



Plastic Pollution and Litter Reduction Policies (Queensland)

‘95% of plastic packaging is used once and then thrown away.’

New Plastic Economy-Ellen Macarthur Foundation/World Economic Forum Report 2016

In the next term of Parliament, we seek a new agenda on plastic reduction that builds on the good work achieved so far through the plastic bag ban and the Container Refund Scheme.

Boomerang Alliance supports the introduction of a Waste levy on all mixed wastes going to landfill in QLD, with any revenue hypothecated to resource recovery.

1. Maintain the introduction of a ban on **lightweight plastic bags (including biodegradables) and a Container Refund Scheme** in July 2018.
2. Expand the plastic bag ban to include the mass release of **helium balloons** and include plastic bags up to 70 microns.
3. Develop a **Plastic Pollution Reduction Strategy for Queensland** to follow up on the introduction of a Container Refund Scheme and Plastic bag ban.
4. Provide **support to communities actively seeking to reduce their single- use plastic packaging** and introduce an educational program to promote the switch to reusable alternatives.
5. Introduce an **immediate ban on polystyrene takeaway containers** and food ware.
6. **Set a program for the future phase-out of single use, non-biodegradable takeaway items** by 2020 (coffee cups/lids, straws, takeaway containers, food ware and water bottles) in Queensland

Priority plastic waste streams and practices for investigation in the Plastic Pollution Reduction Strategy should include:

- *Soft plastics and film (with focus on retail/manufacturer practices)*
- *Agricultural/industrial use of single use, disposable plastic packaging and sheeting*
- *Marine use eg fishing tackle, net and vessel discard practices and bait bags*
- *Away from home plastic /composite items-coffee cups/lids, straws, food ware and takeaway containers*



plastic bags



food ware



straws



takeaway
containers



coffee cups



water bottles