumes in store.

**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**

Most stores sell reuseable bags now, these bags are versatile and can be used for more than just your groceries. Our family has used these bags for some time and will continue to do so.

**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**

Supermarkets and retailers should be encouraged to invest the money they currently spend on single use plastic bags on reusable non-plastic alternatives, and provide these free of charge to customers for a time to help all customers get their own bags. This could be alongside a spend, e.g. every \$50 spent get a free non-plastic reusable bag.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

We already reduce our single use plastic us, the biggest challenge to doing so is reducing single use plastic packaging, shopping bags are very easy to reduce and adjust.

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