



PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. 2

Answered on 23rd June, 2026

First Meeting 2026-2027 Session – Second Sitting

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION
ASKED BY**

**HON. ROY TATUM
ELECTED MEMBER FOR THE CONSTITUENCY OF RED BAY**

TO

**THE HON. NICKOLAS DACOSTA
MINISTER OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS**

QUESTION:

Can the Honourable Minister advise on the full list of specific single-use plastics that the Government intends to ban, and when this ban will come into effect?

ANSWER:

In April 2026, in commemoration of Earth Day, Cabinet granted approval for drafting instructions to (1) amend the Customs and Border Control (Prohibited Goods) Order (2025 Revision) and the Customs Tariff Act (2026 Revision) to prohibit the importation of specific single-use plastics (“SUPs”) and (2) to provide for an exception to allow temporary importation of SUPs in emergency situations.

Single-Use Plastics Under Consideration for Prohibition

Whilst Cabinet has endorsed the policy direction and approved the drafting of legislation to ban the importation of SUPs into the Cayman Islands, the Government remains committed to a thorough public consultation process. It is vital that businesses, residents, and industry partners have the opportunity to provide input and inform the implementation of these measures.

As a result, the Government has not determined which single-use plastics will ultimately be prohibited. That determination will be informed through the legislative development process and the feedback received through public consultation.

At this stage, eight commonly used single-use plastic products have been identified for consideration. While this is not intended to be an exhaustive list, these products are among the most widely used SUPs across the Cayman Islands. These include:

1. Small plastic grocery check-out bags (does not include large plastic shopping bags, eg. from hardware or department stores);
2. Plastic individual use straws;
3. Plastic stir sticks;
4. Polystyrene cups;
5. Plastic chopsticks;
6. Plastic helium filled balloons and related balloon sticks;
7. Sky lanterns; and
8. Polystyrene clamshell food containers

As the Government remains in the early stages of the legislative drafting process, the public will be kept informed as this work progresses and consultation approaches. We are committed to meaningful engagement with businesses, residents, and other interested parties, and recognise the importance of allowing adequate time for individuals and organisations to minimise any disruption and prepare for future changes. Any implementation measures will therefore be practical, reasonable, and informed by the feedback received throughout the consultation process.

By taking action now, through a measured and collaborative approach, the Cayman Islands has an opportunity to preserve the beauty of our Islands, protect the natural environment that is central to our way of life and economy, and help ensure that future generations inherit a cleaner and more sustainable Cayman Islands.