

Stallholder Sustainability Requirements for Council Events

Why does Council control waste at events?

The local community wants Inner West Council to reduce litter, waste and plastic in waterways. There is a lot of waste produced at our events, and we are trying to reduce it.

Council has committed to cutting out single-use plastic at events. [You can read the resolution here.](#) Thank you for helping by carefully choosing the materials you use in your stall.

Who does this apply to?

These requirements apply to all stallholders whether they are providing food, activities, information or other services.

What do stallholders need to do?

Step 1: Reduce packaging and other waste

Please only use packaging and cutlery where completely necessary. For example it might be possible to:

- Have utensils available on request rather than handing them out to every customer as a default
- Serve a hotdog with a serviette or napkin rather than a plate
- Serve condiments from one large container rather than separately packaged single serves
- Provide skewers or toothpicks instead of forks if appropriate
- Change from a giveaway that attendees will throw away to something they can keep





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Step 2: Remove single use plastic and other problem materials

Stallholders must not provide single-use plastics as part of their stall operations. Common plastic items and their accepted alternatives are listed on the next page. These items must not be provided to attendees by our event stallholders.

These materials are prohibited because they:

- Are non-recyclable
- Contribute to waste and litter
- Can pollute waterways and harm wildlife

Other banned items include balloons, spray string and plastic glitter. Biodegradable glitter is accepted.





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Single Use Plastics



Plastic drink containers (excluding water bottles) Plastic cups



Plastic cutlery Plastic straws



Plastic plates or bowls; all polystyrene



Plastic Bags



Alternatives



Aluminium cans Paper cups



Wooden cutlery Paper straws



Paper, cardboard and other biodegradable alternatives



Paper bags Cotton bags



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How does Council check on stallholder waste?

Council asks stallholders to make a declaration when applying for a stall that packaging, utensils, giveaways and food containers comply with these requirements.

Council also assesses stalls on the day of the event.

Breaches of the environmental requirements may negatively affect stallholder applications for future Council events.

Are there exemptions?

Not usually, but occasionally there is a stallholder who can only use single-use plastic for specific reasons.

If you are in that position, please email Council at least 2 weeks prior to an event with details, and we will assess the circumstances.

Where can stallholders find out more?

If you have questions or are seeking an exemption for a particular material, please email your Council contact, and they will put you in touch with the right person.

If you would like to know more about plastic and other types of waste, try these links:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/science/2017-02-27/plastic-and-plastic-waste-explained/8301316>

If you would like to reduce waste in your business, start here:

<https://businessrecycling.com.au/research/>

<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/recycling-and-reuse/business-government-recycling/bin-trim>

For a limited time, Council is offering free sustainability assessments for local businesses:

<https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/live/environment-and-sustainability/sustainability-programs/sustainable-business-consultations>

If you have already implemented sustainability initiatives and would like to be recognized, check out Council's Business Environment Awards:

<https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/live/environment-and-sustainability/sustainability-programs/business-and-environmental-awards>