

The New Regulation on Disposable Plastic Tableware and Other Plastic Products

The Government implement the regulation on disposable plastic tableware and other plastic products on 22 April 2024.

1. Disposable plastic tableware

The sale of expanded polystyrene (EPS) tableware and four other types of disposable plastic tableware (namely straws, stirrers, cutlery (forks, knives, spoons) and plates) will be prohibited, and so will the provision of such tableware to takeaway customers. Moreover, the provision of all disposable plastic tableware (also including cups, cup lids, food containers and food container lids) to dine-in customers at catering premises will be prohibited.

2. Other disposable plastic products

The sale and free distribution of plastic-stemmed cotton buds, balloon sticks, inflatable cheer sticks, glow sticks, party hats, oxo-degradable plastic products (regardless of disposability), umbrella bags, food sticks and plastic toothpicks, and the manufacturing of any oxo-degradable plastics products will be prohibited. Free distribution of plastic-packaged tissue paper for promotional use and non-medical use transparent gloves will also be prohibited. Moreover, hotels and guesthouses are banned from providing specified plastic toiletries and plastic-bottled water for free in guest rooms.

3. Exclusions / Exemptions

For disposable plastic tableware, (i) pre-packaged food or drinks (e.g. disposable plastic straws attached to beverage cartons) and (ii) the supply of disposable plastic straws to people with medical needs can be exempted. For other disposable plastic products, exemptions are available for the sale or supply of relevant products* under certain circumstances, including the use for forensic analysis, scientific research or experiments, medical treatments or procedures, taking medicines, for resale purposes (e.g. a business sells or supplies to another business in B2B exhibitions) or for manufacturing process.

* These exemptions are not applicable to products including (i) oxo-degradable plastic products (unless in the event that a business sells or supplies to another business for export purpose), (ii) plastic-packaged tissue paper for promotional use and (iii) non-medical use transparent gloves (unless provide to the employees for carrying out duties or work).

For further information about the new regulation, please visit <https://www.cuttheplastics.hk/index.php/en/>, or contact the Environmental Protection Department at (852) 5467 2494 or email to info@cuttheplastics.hk.

管制即棄膠餐具和其他塑膠產品的新法例

政府於 2024 年 4 月 22 日實施管制即棄膠餐具和其他塑膠產品的新法例。

(一) 即棄膠餐具

將禁止銷售和向外賣顧客提供發泡膠餐具和四類即棄膠餐具（即飲管、攪拌棒、進食用具（叉、刀、匙）和碟），同時亦禁止餐飲處所向堂食顧客提供各種即棄膠餐具（同時包括杯、杯蓋、食物容器和食物容器蓋）。

(二) 其他即棄塑膠產品

將包括禁止銷售和免費供應膠柄棉花棒、氣球棒、充氣打氣棒、熒光棒、派對帽、氧化式可分解塑膠產品（不論是否屬即棄性質）、雨傘袋、食物膠籤、膠牙籤，並禁止製造任何氧化式可分解塑膠產品；禁止免費供應宣傳用塑膠包裝紙巾及非醫療用透明即棄膠手套；以及禁止酒店和賓館在房間內免費供應指明塑膠洗滌梳妝用品和即棄膠樽裝水。

(三) 不包括 / 豁免情況

一般而言，以下情況可獲豁免，不受新法例規管。就即棄膠餐具而言，(i) 預先包裝的食品或飲品（例如附連在紙包飲品上的即棄膠飲管等）和 (ii) 向有醫療需要的人供應即棄膠飲管可獲豁免。就其他即棄塑膠產品而言，在特定情況下銷售或供應相關產品* 可獲豁免，包括用於法證科學化驗、科學研究或實驗、醫治或醫療程序、進食藥物、用於轉售用途（例如企業於 B2B 展覽會中出售或供應予另一家企業）、製造過程等情況。

*這些豁免不適用於 (i) 氧化式可分解塑膠產品（除非企業向另一家企業出售或供應用作出口用途）、(ii) 宣傳用塑膠包裝紙巾、和 (iii) 透明即棄膠手套（除非向僱員提供以履行職責或工作）。

有關新法例的詳情，可瀏覽網站 <https://www.cuttheplastics.hk/index.php/tc/>，或致電 (852) 5467 2494 或電郵致 info@cuttheplastics.hk 向環境保護署查詢。