

**10.5****Notice of Motion No 8/2012  
Reduce Single - Use Plastic Bag Use in Warringah Local  
Government Area**

Submitted by: Councillor Dr Conny Harris

**Motion**

That Warringah Council:

1. Acknowledge the efforts taken by some local businesses, residents and environmental groups to reduce the number of single-use lightweight plastic shopping bags used throughout the municipality.
2. Acknowledge that single-use plastic bags in the waste stream cause pollution, lasting many hundreds of years as they photo degrade rather than biodegrade into ever smaller pieces and that they are a major litter problem in our parks, bush land and waterways and can result in the injury and death of many animal species such as turtles, Cetaceans, birds etc.
3. Write to the State and Federal Government ministers, urging them to introduce legislation that would ban or impose a levy on single-use lightweight plastic shopping bags, as a timely measure that:
  - a. shows solidarity with the stated position of the LGSA in supporting extended producer responsibility and waste reduction at the source;
  - b. notes that successful models exists and are showcased by national retailers, Target, Aldi, Bunnings, Officeworks, Thomas Dux and others;
  - c. notes that legislation to ban single use lightweight plastic bags was passed in the states of South Australia, Northern Territory and ACT and in towns such as Coles Bay (Tasmania) and Mogo (southern NSW) in 2003, and is planned by the council for the City of Fremantle this year.
4. Contact major local retailers to encourage them to collaborate with Council voluntarily in a staged approach to reduce and ultimately eliminate single use plastic shopping bags from the Warringah Council Local Government Area.
5. Engage with the Warringah community in a process of:
  - a. creating awareness and education with regard to the degradation caused by plastic pollution;
  - b. encouraging behaviour away from our throwaway, disposable, single use attitude;
  - c. create awareness around the excessive plastic packaging of many products.