1. On 7 November 2019, the Queensland Government released *Tackling Plastic Waste – Queensland’s Plastic Pollution Reduction Plan* (the Plan). The Plan identifies and prioritises actions to reduce plastic waste and the economic and environmental impacts of plastic pollution.
2. To help meet these objectives, a key action of the Plan is the introduction of legislation to enable a ban on the supply of single use plastic items, starting with straws, stirrers, plates and cutlery.
3. To canvass community views on the proposed ban, a Single Use Plastic Items Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (Consultation RIS) was released for consultation on 13 March 2020. The Consultation RIS sought feedback on the proposal to ban these single use plastic items, the proposed commencement date of 1 July 2021, and options to recognise the disability and healthcare needs of people.
4. The *Single Use Plastic Items Consultation Report* reports that, at the close of consultation on 30 April 2020, 19,622 submissions had been received through the online survey and as emailed and written submissions. It also reports that close to 94% support for the introduction of a ban on the proposed single use plastic items, with 90% of submissions supporting the proposed start date of 1 July 2021.
5. The Waste Reduction and Recycling (Plastic Items) Amendment Bill 2020, which amends the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*, has been informed by the results of public consultation and feedback from representatives of the Single Use Plastic Items Stakeholder Advisory Group.
6. The Bill provides for the introduction of a ban on the supply of single use plastic straws, stirrers, plates and cutlery, and allows for other single use plastic items to be prescribed by regulation following a consultation process.
7. The Bill provides for exemptions for banned items that are integral to a pre-packaged product, with a phase out date of 2025 provided to align with implementation of the agreed National Packaging Targets timeframe.
8. The Bill recognises that alternative products, for example paper straws, are not suitable for people with disability and health care needs by providing an exclusion from the supply ban for schools and healthcare businesses such as pharmacies, hospitals, GP and dental clinics and medical supply businesses.
9. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Waste Reduction and Recycling (Plastic Items) Amendment Bill 2020 into the Legislative Assembly.
10. Cabinet approved the release of the Single Use Plastic Items Consultation Report*.*
11. *Attachments*
	* [Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Bill 2020](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
	* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
	* [Statement of Compatibility](Attachments/HRSoC.PDF)
	* [Single Use Plastic Items Consultation Report](Attachments/Report.PDF)