



Weekly Report

Proactively Released

Week ending: 28 November 2025

Priority: Medium

Security classification: In confidence

Tracking number: MFR2025-324

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
No outstanding actions from the Minister.		

Briefings & Aides-mémoire

Papers delivered to the Minister for Regulation		Date delivered
MFR2025-320	Draft Cabinet paper - Implementation of the Regulatory Standards Act: Strengthening and streamlining processes for making and reviewing regulation	27 November
MFR2025-323	Regulatory Standards Board Position Descriptions	27 November

Papers delivered to the Ministers Office		Date delivered
MFR2025-309	Proactive release of the Cabinet paper Addressing unnecessary regulatory burden on the hemp sector	27 November
MFR2025-325	Changes made to the Cabinet paper following feedback received	27 November
MFR2025-327	Annual Review 2024/25 scrutiny: Final briefing pack	28 November

Papers under development		
MFR2025-302	2026 Legislation Programme: Requirements for Submitting	1 December
MFR2025-326	New Government Procurement Rules: 5th Edition	1 December
MFR2025-310	Hospitality Review: Issues to be included for further analysis	4 December
MFR2025-318	Low Complexity Reviews Deregulatory Options November 2025	4 December
MFR2025-322	Decisions and next steps for regulatory reviews 7 and 8	4 December
MFR2025-313	Product Labelling Review Final Report	11 December

Announcements & Engagements

Ministerial activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
11 December	Christchurch	Industrial hemp announcement	We are working with your office to plan an event with industry and media in attendance
TBC December	Wellington	List of priorities agreed by Ministers for hospitality review next year	Joint Ministerial media release

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
TBC November	Latest Quarterly report of Red Tape Tipline data
2 December	Ministry officials appear at the Finance and Expenditure Select Committee (FEC) hearing
4 December	Open Council of Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) – Chief Executive keynote speech, Chief Economist on panel
9 December	University of Canterbury Regulatory Economics - CEO Forum – Chief Economist and Chief Executive – Sector Reviews and What they Mean for Businesses

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

Updates

Regulatory Standards Act 2025

For information

We have provided you with advice on decisions to support effective implementation of the Regulatory Standards Act, including replacing existing Regulatory Impact Analysis and Disclosure Statement Cabinet Office circulars with a new Good Law-making circular, along with a draft Cabinet paper (MFR2025-320). Dependent on your feedback, we propose to begin agency consultation on the Cabinet paper prior to Christmas.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

We are also planning to begin engagement with agencies more broadly about the requirements of the Act and to update them on progress with implementation.

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

Establishment of the Regulatory Standards Board

For information

We met with your office on 24 November 2025 to give an overview of the process to appoint to the Regulatory Standards Board.

Position descriptions have been provided to you this week and we request your feedback on these by 3 December 2025 to enable us to commence advertising for the board chair and members from 8 December 2025.

Once the position description is approved you may begin the required consultation with your Cabinet colleagues to seek suitable applicants.

Contact: Anshuman Chakraborty, Head of Legal & Board Establishment Lead | s 9(2)(a)

Telecommunications Review

For information

On 21 November 2025, we provided you with an updated Cabinet paper for consideration. Following your office's engagement with Minister Goldsmith's office, we have made changes to the draft Cabinet paper to reflect the feedback we received. The updated draft was delivered to your office on 27 November.

Your office has subsequently asked for some further advice on consumer protection and proposals relating to the Telecommunications Development Levy. We are currently working with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the Commerce Commission to provide advice by 3 December.

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

Industrial Hemp Review

For information

We provided your office with a copy of the Cabinet paper for proactive release, and are preparing a plan for the announcement of Cabinet decisions on 11 December 2025.

Contact: Adam Jackson, Chief Advisor to the Chief Executive s 9(2)(a)

Hospitality Review

For information

This week we have been working on advice to joint ministers regarding the list of priority issues we recommend taking forward for further analysis. You will receive this advice on 4 December 2025 for consideration. The pack will also include a full summary of the submissions received and a list of all the issues we have reviewed and prioritised, including scores against the Ministry's analytical framework.

We have recommended inviting Hon Louise Upston to our meeting on 8 December 2025. This will allow us to take you both through our approach and the list of issues and expedite decisions. It will also be an opportunity to discuss why some aspects have not been recommended for further work. Decisions will be required before Christmas to maintain momentum of the Review.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Product Labelling Review

For information

The first draft of the findings and recommendations was discussed with your office on 18 November 2025. A draft report was sent to agencies on 21 November 2025 for feedback; feedback is due by 28 November 2025. We met with Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) this week to discuss findings and recommendations and feedback on the draft report.

We will provide you with an initial overview of our findings and recommendations at the Agency meeting on 2 December 2025.

[Commercially Sensitive] We continue to work closely with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade on an exemption to the Food Act 2014 that will allow a digital labelling trial and support the entry of a new supermarket into the New Zealand market. Consultation on the trial is now open. MPI is establishing a governance group to oversee the design, implementation and evaluation of the exemption; we are a member of this group.

Contact: Justine Fitzmaurice, Manager, Regulatory Reviews s 9(2)(a)


Regulatory Response Team / Red Tape Tipline

For information

As of 26 November 2025, the Ministry has received a total of 1,453 submissions on potential red tape issues. We currently have 28 low-complexity reviews underway (relating to 186 public submissions). You will receive the next deregulatory bundle on the 4 December 2025.

Some of the issues we are currently reviewing include:

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



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

The Ministry is a New Zealand HR Awards finalist

For information

The Ministry is a finalist in the Talent Acquisition category of the Human Resources Institute of New Zealand (HRNZ) HR Awards. The Talent Acquisition Award recognises an organisation that has used outstanding and innovative strategies to attract and recruit talent. The Ministry's submission highlighted the project of establishing and recruiting to the Ministry.

The winner will be announced at an awards ceremony in Auckland on 26 March 2026.

Contact: Abbey Macalister, Head of People and Operations | s 9(2)(a)

Scrutiny Week – Annual Review


For information

The Ministry appears at the Finance and Expenditure Committee (FEC) on Tuesday, 2 December for a 90 minute hearing from 11.30am to 1.00pm as part of Scrutiny week. The purpose of the hearing is a review of the performance of the Ministry over the previous financial year 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 and relates to the Ministry's first Annual Report 2025. This hearing is just for Ministry Officials, and the Minister is not required to attend. While the session is intended to be a backwards review over the year gone, it is likely that questions from FEC members will be wide ranging and include a future focus. The Chief Executive and members of the Senior Leadership team will attend and speak on behalf of the Ministry. The hearing will be televised and a recording made available online shortly after.

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

Regulatory Impact Analysis-compliance

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



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