

19/091 Final Government Response to the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment report - *Unfantastic Plastic: Review of the Plastic Bag Ban*

Summary of Impacts	
The Government Response will have the following positive impact:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> increased community and industry awareness of the management of single-use plastic bags and single-use plastics more generally in the ACT; increased community confidence in better management of environmental and waste management issues; and highlight the greater need for waste avoidance which is in-line with the Waste Hierarchy and Circular Economy principles. 	

Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue - neutral and Green - positive.

Social

Community awareness and participation (Green)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public release of the Government response will increase awareness of the management of single-use plastic bags and the management of single-use plastics more broadly, which may be critical to mobilise change in this space. Increased community confidence in the management of environmental and waste management issues. Increased transparency around the policy reform processes.
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Economic

ACT Government Budget (Blue)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The release of a Government Response to the Commissioner’s report will have nil impact on the ACT budget. Future funding may be sought through the budget process and this will be dependent on future policy reform proposals informed by a proposed public consultation on single-use plastics.
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Environmental

Environmental quality (Green)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single-use plastics, including single-use plastic bags, impact our environment and water bodies. Releasing a Government Response that references a broader consultation on single-use plastic products is likely to result in increased awareness in the community of their environmental impacts, and potentially a reduction in our consumption of such products. This may in turn contribute to improved environmental quality.
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