



Kia ora,

Following Cabinet's approval in June 2021 to phase out problematic plastics, the regulations are now finalised for **the first tranche of plastic bans, which will come into force in October this year.**

The items banned as of 1 October 2022 are:

- Plastic cotton-buds
- Plastic drink stirrers
- Oxo- and photo-degradable plastic products
- Certain PVC food trays and containers (pre-formed and rigid)
- Polystyrene takeaway packaging
- Expanded polystyrene food and beverage packaging

These regulations can be found on the [New Zealand Legislation website](#).

Implementation guidance

We have updated our website with information that may answer your initial questions regarding these regulations, this can be accessed [here](#).

Further guidance will be released over the coming months before the regulations come into force. This will include more information on scope, alternatives, questions to ask suppliers, and how the bans will be enforced. We will also run webinars alongside this.

Further phase-outs (2023-2025)

The bans coming into force this October are the first of 3 tranches. More information on the plastic items included in tranches 2 and 3 and their timeline is available [here](#).

The Ministry will continue to provide updates and information on these changes and the future regulations as this work progresses.

If you have any questions, please contact plastics@mfe.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi nui,
Waste and Resource Efficiency Division
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