



Proactively Released

Weekly Report

Week ending: 21 February 2025

Priority: Medium

Security classification: In confidence

Tracking number: MFR2025-030

Recipient

Action sought

Hon David Seymour
MINISTER FOR REGULATION

Note the contents of this report

Aisling Risdon
Contact: s 9(2)(a)
Ministry for Regulation

Minister's comments:

Actions

Action	Due date	Status update
A2024-063	20 February	Complete. Briefing MFR2025-035 was delivered this week.

Briefings & Aides-mémoire

Papers delivered to the Minister for Regulation		Date Delivered
MFR2025-029	Vote Regulation: March Baseline Update	18 February
MFR2025-031	Meeting with Mastercard on 19 February 2025	18 February
MFR2025-034	Additional talking points for Cabinet Economic Policy Committee on 19 February 2025	18 February
MFR2025-039	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	20 February
MFR2025-035		20 February
MFR2025-026	Regulatory Standards Bill: Initial findings from public consultation	21 February

Papers under development		Due date
MFR2025-019	Information release: CAB-24-SUB-0462 Regulatory Review of the Hairdressing and Barbering Industry	24 February
MFR2025-037	Information release: ECO-25-SUB-0006 Agricultural and Horticultural Products Regulatory Review: Progressing Recommendations	24 February
MFR2025-032	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	27 February
MFR2025-036		27 February
MFR2025-038		27 February
MFR2025-007	Options for the Ministry for Regulations role post regulatory reviews	28 February
MFR2025-027	Regulatory Standards Bill: Final Submission analysis findings	3 March
MFR2025-033	Regulatory Standards Bill: Draft Cabinet paper	6 March

Upcoming events/announcements

Date	Location	Event	Opportunity
February TBC	Wellington	Red tape portal quarterly report publication	Ministerial PR and/or MfR website
February	Wellington	AgHort: Release of summary of engagement and submissions and the public release of final review report	Joint Minister's PR post Cabinet / ag-event (TBC 24/2)
6 March	Queenstown	Queenstown Chamber of Commerce business lunch	MfR CE to join Minister – potential for business roundtable before lunch
March TBC	Wellington	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	
March TBC	Wellington		
16 April	Christchurch	Business Canterbury Lunch Event	MfR CE to join Minister – potential for business roundtable
April TBC	Wellington	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	
1 May	Tauranga	Tauranga Chamber of Commerce Event	MfR CE to join Minister – potential for business roundtable

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

Updates

Regulatory Standards Bill

For information

We continue to work through the submissions we received through the consultation process. We have provided a briefing to you this week which outlines our analysis so far (MFR2025-026). We have a meeting with you on Monday 24 February dedicated to discussing the feedback to date and potential next steps.

Waitangi Tribunal Claim

The Waitangi Tribunal has appointed members to determine the urgent application relating to the Regulatory Standards Bill (Wai 3440) and set some preliminary timetables. The Crown must respond to the application for urgency by Tuesday 4 March, s 9(2)(h)

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

We will continue to keep you and your office updated as decisions progress.

Contact: Andrew Royle, Deputy Chief Executive, Policy, s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Contact: Peter Clark, Manager, Regulatory Reviews, s 9(2)(a)


Agricultural and Horticultural Products Regulatory Review

For information

On 19 February, Cabinet Economic Policy Committee (ECO) endorsed the Review recommendations and agreed to invite responsible Ministers to report back on a detailed implementation plan no later than May 2024. Cabinet will meet to confirm ECO decisions on 24 February 2025.

We are working with your office to provide support for announcements following Cabinet decisions on 24 February. This includes working with the communications teams of the other core agencies for the Review to ensure a consistent approach.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)




Contact: Peter Clark, Manager, Regulatory Reviews. s 9(2)(a)

Early Childhood Education Regulatory Review

For information

We are making significant progress to develop the implementation plan for this review through the ECE Steering Group and working closely with the Ministry of Education.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)




Contact: Tony Clark, Manager Regulatory Reviews s 9(2)(a)

Hairdressing and Barbering Regulatory Review

For information

The Hairdressing and Barbering Review team are in the analysis phase of the review, focusing on the findings, economic analysis, and developing options.


s 9(2)(f)(iv)



You will be provided with the Review's initial report on 6 March, followed by the final report on 27 March. The initial report will cover the Review's findings and options for change that will still be subject to analysis and consultation.

In the last week, the Review Team has met with the Ministry of Health to seek feedback on direct engagement findings and the proposed plan for consulting on options for change. We have also met with representatives from Western Australia's Department of Health and Environmental Health Australia. Western Australia has made significant changes to how they regulate hairdressers and barbers within the last ten years.


s 9(2)(f)(iv)



The Review Team will consult on options at the same time as you will receive the initial report outlining the options. We are consulting with:

- **industry representatives** (Hair and Barber New Zealand, the Hair Industry Training Organisation and Toi Mai the Workforce Development Council).
- **local authorities** via the Chief Executives and meeting with Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) and the Taituarā Bylaws and Regulations Refence Group. An online form will be sent out to Chief Executives to provide feedback on the options.
- the **New Zealand Institute of Environmental Health**, which represents environmental health professionals and promotes awareness of environmental health issues.
- impacted **government agencies**, which are:
 - the Ministry of Health (policy responsibility for the legislative framework) and Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora (regulatory function under the legislative framework)
 - the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (responsibility for the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015)
 - WorkSafe New Zealand (regulators under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015)
 - the Department of Internal Affairs (responsibility for the Local Government Act 2002 / local government policy and local authorities are the regulators under the legislative framework).

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



Contact: Hannah McGlue, Manager, Regulatory Reviews. s 9(2)(a)

Regulatory Response / Red Tape Portal

For information

As at 18 February 2025, the Ministry has received a total of 601 submissions on red tape issues. We are working with your office on engagement material to support the public release of a red tape issues summary report later this month.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Upcoming briefings will be provided to your office in relation to s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Contact: Lucy Pritchard, Principal Advisor, Reviews and System Capability. s 9(2)(a)

Regulatory System Capability

For information

The Regulatory System Capability team—focuses on enabling, facilitating, and influencing the systems and processes that regulatory leaders use to improve their agencies' regulatory practice. We are focused on lowering the cost of improving leadership and regulatory systems by offering shared resources, standardising practice, and creating spaces for learning and collaboration. Here's what we're doing:

- **System-Level Interventions:** Issuing guidance, expectations, and tools about practice in the regulatory sector.
- **Foundational Learning:** Delivering freely available and accessible foundational knowledge products to agencies, such as through quick guides on regulatory topics and online learning modules on the foundations of good regulatory practice.
- **Targeted Resources and Collaboration:** Offering a curated online resource library and connecting regulatory leaders and practitioners across agencies to tackle shared challenges and document collective wisdom through communities of practice.

Guidance material for the regulatory sector – positive feedback and upcoming launches

The Regulatory Practice Essentials guidance material (quick guides) standardises core principles and definitions of regulatory good practice. Since the guides were launched in November 2024, we have had positive feedback from large numbers of New Zealand agencies, several international organisations, and some of the content has been used in the ECE regulatory review.

The New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER), has been very complimentary about the quick guides and they will be endorsing and promoting them through their networks of regulated parties and regulators.

Online collaboration system - positive feedback and upcoming launches

We are developing an online collaboration system called RegRoom for the regulatory sector to share good regulatory practice, including in communities of practice. The RegRoom will require an agency validated log-in which will give us visibility of which agencies and staff are engaging with the materials.

It is critical for credibility of RegRoom that people have a good user experience. The system is undergoing extensive testing of both content and technology. A limited audience has been using the first six modules and their feedback on the material has been positive, consistent with the feedback on the written quick guides. Comments on the modules have included:

- *“Just thought I would congratulate you and the team on the resource material you have amassed on the website. The guides are very useful in my opinion to those new to regulation”*
- *“We are going to strongly encourage our new Board to view the six and to avail themselves of the material you have collected and prepared.”*

We are on track for Go-live in mid-2025 as planned for your official launch.

Contact: Alex McMinn, Head of Regulatory System Capability, s 9(2)(a)

Draft Cabinet paper consultations

Draft Cabinet papers that we have been consulted on will appear here. Only new papers or papers with updated commentary will be included in this table.

Contact: Gwen Rashbrooke, Manager – Regulatory Policy Design, s 9(2)(a)

New or updated papers

Portfolio	Title	Probable Committee	Comment
Land Information	Public Works Act 1981 Review – further policy decisions	ECO 5 March	<p>This paper requests a broad list of policy approvals as part of a larger suite of amendments to the Public Works Act 1981 (PWA) which aims to make government acquisition of private land more suited to modern infrastructure delivery, to make compensation for acquisition faster, more efficient and less effort for landowners, and to enable more efficient and effective disputes resolution.</p> <p>The Cabinet paper’s proposals include establishing emergency powers facilitate PWA acquisitions, relative to business-as-usual, in which the public’s ability to object to an acquisition through the environmental court is removed. We have focused our attention on the proposed emergency powers provisions. We raised concerns with LINZ that the Cabinet paper did not provide sufficient emphasis on the safeguards required to ensure that the powers are only used where absolutely necessary.</p> <p>Further to our engagement, the Cabinet paper now addresses this issue with a more comprehensive discussion of the safeguards needed in the body of the Cabinet paper, and the inclusion of two new recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Agree that the emergency regime should minimise unnecessary impacts on property rights to the extent possible while supporting effective emergency recovery” • “Agree [than an Order in Council activating emergency acquisition powers] may only be issued for the purposes of supporting emergency recovery, and must be no broader (including geographically broader in application) than reasonably necessary to address the matters that gave rise to the Order” <p>We will work with LINZ to further test these new conditions prior to lodging the paper to make sure they give effect to appropriate acquisition of land in emergency situations and minimised impacts on property rights.</p>

