

**Subject:** Ban microbeads!!!!!!

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**Date:** 24/02/2017 08:55 PM

**Your name:** Elisabeth Cooper

**Subject:** Ban microbeads!!!!!!

**Your message:** Banning the use of microbeads is one of the easier ways to immediately reduce the devastating impact of plastic on marine life.

Many other plastic products end up in oceans due to littering or lack of waste collection/ recycling infrastructure in some parts of the world. However, plastic microbeads are all destined for the ocean, they cannot be diverted to recycling or rubbish collection facilities as they wash straight down the drain.

It is simply disgusting that anyone would think that a beauty product justifies the direct destruction of marine life and pollution of oceans. There is nothing at all beautiful or cleansing about that. Major companies market to the mainstream promoting environmentally friendly and natural products nowadays; it is no longer a fringe movement, it is the mainstream demanding change and the sooner the change the better.

A few decades of plastic are choking ocean wildlife and accumulating on beaches, coral reefs, those big floating islands of rubbish, and in the stomachs and nostrils of birds, turtles, fish and most seal life. It is a tragedy of the greatest proportion; such wonder and beauty of nature being so abominably disregarded.

I do hope you will consider the value of nature and the rights of future generations to an inhabitable world, to be more important than some company's profits as they plunder the earth for greed.

To the Ministers responsible for the Managing microbeads in personal care products Consultation document:

1. I support the proposal to ban the manufacture and sale of personal care products containing microbeads under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.
2. I agree with the intention to "define the scope of products as broadly as possible" and support a comprehensive ban on personal care products containing microbeads.
3. I urge the Government to implement this ban as soon as possible.
4. I believe that legislation should cover all products that are washed down the drain unless considered essential or critical medical products.
5. I believe that legislation should not allow 'biodegradable' plastics to be used as alternatives, as these materials do not degrade in the marine environment under ordinary circumstances.
6. I believe there should be a quick and timely phase out plan whereby retailers are informed and required to comply with legislation within the timeframe.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

Time: February 24, 2017 at 8:55 pm

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