Summary of the Administration's proposed phased regulatory framework for disposable plastic tableware

Types of disposable plastic tableware	Phase 1	Phase 2
Expanded polystyrene	Prohibits the sale to end-customers	
tableware, Straws, Stirrers, Cutlery (forks, knives, spoons), Plates	Prohibits the provision at catering premises to customers for dine-in and takeaway services	
Cups Cup lids		Prohibits the sale to end-customers
Food containers	Prohibits the provision at	
Food container covers	catering premises to customers for dine-in services	Prohibits the provision at catering premises to customers for dine-in and takeaway services

The following circumstances are proposed to be excluded from the regulation:

- (a) pre-packaged food or drink products (e.g. disposable plastic straws attached to beverage cartons, disposable plastic cutlery provided inside cup noodles and ice cream cups etc.); however, the disposable plastic tableware is not exempted if it does not form part of the commodity, or is added after the product is manufactured; and
- (b) sale and provision of disposable plastic straws to customers with medical needs at retail and catering premises.

[Source: Extracted from paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Legislative Council Brief on "Product Eco-responsibility (Amendment) Bill 2023" issued by the Environment and Ecology Bureau, and the Environmental Protection Department on 8 February 2023.]

Summary of the control scheme on certain disposable plastic products

Control measures	Disposable plastic products	
Ban sale and free distribution	Phase 1 cotton buds; balloon sticks; inflatable cheer sticks; glow sticks; party hats; oxo-degradable plastic products (regardless of disposability); cake toppers; umbrella bags; *food sticks; *plastic toothpicks	
	Phase 2 multi-pack rings; *table cloths; *non-medical use transparent gloves; *plastic stemmed dental floss	
Ban free distribution	Phase 1 hotel toiletries (including plastic-handled toothbrushes, plastic combs, etc.) and plastic-bottled water provided in the hotel rooms; *plastic packaged tissue paper for promotional use Phase 2 *ear plugs	
Ban	oxo-degradable plastic products (regardless of	
manufacturing	disposability)	

^{*} Products that were not mentioned in the public engagement of the Council on Sustainability Development

The Administration has proposed to exempt the sale and/or free distribution of regulated disposable plastic products for certain purposes, including forensic analysis, medical treatment or procedure, scientific research or experiment, or taking medicine. The Chief Executive in Council may also make regulations to provide for exemptions on the grounds of protecting public health or public interest (for example, to safeguard security in respect of Hong Kong and to deal with emergency situation).

[Source: Extracted from paragraphs 9 and 11 of the Legislative Council Brief on "Product Eo-responsibility (Amendment) Bill 2023" issued by the Environment and Ecology Bureau, and the Environmental Protection Department on 8 February 2023.].