



Quick guide to Regulatory Impact Analysis

Situation	What to do and more information
I'm not sure if my Cabinet proposal triggers the Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) requirements	See flow chart on the next page, the RAS process guidance (section 5.1) and the Cabinet Circular (para 16).
I want an exemption from completing a Regulatory Analysis Summary (RAS)	Your agency should have an internal process for granting exemptions from the need for a RAS, and you can apply through this internal exemption process. For more information about the process and exemption grounds see RAS process guidance (section 8).
I need to write a RAS (or some other form of impact analysis)	Create a proposal in RIA Online , and then apply for process confirmation. The Ministry for Regulation will then respond indicating which template to use and the QA arrangements. See RAS process guidance on how to prepare a RAS and use the RAS template. Also see guidance on problem definition and options identification and cost benefit analysis .
I'm preparing a regulatory discussion document	See guidance on how to prepare effective discussion documents and best practice consultation approaches. Our guidance on consultation, international obligations, and advance regulatory plans may also be relevant.
I need to Quality Assure a RAS	See guidance explaining the QA process. Note there is a quick guide and FAQ document attached.
I need to publish a RAS on the Ministry for Regulation website	Request publication through RIA Online . See our RAS process guidance (section 15) for more information. You can find published RASs here on the Ministry for Regulation website.
I need to sign up for RIA Online	To get access email RIA.Online@regulation.govt.nz and you should be granted access automatically within a few minutes. More information is available on the MFR website .
I'm not sure what is required under the Regulatory Standards Act	Information is available about what is required when developing legislation on the MFR website .
What's changed on 1 July 2026 with the new Circular?	See our quick guide and FAQs .

More resources: see the [Cabinet Circular 'Expectations for Good Law-Making'](#), and [Ministry website](#).

Who to contact for more info: your internal RIA panel/coordinator, or RMS@regulation.govt.nz



Flow chart on the RIA process

