



EXEMPTION APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) will use the following considerations to inform decisions on exemption applications received in relation to the *Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018*:

Indicative consideration	Examples of considerations
a) Public health considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the exemption required to continue delivering a health program to the community?• Are current non-plastic alternatives considered fit for purpose?• Relevant advice from Department of Health.
b) Public and workplace safety and security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the exemption required to provide a safe and secure workplace to staff, colleagues, patients, inmates or the community?
c) Disability support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are the exempt items required to support people living with disability?• Are non-plastic alternatives fit for purpose, available and easy to access?
d) Transitional supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the exemption required to allow time to complete certification under Australian Standards AS4736:2006 and AS5810:2010?• Has an application for AS certification been lodged?• Is certification to a European Union composting standard or TUV OK Home Compost currently in place?
e) Supply chain issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the exemption required because of unavoidable manufacturing delays, or logistics/delivery issues?• Has a detailed phase-out plan been provided with details of the staged transition away from the banned prescribed plastic items?
f) Policy objectives of government in relation to waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the exemption consistent with Government policy and the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Waste Strategy 2030</i>?• The exemption would not lead to increased waste overall.