





# 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