

Urgent decision: Albert-Eden Local Board

Albert-Eden Local Board feedback on the government's proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags

4 September 2018

Background

1. The New Zealand government are consulting on a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags.
2. The consultation document outlines the available options for managing these issues, which include a mandatory phase out, a charge on bags, a formal agreement between government and industry, and mandatory product stewardship.
3. Council staff are preparing a draft regional submission on this proposal. The draft submission will be provided to Environment and Community Committee for their approval on 11 September 2018.
4. The draft council submission makes the following key points:
 - That Auckland Council supports option one in the consultation document – a total and mandatory ban. Reducing plastic use, litter, and marine pollution are priorities in the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018. The inappropriate consumption, use and discarding of plastic bags has significant impacts on Auckland's natural environment and our waste collection systems.
 - The ban should apply to all retailers who distribute single-use plastic bags, rather than just the larger retailers. An incomplete ban will dilute the effectiveness of this behaviour change intervention on consumers.
 - Support for the proposed six-month phase-out timeframe.
5. The draft submission also identifies areas where Auckland Council considers that further work and discussion is needed post-consultation. These include the thickness of bags captured by the ban and how the ban will be effectively enforced.
6. This report provides an opportunity for local boards to formally provide feedback on the government's consultation on the proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags.
7. Submissions close on 14 September 2018. Any formal feedback received from local boards before 13 September 2018 will be attached to the council's final submission.

Reason for urgency

8. The case for an urgent decision is made due to the need for local board input into the Auckland Council submission to be made by Monday, 10 September 2018. The Albert-Eden Local Board's next scheduled business meeting is for Wednesday, 26 September 2018.
9. Waste planning department staff have produced a report for local board elected members outlining the key points of the consultation document and the process for local boards to

provide input into the Auckland Council submission. This report is attached to this urgent decision document as attachment A.

10. The urgent decision will be reported to the full local board during the next scheduled meeting on Wednesday, 26 September 2018.

Delegation

11. At the Albert-Eden Local Board 7 December 2016 meeting the local board resolved as follows in relation to an urgent decision process:

19 Urgent decision-making process

Resolution number AE/2016/225

MOVED by Deputy Chairperson G Fryer, seconded by Member J Rose:

That the Albert-Eden Local Board:

- a) **adopts the urgent decision-making process for matters that require a decision where it is not practical to call the full board together and meet the requirement of a quorum.**
- b) **delegates authority to the chair and deputy chair, or any person acting in these roles, to make urgent decisions on behalf of the local board.**
- c) **agrees that the relationship manager, chair and deputy chair (or any person/s acting in these roles) will authorise the urgent decision-making process by signing off the authorisation memo.**
- d) **notes that all time-critical urgent decisions will be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the local board.**

CARRIED

Recommendation

That the Albert-Eden Local Board:

- a) approve the feedback, as contained in attachment B, on the government's proposed mandatory phase out of single use plastic shopping bags.
- b) note that the Albert-Eden Local Board feedback will be attached verbatim to the Auckland Council submission which will be recommended to Environment and Community Committee for their approval on 11 September 2018 and sent to the Ministry for the Environment by the due date of 14 September 2018.

Authorised for release:

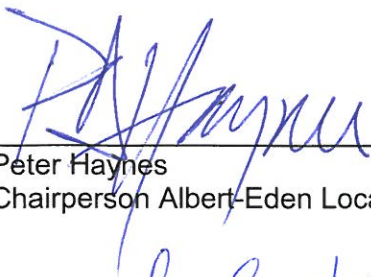


Adam Milina
Relationship Manager Albert-Eden



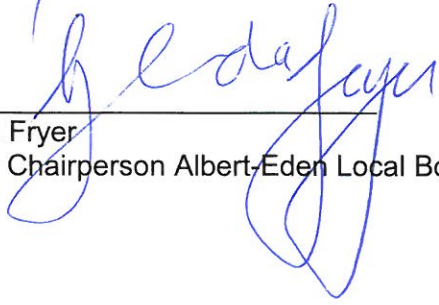
Date

Signatories:



Peter Haynes
Chairperson Albert-Eden Local Board

4.9.2018
Date



Glenda Fryer
Deputy Chairperson Albert-Eden Local Board

5/9/2018
Date