



Weekly Report

Proactively released

Week ending: 18 July 2025

Priority: Medium

Security classification: In confidence

Tracking number: MFR2025-195

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

Briefings & Aides-mémoire

Papers delivered to the Minister for Regulation		Date Delivered
MFR2025-193	Regulatory Standards Bill – Final draft Cabinet paper updating on approach to departmental report	16 July
MFR2025-191	Forward plan and engagement approach for the Product Labelling Regulatory Review	17 July
MFR2025-163	Response to Post-hearing questions: Estimates 2025-26	18 July
MFR2025-180	Lead-free products requirements for plumbers	18 July
MFR2025-183	Ministerial Satisfaction Survey	18 July
MFR2025-197	Regulatory Standards Bill: Talking Points for 21 July Cabinet meeting	18 July

Papers under development		Due date
MFR2025-179	Industrial Hemp Biweekly Update – 23 July 2025	23 July
s 9(2)(f)(iv)		
MFR2025-148	August update on the Telecommunications Regulatory Review	7 August
MFR2025-194	Report on portfolios' compliance with Cabinet's impact analysis requirements	13 August

Announcements & Engagements

Ministerial activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
TBC 23 July	Wellington	Announcement of next sector review following Cabinet decision (21 July).	Ministerial PR MfR website and LinkedIn
TBC August	Wellington	Update on Telco – scene setting for online public consultation.	Ministerial PR MfR website and LinkedIn MfR key stakeholders' email
5 August	Auckland	Ministerial visit	MfR will work with your office to identify suitable visit opportunities in the area.
21 August	Wellington	Telecommunications review. Online public consultation starts on draft option.	Ministerial PR MfR website and LinkedIn MfR key stakeholders' email
TBC August	Wellington	Publication of red tape tipline quarterly report	MfR website and LinkedIn
27-28 August	Australia	National Regulators Community of Practice conference: <i>Regulation 2025 to 2050: Disruption, Change, and Continuity</i>	

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
14 July	Monthly Telecommunications Review update emailed to stakeholders.
17 July	Hairdressing and Barbering guidance publicised with stakeholders directly via email and publicly via LinkedIn and website.
31 July	Hairdressing and Barbering revocation of regulation takes effect. Ministry to publicise with own stakeholders directly via email and publicly via LinkedIn.
31 July	Jointly hosting public webinar with NZIER on regulatory policy design
5 August	CE – Guest speaker at the FMA Board meeting in Auckland
6 August	Chief Economist – Guest lecturer Canterbury University (Economics Department)
13 August	CE panellist with other central agency CEs – Crown Board Chairs Forum
19 August	CE webinar – IPANZ/Hapai voices from the centre
22 August (TBC)	Public consultation Telco review
27-28 August	CE presenting online/ Minister attending the National Regulators Community of Practice conference: <i>Regulation 2025 to 2050: Disruption, Change, and Continuity</i>

Contact: Joe Stockman, Head of Engagement | Ph: § 9(2)(a)

Updates

Regulatory Standards Bill

For information

The Cabinet paper was lodged on Thursday at 10am for discussion directly at Cabinet on Monday 21 July. With approval from Cabinet office, the attachment to the Cabinet paper (containing content intended for the departmental report) was lodged late on Friday. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Agricultural and Horticultural Products Regulatory Review

For information

The Senior Officials Advisory Group met for the last time on 17 July to discuss the outcomes of the second Sector Leaders Forum meeting, the Omnibus Bill process, and the future of the group. Agencies are making good progress on the Omnibus Bill and the second Sector Leaders Forum meeting was collaborative and productive.

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

Hairdressing and Barbering Regulatory Review

For information

Public health guidance was published by the Ministry of Health on 17 July. We have communicated with key stakeholders and submitters to let them know about the guidance and provide them with the link: <https://www.health.govt.nz/publications/public-health-guidance-for-hairdressers-and-barbers>.

The Health (Hairdressers) Regulations 1980 will be revoked 28-days following the Order in Council being gazetted. The Gazette took place on 3 July 2025, and the regulations will accordingly be revoked on 31 July 2025.

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

Telecommunications Review

For information

We will be providing our first substantive analysis to joint ministers in the first week of August, prior to the Ministers meeting on 13 August. This advice will include a summary of key issues, findings, and initial options to inform the upcoming public consultation, due to begin in the final week of August.

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

Industrial Hemp

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Future Reviews

For information

The future reviews paper was discussed at Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee on 15 July. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Regulatory Response Team / Red Tape Portal

For information

The Ministry has received a total of 818 submissions to date. We currently have 36 investigations underway, (relating to 104 public submissions). We have closed 640 submissions and have 74 submissions awaiting closure or investigation. The latest RRT report was provided to your office on 15 July (MFR2025-192).

We are awaiting further direction from your office on the issues outlined below:

Table 1: Issues awaiting further direction from your office

Title	Source	Date advice sent	Action awaited
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			

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

We are actively investigating the following issues. This is not a full view of all investigative work that is occurring, and encompasses only those that we will be providing advice to you or your office on shortly:

Table 2: Issues under investigation

Title	Source	Investigation stage
Playground equipment standards (RRT2025-0714)	Commission from your office	Advisor’s Briefing
Lead-free product requirements for plumbers (RRT2025-0697)	Commission from your office	Advisor’s Briefing
Swimming pool fencing compliance (RRT2025-0719)	Commission from your office	Ministerial Letter

Additionally, we are working on a consolidated briefing on the land transport issues we have received.

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

FEC Estimates post-hearing questions

The Finance and Expenditure Committee held a hearing for Vote Regulation on 17 June 2025 for this year’s round of Budget Estimates.

The Committee has sent you post-hearing questions for response. This follows the Standard Estimates Questionnaire 2025/26 and Supplementary Written Questions which were lodged with the Committee on 23 May and 11 June, respectively. The responses will be used by the Committee as they examine the 2025/26 Estimates of Appropriations.

Following your review of the draft responses provided to you on 18 July, we will make any necessary updates and work with your office to lodge the responses to the post-hearing questions with the Committee no later than 25 July 2025.

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