

POLICY NO AM21 SINGLE USE PLASTICS POLICY

DEPARTMENT:	Works and Infrastructure
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Manager Infrastructure and Development Services
LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN:	<p>Work with stakeholders to ensure the community can access the infrastructure necessary to maintain their lifestyle.</p> <p>Provide access to services and facilities which support a sustainable lifestyle.</p>
STATUTORY AUTHORITY:	Nil
OBJECTIVE:	To provide a framework by which the Council, local community groups and businesses are encouraged to phase out the use of single use plastic packaging within the Break O' Day municipality.
POLICY INFORMATION:	<p>Adopted 21 February 2022 – Minute No 02/22.16.3.35</p> <p>Amended 19 December, 2022 – Minute No 12/22.15.2.256</p>

POLICY

1. SCOPE

This policy applies to

- All Council controlled buildings and land and leases that Council holds on Crown land.
- Council leases where the lessee is operating a take away food and/or beverage service.
- All events, markets and other activities (including food vans) on council controlled land, whether sponsored by the Council or not.

2. DEFINITION

Single use plastics are plastic items used for food and beverage, which are not designed or intended for multiple use, or to be returned to the retailer for refill or reuse for the same purpose for which it was conceived. The following single use plastic items are covered by this policy:

- plates, bowls and other plastic dishes
- cups and lids
- cutlery
- stirrers
- straws
- food and beverage packaging including, non-recyclable beverage/water containers and polystyrene containers.

3. EXEMPTIONS

In circumstances where single use plastics might not be avoidable reasonable judgement is required

- Consideration of people with disabilities and their individual needs.
- Emergency situations.
- Where public health risks are possible such as in food preparation, handling and covering.

4. POLICY

Single use plastics are not to be used at both, sponsored or non-sponsored events in Council operated buildings or land from 1 January 2023 onwards. Approved single use compostable packaging or reusable packaging will be permitted.

All sponsorship agreements from 1 January 2023 will include the following clause: "single use plastics are not to be used during the event and are to be substituted with approved compostable or reusable packaging alternatives".

Council will work with event holders to transition to more sustainable event management, specifically facilitating the move away from compostable single use packaging to reusable packaging.

Food vans operating on council land are encouraged to transition away from using single use plastics. The council will ask all food van operators to join into a memorandum of understanding which will ask that, when operating on council land or public roads, single use plastics not be used and are instead substituted with compostable or reusable packaging alternatives.

Sports clubs canteens and other community venues that hold events and functions as part of their normal operations in/on Council owned buildings and land are encouraged to transition towards the principles of this policy.

Council managers will support and implement appropriate processes to ensure operation and compliance to this policy and associated procedures.

Council will provide Waste Minimisation Guidelines to support Council staff and event organisers to ensure that planning for events includes Planning for avoidance, reduce and recycling of waste.

Event organisers are required to promote and practice waste avoidance principles by:

- a) Proactively reducing waste quantity generated.
- b) Not allowing the sale and/or distribution of single-use plastic products and single use sachets, polystyrene, plastic bags, plastic straws, non-recyclable beverage/water containers and/or balloons.
- c) Avoiding the sale/and or distribution of non-recyclable beverage/water containers, except in cases of potential breach of health and safety requirements;
- d) Responsibly manage any waste to ensure the cleanliness of the area is maintained during and after the event and allow for segregation of waste streams at an event,
- e) Promote and engage in sustainable procurement practices; selecting materials that enable the opportunity for recycling with the objective of reducing the environmental impact of any products, supplies and promotional materials used at an event.

Council will cease purchasing single use plastics as defined in this policy by 1 July 2022. Existing stocks of single use plastic may be consumed beyond this date.

5. MONITOR AND REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed every three (3) years in line with the Council's Policy Framework or earlier in the event of major changes to legislation or related policies, procedures or if deemed necessary by the Mayor and the General Manager