



Weekly Report

Proactively Released

Week ending: 24 October 2025

Priority: Medium

Security classification: In confidence

Tracking number: MFR2025-290

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
A2025-328 Progressing deregulatory options: MfR to further develop options and discuss with the Office	October	In progress
s 9(2)(f)(iv), s 9(2)(g)		
s 9(2)(f)(iv)		

Briefings & Aides-mémoire

Papers delivered to the Minister for Regulation		Date delivered
MFR2025-247	Regulatory Standards Bill: Fees and skills for the Regulatory Standards Board	23 October
MFR2025-282	Regulatory Standards Bill – Further decisions and update ahead of remaining legislative stages	23 October
MFR2025-287	Ministerial Satisfaction Survey for period 1 July 2025 -30 September 2025	23 October
MFR2025-288	Low Complexity Reviews Deregulatory Options October 2025	24 October
S 9(2)(f)(iv)		
S 9(2)(f)(iv)		

Papers delivered to the Ministers Office		Date delivered
S 9(2)(f)(iv)		
MFR2025-293	Regulatory Standards Bill Draft Briefings: MFR2025-268 and MFR2025-277	24 October

Papers under development		Due date
S 9(2)(f)(iv)		
S 9(2)(f)(iv)		
MFR2025-268	Further decisions on non-statutory requirements to support the Regulatory Standards Bill [name TBC]	30 October
MFR2025-277	Regulatory Standards Bill: proposed approach to implementing Subpart 3 - regulatory stewardship and plans for regularly reviewing legislation	30 October
MFR2025-288	Low Complexity Reviews Deregulatory Options October 2025	30 October
S 9(2)(f)(iv)		

Announcements & Engagements

Ministerial activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
October - November	Various	Ongoing Ministerial engagement with hospitality sector	Regional events with chambers / hospitality businesses
TBC	Wellington	Regulatory Standards Bill returns to House for subsequent readings	Ministerial press release when Bill passes Third Reading

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
October - November	Ongoing engagement direct and online with Hospitality sector
3 November	Business New Zealand – Chief Executive - 25th Anniversary of the Voice of Business
5 November	Rā Ratonga Tūmatanui Public Service Day Awards 2025 Chief Executive
4 December	Open Council of Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) – Chief Executive keynote, Chief Economist on panel
9 December	University of Canterbury Regulatory Economics – Chief Executive Officer Forum – Chief Economist and Chief Executive - Sector Reviews and What they Mean for Businesses (Minister opening TBC)

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

Updates

Annual Audit 2024/25

For information

As noted in last week's report, at the end of an audit the Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) will independently write to you as the Minister for Regulation to inform you of the outcome. We have been advised that you will receive a letter from the OAG next week.

The OAG uses a framework to examine, assess, grade and report on public organisation's environment, systems and controls for managing and reporting financial and service performance information. These are called 'ESCO' grades and organisations are graded accordingly as very good, good, needs improvement, or poor.

The Ministry received the following ratings:

Area	Grade
Management control environment	Very good
Financial information systems and controls	Very good
Performance information and associated systems and controls	Good

The grades received by the Ministry represent one of the highest gradings possible and are a very positive outcome for the Ministry at this stage of our establishment.

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

Telecommunications Review

For information

S 9(2)(f)(iv)

Contact: Cherie Engelbrecht, Acting Manager, Regulatory Reviews | Ph: S 9(2)(a)

S 9(2)(f)(iv)

Industrial Hemp Review

For information

S 9(2)(f)(iv)

Contact: Colm Williams, Principal Advisor | Ph: S 9(2)(a)

Hospitality Review

For information

Engagement with stakeholders continues. This week we met with the New Zealand Specialty Coffee Association and Spirits New Zealand. Both welcomed the Review and the opportunity to discuss the issues facing the sector.

The response rate for submissions so far has been high with around 65 responses, the majority of which are from hospitality business owners (38 responses). Remaining submissions are from regulators, hospitality workers and other interested parties, including organisations that represent hospitality businesses.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Product Labelling Review

For information

The Review team is making steady progress on investigations across all areas within scope. Drafting of issues is underway, and an initial issues paper was shared with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) this week for their initial views and feedback. We also expect to distribute issues papers on digital labelling and over the counter medicines to Ministry of Business and Innovation and Employment (MBIE), Commerce Commission, Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) and Ministry of Health in the coming days. In addition, external engagement with regulated parties is ongoing as planned.

Regarding dietary supplements, we have consulted with both MPI and MedSafe, who have advised that initiatives are underway to address industry concerns regarding exempting export-only dietary supplements. MPI is preparing a briefing paper for Minister Hoggard this week, which we will provide feedback on. We will provide an update to your office on the dietary supplements paper next week.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

S 9(2)(f)(iv)

Contact: Justine Fitzmaurice, Manager, Regulatory Reviews | Ph: S 9(2)(a)

Regulatory Response Team / Red Tape Tipline

For information

As of 22 October 2025, the Ministry has received a total of 1374 submissions on red tape issues. We currently have 27 investigations underway (relating to 179 public submissions). We provided you with the October bundle of deregulatory opportunities this week (MFR2025-288).

Following the recent media coverage of the cake makers we've received 59 submissions over the past week. The tipline has averaged 2.4 submissions per day representing a 346% increase in volume and a 240% increase over the average for the past 6 months.

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

Government Quarterly Plan

For information

The following updates were provided on 17 and 21 October 2025 for the report on the Government's Action Plan for Quarter 3 (July-September). Action 15 has now been completed.

Action 10: Pass the Regulatory Standards Bill.

Update Required		
Action #	Delivery Update <i>Please provide your progress update for this action</i>	Delivery Status
10	<u>Timing of the passage of the bill is subject to the legislative programme confirmed by the Leader of the House.</u> <u>The Bill requires a 2nd reading, Committee of the whole House, and the 3rd for enactment.</u>	<i>Probable</i>
Critical Contextual Information		
Timing of the passage of the bill is subject to the legislative programme confirmed by the Leader of the House. [in confidence] We understand this is likely to be mid- November but no dates have been confirmed.		

Action 15: The announcement and publication/release of the Terms of Reference for the Hospitality Review.

Update Required		
Action #	Delivery Update	Delivery Status
15	<u>The action is complete. The hospitality sector review was announced by the Minister on 15 October and the Terms of Reference document was published on the same day.</u>	<i>Completed</i>

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