

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

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## Reference no: 895

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

### 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

Small retailers can be part of the change too!!! In fact, they are in a great position to lead innovation in sustainability, for example by teaming up with community boomerang bag initiatives etc. Please see my local fruit and veg shop for inspiration:

<https://www.facebook.com/Torbayfruitshop/>

### 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

### 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**

**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**

See above example of alternatives that my local fruit&veg shop are leading on!

**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**

Legislation and education/awareness will shift the cultural norm - it will become part of our everyday mindset to take our reusable bags shopping with us - in the same way that we always take our mobile phones with us whenever we go

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

We have been using reusable bags for 13 years - our mindset has well and truly shifted. If everyone doing the same, it will be even easier :)

**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**

Would be motivational if this could be tracked and reported on regularly, so people can see the difference it is making

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Support local boomerang bag initiatives Very thin bags that people use to carry veggies etc to the counter should also be included in the ban