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Weekly Report

Week ending:	7 February 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In confidence	Tracking number:	MFR2025-021
Recipient		Action sought	
Hon David Seymour MINISTER FOR REGULATION		Note the contents of this report	

Aisling Risdon
Contact: S9(2)(a)
Ministry for Regulation

Minister's comments:

Actions

Action	Due date	Status update
A2024-054	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	
A2024-055	Develop a comms plan for both the Early Childhood Education and the Agricultural and Horticultural Products Regulatory Reviews.	TBC
		In progress

Briefings & Aides-mémoire

Papers delivered to the Minister for Regulation		Date Delivered
MFR2025-008	Regulation of Minimum Capital Requirements for Banks	5 February

Papers under development		Due date
MFR2025-018	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	13 February
MFR2025-020	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	13 February
MFR2025-007	Options for the Ministry for Regulations role post regulatory reviews	28 February

Upcoming events/announcements

Date	Location	Event	Opportunity
February 12	Wellington	BusinessNZ MCG presentation	Grainne to present to MCG
February	Wellington	Red tape portal update	Minister's PR
February	Wellington	AgHort: Release of summary of engagement and submissions and the public release of final review report	Joint Minister's PR post Cabinet (TBC 24/2)
March	Wellington	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	
March	Wellington		
March	Wellington		

Contact: Joe Stockman, Head of Engagement. Ph. s 9(2)(a)

Updates

Agricultural and Horticultural Products Regulatory Review

For information

On 3 February you met with the Ministers for Food Safety and for the Environment to consider the Review recommendations and to discuss implementation. At the meeting, joint ministers agreed to:

- The Review recommendations and to seek Cabinet endorsement of those;
- s 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]
- s 9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]
- The Ministry for Regulation working up a project plan for implementation with agencies.

We amended the draft Cabinet paper to reflect these decisions and other points raised by joint ministers. An updated copy of the paper was provided to your office on 4 February for Ministerial consultation. The paper is due to be lodged on 13 February.

Contact: Peter Clark, Manager, Regulatory Reviews. Ph: S9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Early Childhood Education Regulatory Review

For information

At Minister Stanford's request, the Ministry for Regulation review team, together with Education Review Office, met with her to discuss the findings and recommendations of the review.

s 9(2)(g)(i) [REDACTED]

We are continuing to work with Ministry of Education and Education Review Office on the policy and legislation programme to inform the March Cabinet paper.

Contact: Tony Clark, Manager Regulatory Reviews Ph: S9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Hairdressing and Barbering Regulatory Review

For information

The Hairdressing and Barbering Review is now in the analysis phase following a two week engagement period with the industry and regulators. We met with nine hairdressing and barber business owners, and six representative organisations and groups. As of 03 February, we have received the following questionnaire responses:

- 49 from business owners
- 31 from hair and barber professionals
- 40 from Environmental Health Officers
- 12 from other interested parties.

Analysis of the written questionnaires is underway and analysis of direct engagement themes almost complete. As expected, there is agreement that much of the current regulatory regime is

out-of-step with current industry practice and current public health risks posed by the industry. There is some evidence of wide non-compliance (particularly with some aspects of the regime such as the prevention of serving refreshments) and inconsistent enforcement by local authorities.

Stakeholders agree that the hairdressing industry poses public health risks that require mitigation, albeit lower levels of risk than the other appearance industries (tattooing, some beauty therapies). This analysis phase of the review will consider the different options for how those risks are best managed, including whether existing general regulation is sufficient as per our Terms of Reference.

Contact: Hannah McGlue, Manager, Regulatory Reviews. Ph. S9(2)(a)

Mid-year performance update

For information

The Ministry has five appropriation performance measures. We will be reporting our performance against these measures for the period 1 March 2024 to 30 June 2025. Our current performance position as at 31 January 2025 is on track to meet our targets and is presented in the table below.

Appropriation Performance Measure	1 March 2024 – 31 January 2025	
	Budget Standard	Current YTD Result
The satisfaction of the Minister for Regulation with the policy advice service, as per the common satisfaction survey	Average score of 4 out of 5 or better	Average score 3.76
The average quality of policy advice papers, using an appropriately robust assessment process, meets a standard of 'acceptable' as defined by quality advice standards	At least 3.3/5.0	Average score 3.42
The Ministry initiates three regulatory reviews	Achieved	Achieved
Issue updated requirements for regulatory impact analysis and quality assurance	Requirements updated	Requirements updated
Attendees at Ministry-run training events are satisfied with the events (G-Reg)	75% satisfied	Attendee survey ongoing and results to be collated

We have observed an increase of 0.68 in Ministerial Satisfaction in Q2 FY 24/25 resulting in a to-date overall average of 3.76. We will be asking you to complete the survey two more times this year, at the end of Q3 and Q4 respectively, to complete the full year measurement.

The New Zealand Institute for Economic Research (NZIER) has independently assessed the quality of our policy advice for the period 1 March 2024 to 31 December 2024. The Ministry's papers were assessed with an average score of 3.42 out of 5. All of the papers scored a 3 or above which means they have all met the Policy Quality Framework standards (PQF). The report highlights our strengths in A3 and visual aids, the depth of expertise on issues, and our quality assurance processes. NZIER recommends improvement actions should be about fine-tuning and improving quality, focusing on the analysis and advice sections of the PQF.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Contact: Aisling Risdon, Head of Ministerial Services, Ph: S9(2)(a)

Regulatory Response / Red Tape Portal

For information

We provided a detailed end of year update on the submissions received via the red tape portal last week for the period 19 November to 31 December 2024.

We have now screened and prepared for triage all of the submissions received since the Portal was opened on 19 November 2024. Our focus is now on investigating the issues that have been progressed to investigation.

The Regulatory Response Team have received a total of 554 submissions to 3 February 2025.

RRT #	Issue	Status update
RRT2024-0540	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	
RRT2024-0356	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	
RRT2024-0209 RRT2024-0221, RRT2024-0359	Electronic Drug Register	An issues briefing was provided in last week's bag (MFR2025-012).
RRT2024-0524	Application of Light Vehicle Regulations to BYD Hybrid Ute	An issues briefing was provided in the bag on 23 January (MFR2025-009). We are working with the Office on a press release relating to the initial report on the portal which includes information about this issue.
RRT2024 issues: 030, 048, 051, 052, 198, 199	Property transactions and the AML regime	An issues briefing was provided in the bag on 23 January (MFR2024-165). Our overall recommendation is for the Minister to write to Ministers McKee and van Velden on actions we have identified and to agree to us engaging further with DIA and MoJ. We will then provide further advice in February/March.
RRT2024-026	Gift cards under the AML regime	The office has now sent letters to Ministers McKee and van Velden on this issue (MFR2024-175).

Contact: Lucy Pritchard, Principal Advisor, Reviews and System Capability. Ph: S9(2)(a)

Notification of Waitangi Tribunal Claim

For information

An urgent claim has been lodged with the Waitangi Tribunal in respect of the Regulatory Standards Bill consultation process, and the anticipated effects of passing an Act. The claim is made in the Tribunal's Wai 3300 Constitutional Kaupapa Inquiry and is seeking an urgent hearing. We are awaiting directions from the Tribunal as to timing for next steps and will keep you updated.

Contact: Jeremy Shoebridge, Acting Head of Legal, Ph: S9(2)(a)

Industrial Hemp Regulation

For information

Following your confirmation of the approach to industrial hemp regulation (**MFR2025-001**), the Ministry will be preparing a Cabinet paper for lodgement in s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Contact: Erin King, Manager – Regulatory Stewardship, Ph: S9(2)(a)