



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Single use plastics banned at Council events

September 14, 2018
COOKTOWN

Cook Shire Council has banned all single use plastic products such as balloons at Council run events, following a presentation by young Straw No More ambassador Molly Steer.

The Straw No More campaign was started by 10-year-old Molly and her family, originally aimed at banning plastic straws in Molly's school. The campaign has gone viral, with businesses, local governments and others across the globe pledging to ban plastic straws to help stop marine pollution. Cook Shire Council last month resolved to stop using single use plastics at Council run events immediately, while they would be phased out at all Council facilities and properties, including the Cooktown markets, by July 2019.

"Molly's presentation was very powerful, she is so young but already making such a difference around the world," Cook Shire Mayor Peter Scott said. "We are a proud Reef Guardian Council, but it is more than just a title. We need to lead by example and make changes to the way we do things to ensure we still have our beautiful Reef to share with future generations. Council has already committed to using less herbicides, with the introduction of a steam weeder to our Parks and Gardens assets."

Single use plastics include lightweight plastic bags, plastic takeaway containers, plastic cutlery, balloons and plastic straws.

For more information contact Council's Reef Guardian Working Group via email at mail@cook.qld.gov.au or phone on 4069 5444.

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