



Proactively Released

Weekly Report

Week ending:	14 March 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In confidence	Tracking number:	MFR2025-059
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

No ministerial actions this week

Briefings & Aides-mémoire

Papers delivered to the Minister for Regulation		Date Delivered
MFR2025-057	Talking points - Meeting with Hon Goldsmith on potential telecommunications sector review	10 March
MFR2025-060	Sector Reviews – talking points for meetings with Ministers	10 March
MFR2025-058	Ministry for Regulation - One Year Update	14 March
MFR2025-062	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	14 March

Papers under development		Due date
MFR2025-048	Talking Points and Draft Recommendations s 9(2)(f)(iv)	17 March
MFR2025-027	Regulatory Standards Bill: Final Submissions analysis findings	19 March
MFR2025-051	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	19 March

Announcements & Engagements

This section has been amended from 7 March 2025 to include information about the Ministry's engagement activity.

Ministerial activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
March TBC	Wellington	Announcement of future regulatory reviews	Ministerial press release (TBC) Christchurch event (TBC)
31 March	Wellington	ECE regulatory review: Next steps	Ministerial press release (post-Cabinet) Joint press release from MoE and ERO
16 April	Christchurch	Business Canterbury Lunch Event	Ministry for Regulation Chief Executive to attend with you – potential for business roundtable or meeting with local businesses
April – date TBC	Wellington	RSB: Announcement of Cabinet decisions and Summary of submissions report release	Ministerial press release and Ministry for Regulation website announcement
1 May	Tauranga	Tauranga Chamber of Commerce Event	Ministry for Regulation Chief Executive to attend with you – potential for business roundtable
22 May	Wellington	RSB: Cabinet paper, Bill and summary of submissions	Ministerial press release

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
March TBC	Meeting with Spark
2 April	Chief Executive presentation to Foodstuffs Board
April – May	Collaborative web series with NZIER on regulation
8 May	Chief Executive presentation to Russell McVeigh SLT and Board
4 June	Chief Executive presentation to Council of Financial Regulators

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

Updates

Ministry for Regulation Engagement Strategy

For discussion

With the Ministry turning one this month the establishment phase is ending. As the Ministry transitions away from “start-up” to “grown-up”, we have been reviewing and updating our approach to engagement and communication and refreshed our strategy for the year ahead. The strategy leverages the successes we have had to date but pushes us further.

Work to date

The Ministry has been successful in establishing its presence as a central government agency and ensuring there is a good understanding of the Ministry’s role and purpose across the public sector and in the business community. We now have a permanent Ministry for Regulation website, a strong LinkedIn presence, and a growing reputation in the business community as a responsive, pragmatic government agency, based on our proactive engagement approach.

We have provided further detail on our digital channel insights, which highlight some of the success we have had through our digital engagement in MFR2025-058.

We have received positive feedback from government and industry stakeholders on the engagement element of our reviews and from the business community generally about our role and our approach.

Principles

As part of the refreshed engagement strategy, the Ministry has committed to a set of core principles to guide our engagement activity:

- We will put the regulated (businesses, communities, people), at the centre of our approach
- We will proactively listen first
- We will tell the story of who we are and the work we do – focusing on the benefits we deliver to New Zealanders
- We will collaborate with others
- We will be transparent and proactive, while providing free and frank advice and protecting privacy
- We will make our information easily understandable and accessible
- We will give our leaders and teams tools to make the Ministry a great place to work
- We will have a co-ordinated approach to engagement across the Ministry
- We will grow and maintain our engagement capability.

We will share more about our engagement strategy and approach, including our work programme, in the agency meeting on 17 March.

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

Government Quarterly Plan

For information

The following updates were provided on 11 March 2025 for the report on the Government's Action Plan for Quarter 1 (January-March). The Ministry for Regulation is responsible for two actions this quarter – Actions 20 and 21. These updates were developed in consultation with your office.

Action 20: Take Cabinet decisions on the Regulatory Standards Bill

Update Required		
Action #	Delivery Update	Delivery Status
20	The Ministry for Regulation has provided further advice including a draft Cabinet paper to the Minister. The Minister is considering this further advice and potential next steps to inform Cabinet decisions. Cabinet Committee and Cabinet dates are yet to be confirmed and there is considerable risk for completing the required activities before the end of the quarter.	At Risk
[If Applicable] Critical Contextual Information		
<p><i>The Minister has received a draft Cabinet paper and advice and will take decisions during the week beginning 10 March in advance of departmental consultation.</i></p> <p><i>Ministerial engagement is still to occur. A Cabinet paper is intended for EXP on 8 April 2025.</i></p>		

Action 21: Begin the fourth regulation sector review

Update Required		
Action #	Delivery Update	Delivery Status
21	The Minister has taken decisions on potential future reviews 4 s 9(2) The Minister has begun engaging with the relevant portfolio ministers and is intending to take an oral item to EXP on 25th March and Cabinet 31 March.	s 9(2)(g)(i)
s 9(2)(g)(i)		

Contact: Aisling Risdon, Head of Ministerial Services, Ph: s 9(2)(a)

Regulatory Standards Bill

For information

We provided you with a draft Cabinet paper on 12 March for your office to commence consultation with your Ministerial colleagues. Agency consultation commenced concurrently and was completed on 14 March. We are finalising the remaining material to supply to Ministers to support the consultation process and will provide that to your office in the week commencing 17 March. We remain on track for the matter to be considered by the Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee on 8 April.

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

Regulatory Reviews – s 9(2)(f)(iv)

For information

We understand that you have met with Hon Goldsmith, Minister for Media and Communications, s 9(2)(f)(iv) future review topics. s 9(2)(f)(iv). These discussions will inform your oral item at the Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Cabinet Committee meeting on 25 March 2025. We will provide an aide memoire with suggested talking points and recommendations in the week of 17 March in advance of this meeting.

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

Early Childhood Education (ECE) Regulatory Review

For information

We commenced agency consultation on the draft ECE Review Cabinet paper last week and completed this on 13 March. We have received responses from all agencies we consulted with and all have been supportive of the paper with minimal to no feedback provided. The final Cabinet paper is due to be lodged on 20 March.

The timing of Ministerial consultation is sitting with your office.

We are providing feedback to Ministry of Education on their companion Cabinet paper.

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

Hairdressing and Barbering Regulatory Review

For information

As outlined in last week's briefing on the draft findings (MFR2025-043), we are in the process of finalising our advice and presenting you with the Review's Final Report on 27 March 2025.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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s 9(2)(f)(iv)

We are scheduled to discuss the advice and options with you in an extended agency meeting on 17 March.

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

Regulatory Response / Red Tape Portal

For information

As at 12 March 2025, the Ministry has received a total of 652 submissions on red tape issues. We have 53 issues under active investigation, including 10 issues relating to AML. These investigations are looking at wide range of issues that have been raised by submitters to date and include health & safety regulation, issues impacting retail businesses, health/medical products and government identification requirements including how information is shared between agencies.

We provided the below advice to your office this week:

Reference	Title	Date delivered
MFR2025-061	RRT Weekly report 13 March	12 March 2025
MFR2025-041	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	13 March 2025

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

Portfolio	Title	Probable Committee	Comment
Workplace Health and Safety	Health and safety reform: system-wide changes	(CBC) Cabinet Business Committee 17 March	s 9(2)(g)(i)
Environment	Replacing the Resource Management Act 1991 – Approach to development of new legislation	(CBC) Cabinet Business Committee 17 March	

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Contact: Ben Temple, Lead Advisor, Policy and Strategy, Ph: s 9(2)(a)