

**Subject:** Submission to the consultation on banning the sale and manufacture of plastic microbeads in personal care products in New Zealand

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I strongly support the proposal for a legislative ban on microbeads in New Zealand, and urge the Government to introduce the ban as quickly as possible. Specifically, I ask the Ministry to follow the below guidelines developed by Fauna & Flora International: - Any definition of 'microbeads' must include all solid plastic ingredients smaller than 5mm used for any purpose (not just for exfoliation). There should be no lower size limit. - Legislation should not allow so-called 'biodegradable' plastics to be used as alternatives, as these materials do not degrade in the marine environment and therefore are not a solution to the problem; - There should be a clear and prompt timeline for phasing out these ingredients, and a date after which products containing microplastics must not be sold. This should be within two years of the ban. I strongly support the proposal for a legislative ban on microbeads in New Zealand. Yours sincerely, Naomi Lawrence