

Plastic products banned from 1 October 2022

To support Aotearoa New Zealand's move towards a low-waste, circular economy, we're banning a range of hard-to-recycle plastics and single-use items.

It is now illegal* to provide, sell or manufacture the following plastic products in Aotearoa New Zealand:



Pre-formed **PVC food trays and containers** used for produce, baked goods, or meat only



Polystyrene takeaway food and drink packaging from a restaurant, café or food stall (eg, trays, containers, bowls, cups)



Expanded polystyrene food and drink packaging for takeaway (eg, clamshells) and sold at retail (eg, instant noodle cups)



Plastics with pro-degradant additives to accelerate fragmentation into smaller pieces such as oxo and photo-degradable (eg, some bin liners and dog poo bags)



Plastic drink stirrers**



A **cotton bud**** with a plastic stem or a synthetic fibre bud wrapped around any type of stem

Alternatives



Recyclable plastic or paper trays and containers



Encourage customers to bring their own container or sign up to a reusable system



Recyclable plastic or paper packaging



Non-degradable plastic or paper alternatives



Wooden stirrers or spoon



Cotton fibre buds with paper or bamboo stems

What you need to do now

- Stop providing these containers to your customers
- Stop ordering the banned products
- Order alternatives
- Speak to your suppliers and local recyclers about options for excess stock
- Educate your staff and customers about the changes

* Enforcement action may be taken for non-compliance

** Includes all plastic resin codes 1-7, including compostable plastics