National Retail Association

# CURRENT STATUS OF PLASTIC LEGISLATION - JUNE 2021

| | | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | FEDERAL | NZ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FOOD SERVICE PLASTICS | Plastic straws | Second round ban (1 July 2022). Under current discussion with stakeholders. | Ban by late 2022. Announced June 2021. Legislation being drafted. | Indicated intention to take action on single-use plastics, no immediate action underway | Passed 15 March, will come into effect 1 Sept 2021. Excludes straws in pre-packaged food & bev. Excludes Australian certified compostable | Ban - Bill passed 9 Sept. Came into effect 1 March 2021. Bioplastics and oxo-bioplastics not exempt. | Indicated intention to take action on single-use plastics, no immediate action underway. See Hobart by-law. | Announced ban to come into effect by 2023. | Proposed ban end 2021 (brought forward). No definition provided. | | Proposed phase out 2023-2025 |
| | Plastic cutlery | First round ban. Legislation passed 30 March 2021. Will come into effect 1 July 2021. Bioplastics and oxo-bioplastics not exempt. Select exemptions exist. | Ban by late 2022. Announced June 2021. Legislation being drafted. | as above | Passed 15 March, will come into effect 1 Sept 2021. Excludes cutlery in pre-packaged food & bev. Excludes Australian certified compostable | Ban - Bill passed 9 Sept. Came into effect 1 March 2021. Bioplastics and oxo-bioplastics not exempt. | as above | Announced ban to come into effect by 2023. | Proposed ban end 2021 (brought forward). No definition provided. | | Proposed phase out 2023-2025 |
| | Plastic stirrers | First round ban. Legislation passed 30 March 2021. Will come into effect 1 July 2021. Bioplastics and oxo-bioplastics not exempt. | Ban by late 2022. Announced June 2021. Legislation being drafted. | as above | Passed 15 March, will come into effect 1 Sept 2021. Excludes stirrers in pre-packaged food & bev. Excludes Australian certified compostable | Ban - Bill passed 9 Sept. Came into effect 1 March 2021. Bioplastics and oxo-bioplastics not exempt. | as above | Announced ban to come into effect by 2023. | Proposed ban end 2021 (brought forward). No definition provided. | | Proposed phase out 2023-2025 |
| | Expanded polysterene (EPS) containers, tableware & cups | First round ban. Legislation passed 30 March 2021. Will come into effect 1 July 2021. Pre-packaged exempt. | Ban by late 2022. Announced June 2021. Legislation being drafted. | as above | Passed 15 March, will come into effect 1 Sept 2021. Excludes pre-packaged food & bev. | Ban on EPS cups, clamshells, plates. Bill passed 9 Sept. Comes into effect 1 March 2022. Bioplastics not exempt. | as above | Announced ban to come into effect by 2023. | "polystyrene takeaway food containers" Proposed ban end 2021 (brought forward). No definition provided. | Announced phase-out in Plastics Plan from 2022. See EPS factsheet. | Proposed phase out 2023-2025 |
| | Plastic plates | Further consideration | Review in 2024. | as above | Passed 15 March, will come into effect 1 Sept 2021. Excludes plates in pre-packaged food & bev. Excludes Australian certified compostable | Further consideration | as above | Announced ban to come into effect by 2023. | Proposed ban end 2021 (brought forward). No definition provided. | | Proposed phase out 2023-2025 |
| | Plastic bowls | Further consideration | Review in 2024. | as above | Passed 15 March, will come into effect 1 Sept 2021. Excludes bowls in pre-packaged food & bev. Excludes Australian certified compostable | Further consideration | as above | | Proposed ban on "bowls" end 2021 (brought forward). No definition provided. | | Proposed phase out 2023-2025 |
| | Plastic lined coffee cups and lids | Further consideration | Not explicitly mentioned but expect to align with cups strategy. | as above | Further consideration | Further consideration | as above | | Proposed ban on end 2022 (brought forward). No definition provided. | | |
| | Plastic cups and lids | Further consideration | Review in 2024. | as above | Further consideration | Further consideration | as above | | Proposed ban on "cups" end 2021 (brought forward). No definition provided. | | Proposed phase out 2023-2025 |
| | Plastic takeaway containers and lids | Further consideration | | as above | Further consideration | Further consideration | as above | | Unsure if captured by "polystyrene takeaway food containers". | | Proposed phase out 2023-2025 |
| BAGS | Lightweight plastic shopping bags | Ban - Nov 2011 (incl. less than 35um, bio exempt) | Ban mid 2022. Announced June 2021. (incl. less than 35um) | Ban - Sept 2011 (incl. less than 35um, bio exempt) | Ban - July 2018 (incl. less than 35um) | Ban - May 2009 (incl. less than 35um, bio exempt) | Ban - Nov 2013 (incl. less than 35um, bio exempt) | Ban - Nov 2019 (incl. 35um or less at any part of bag) | Ban - Jan 2019 (incl. 35um or less) | | Ban - July 2019 (incl. less than 70um, reused bags exempt) |
| | Heavyweight plastic shopping bags | Further consideration | Review in 2024. | | Further consideration, support NRA Code of Practice | Further consideration | | | Proposed ban on "thick plastic bags" end 2021 (brought forward). No definition provided. | | as above |
| | Produce bags | Second round ban (phase out 2022). Under current discussion with stakeholders. | Review in 2024. | | | Further consideration | | | Proposed ban on end 2022 (brought forward). No definition provided. | | Proposed phase out 2023-2025 |
| | Above items with 'degradable' additives | Any banned item above, which is in whole or part plastic, includes plastics with 'degradable' additives, such as oxo-degradable. | | | | | | | | | |
| | Other items with 'degradable' additives | Second round ban (phase out 2022) | Review in 2024. | | | Ban - Bill passed 10 Sept. Comes into effect 1 March 2022. Bioplastics not exempt. | | | Proposed ban on "oxo-degradable" end 2022 (brought forward). No definition provided. | Phase out plastic packaging products with additive fragmentable technology that do not meet relevant compostable standards (AS4736-2006, AS5810-2010 and | Proposed phase out Jan 2023 |
| BEVERAGE CONTAINERS | Container deposit schemes | YES - Nov 2018 | YES - Dec 2017 | YES - Jan 2012 | YES - Nov 2018 | YES - 1977, under review | Planned for 2022 | Planned for 2023 | YES | NO | Indicated intention to take action on single-use plastics |
| OTHER PLASTICS | Balloons | | | | | Balloon sticks and ties further consideration | | | Proposed ban end 2021 on helium balloon releases (brought forward). | | |
| | Other | | Plastic cotton bud sticks, microbeads - Ban late 2022. | | | | | Announced ban on cotton bud sticks to come into effect by 2023. | Proposed end 2022 ban (brought forward by 2-4 years) on microbeads, polystyrene packaging, cotton buds with plastic shafts. Plastics Plan released 8 Nov 2020 | | Proposed phase out Jan 2023 of PVC and polystyrene food and bev packaging. Other types by 2025. Non-compostable fruit stickers - timing TBC |
| | Key Source | ACT Single-Use Plastics (UPDATED) | NSW Plastics Action Plan (UPDATED) | | QLD Govt website (UPDATED) | Replace The Waste SA (UPDATED) | | Recycling Victoria | Plastic Plan 2020 (UPDATED) | Bill | 2020 consultation paper |
| | | | | | NRA QLD SUP BAN WEBSITE (NEW) | | | | | Plastics Plan | |
| | NRA Submissions | ACT - July 2019 | NSW - May 2020 | | QLD - April 2020 | SA Draft Bill submission | NA, see Hobart | | WA - July 2019 | | |
| | NRA Representation | ACT SUP Advisory Group, ACT Retailer engagement | CDS Taskforce | | CDS Taskforce, QLD Bag Ban, QLD Plastic Pollution Reference Group, QLD SUP Advisory Group, QLD bag ban Retailer engagement | SA SUP Advisory Group, SA SUP retailer engagement | CDS Taskforce | VIC bag ban, VIC Plastic Reference Group, CDS Taskforce, VIC bag ban Retailer engagement | CDS Taskforce, WA bag ban Retailer engagement, WA Straws working group | National Plastics Summit, APCO membership, APCO Design Working Group, EPS consultation group | NZ bag ban consultation |

**GREEN : Law in effect. BLUE: Law passed but not yet in effect. RED: Indicates legislative processes or formal consultation underway in 2021**

## Action by local governments

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| **Hobart** | A single use plastics by-law ban was introduced in 2020 and came into effect 8 April 2020. It will be enforced from 1 July 2021. It includes an extensive list of items. To learn more visit www.hobartcity.com.au/residents/recycling-and-rubbish/resources |
| **Rottnest Island** | Single use straws banned April 2019 |
| **Darwin** | On 1 January 2019 plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers, plates, takeaway containers and pliastic lined coffee cups were banned at all events on council land including markets. |