



Weekly Report

Week ending: 23 April 2025

Priority: Medium

Security classification: In confidence

Tracking number: MFR2025-097

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
A2025-103	RSB: Prepare worked examples and flowcharts of how the consistency assessments would work in practice.	15 April	Complete
A2025-108	s 9(2)(f)(iv)		
A2025-118	AgHort: prepare talking points on monitoring of the regulators during implementation of the Ag/Hort review	15 April	Complete
A2025-119	Share work undertaken regarding the rule of two analysis and its viability as a recommendation in the Ag/Hort review	16 April	Complete
A2025-121	RSB: Draft a recommendation for the proposed exemptions	16 April	Complete
A2025-122	RSB: Draft a recommendation on the 6 month period where MfR develop guidance and make assessments on exemptions from the Bill	16 April	Complete
A2025-123	RSB: Update pack from October: Ministerial Consultation Decisions, MFR2025-092 Table 1, and RSB Introduction to Initial Stock Review Timeline	16 April	Complete

Briefings & Aides-mémoire

Papers delivered to the Minister for Regulation		Date Delivered
MFR2025-088	Seeking policy decisions to progress the Agricultural and Horticultural Products Regulatory Review Omnibus Bill	24 April
MFR2025-100	Ministry for Regulation views on implementation plans for the Agricultural and Horticultural Products Review	24 April

Papers under development		Due date
MFR2025-086	Updated draft Terms of Reference and draft Cabinet paper for Telecommunications sector review	29 April

Papers under development		Due date
MFR2025-103	Hairdressing and Barbering Regulatory Review Final Cabinet Paper	29 April
MFR2025-102	Additional information on the Climate-related Disclosures regime	1 May
MFR2025-099	The OECD Regulatory Policy Outlook 2025 and iREG survey results - Key findings and insights	1 May
MFR2025-095	Talking points for Cabinet Economic Policy Committee on 14 May 2025	8 May

Announcements & Engagements

Ministerial activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
April 22 TBC	Auckland	RRT – medical conferencing (advertising of yet to be approved medications)	Ministerial PR MfR publication of case study
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			
April 23	Auckland	ECE Regulatory Review – public announcement of next steps	Ministerial press release + media event MfR social media post - complete
1 May	Tauranga	Tauranga Chamber of Commerce Event	Ministry Chief Executive to attend with you – potential for business roundtable
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			
TBC	Wellington	Cabinet decisions trigger release of RSB TIA, RIS and summary of submissions.	Ministerial release and media event (theatrette TBC) MfR web content and social media post
12 May TBC	Auckland	Release of Hairdressing and Barbering review	Ministerial press release and media event MfR stakeholder comms; web content and social media post
19 - 22 May	Wellington	RSB at Cabinet / 1 st reading	Ministerial speech MfR web content / social media post
29 May	Hamilton	Business Chamber Lunch	MfR to provide options for business visits and regional RRT data.

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
1 May	First collaborative web series with NZIER on regulation (with Chief Economist Kevin Counsell)
8 May	Chief Executive presentation to Russell McVeigh SLT and Board
4 June	Chief Executive presentation to Council of Financial Regulators
5-6 June	Chief Executive meet with visiting Deputy-Director General of Health (Health Regulation) Singapore – NZ regulation approach
11 June	Chief Executive on conference panel at APHANZ conference
19 August	IPANZ webinar series – Chief Executive presentation as part of public service leaders series.

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

Updates

Regulatory Standards Bill

For information

An amended Cabinet paper was lodged on Wednesday. Engagement with Parliamentary Counsel Office (PCO) over the drafting of the Bill has continued, and a LEG paper is under development. We remain on track to lodge a LEG paper on 8 May for the meeting on 15 May.

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

Government Quarterly Plan

For information

The following updates were provided on 22 April for the report on the Government's Action Plan for Quarter 2 (April - June) in consultation with your office. The Ministry for Regulation is responsible for one action this quarter – Action 8.

Action 8: Introduce the Regulatory Standards Bill to improve the quality of regulation by ensuring regulatory decisions are based on principles of good law-making and economic efficiency.

Update Required				
Action #	Delivery Update <i>Please provide your progress update for this action</i>	Delivery Status		
8	Following Cabinet deferral of the submission: “Progressing a Regulatory Standards Bill: Policy Approvals”, the Minister has met with Hon Nicola Willis, Hon Judith Collins KC and Hon Shane Jones to discuss the proposal. A revised paper will be considered by Cabinet on 28 April.	s 9(2)(g)(i)		
Upcoming papers <i>Please list any Cabinet Papers that support the closure of your action item</i>				
Paper name	Action #	Lead Portfolio	Committee	Committee Date
Policy approvals for progressing a Regulatory Standards Bill	8	Regulation	CAB	28 April 2025

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

Regulatory Response Team

For information

As at 22 April 2025, the Ministry has received a total of 702 submissions on red tape issues, with 94 issues under active investigation.

The next quarterly report data will be presented to your advisors next week and we will be publishing that information in early May on the Ministry's website.

We are working with your office on deregulation options relating to the issues outlined below:

- medical conferences

- s 9(2)(f)(iv)

- s 9(2)(f)(iv)

- s 9(2)(f)(iv)

- s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Since the last weekly report on 11 April, we provided the below advice/documents to your office:

Reference	Title	Date delivered
MFR2024-165 & MFR2024-175	Draft Letter from Minister Seymour to Minister McKee in relation to Anti-Money Laundering Reforms	11 April
MFR2025- 096	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	15 April
MFR2025-101	RRT Weekly report	16 April

Contact: Lucy Pritchard, Lead Advisor, Regulatory Reviews s 9(2)(a)

Telecommunications Review

For information

Following your announcement, we have commenced targeted engagement on the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) with key stakeholders. We will keep your office informed of any key themes.

Your office has agreed that the draft terms of reference will be considered by the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee (EXP) at its meeting on 14 May 2025. We expect to provide joint ministers with a draft Cabinet paper with an updated ToR on 7 May 2025, subject to joint ministerial agreement, so that ministerial and agency consultation can commence.

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

Early Childhood Education Regulatory Review

For information

The Ministry's Engagement team supported your office with materials for the post-Cabinet announcements on 23 April 2025.

Work is continuing with the Ministry of Education on their implementation of Recommendation #9 of the review: to revise licensing criteria to ensure they are proportionate, effective and support quality without overburdening providers.

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

Hairdressing and Barbering Regulatory Review

For information

Ministerial and agency consultation on the Cabinet paper seeking agreement to the Review's recommendations has started. Agency consultation closes on 24 April 2025 and we understand ministerial consultation closes on 28 April 2025.

We will provide your office with the pack for Cabinet on Tuesday, 29 April 2025, for lodging on 1 May for Cabinet Economic Policy Committee (EXP) on 6 May.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Regulatory Impact Analysis Non-Compliance

Designing a rate capping system

On 7 April 2025, Cabinet agreed a proposal from Hon Simon Watts, in his capacity as Minister for Local Government, to design a rate capping system for New Zealand (see EXP-25-MIN-0038). The paper sought agreement to the following principles to guide the design of the system:

- Independent – Determined by an independent authority
- Transparent – Simple for councils and their communities to understand
- Cost-reflective – Accurately reflect cost changes for councils
- Localised – Considers differences between councils across the country.

Minister Watts plans to work with you, in your capacity as Minister for Regulation, and with other relevant Ministers (including the Minister of Finance and Minister for Infrastructure) to develop the system and will report back to Cabinet on the progress of policy design in December 2025. s 9(2)(f) s 9(2)(f)(iv)

No Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) was completed to accompany this Cabinet paper, and the proposal was not exempt (the proposal was denied an exemption in January 2025 and no further requests were made). The Ministry for Regulation is working with the Department of Internal Affairs to identify the next appropriate Cabinet decision point to prepare a supplementary analysis report.


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

Draft Cabinet paper consultations

Draft Cabinet papers that we have been consulted on will appear here.

New or updated papers

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



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