

**Ministry for Regulation Weekly Report – 20 March 2026**

Week ending	20 March 2026	Priority	Medium
Security classification	Commercial in confidence	Tracking number	MFR2026-061

Recipient	Action sought
Hon David Seymour Minister for Regulation	Note the contents of this report

Contact for discussion if required

Name	Position	Phone number
Aisling Risdon	Head of Ministerial and Strategic Services	s 9(2)(a)

Comments

Weekly Report

MFR2026-061

Actions

Reference	Action	Due date	Status update
A2026-076	Send existing breakdowns of the expected economic benefits of the recommendations agreed by Cabinet on the Telco Review.	19/03/2026	Complete

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

Papers delivered and under development

Delivered to the Minister for Regulation

Reference	Title	Date delivered
s 9(2)(f)(iv)		
MFR2026-060	Final Cabinet papers and talking points: Regulatory Standards Act implementation papers at EXP on 24 March	18/03/2026
MFR2026-057	Product Labelling Review - revised Cabinet paper and request for agreement to agency consultation	20/03/2026
MFR2026-063	Information to support you at APH regarding the Regulatory Standards Board	20/03/2026

Under development

Reference	Title	Due date
MFR2026-059	Regulatory Standards (Exclusions) Notice: House resolution process	25/03/2026
MFR2026-064	Circular on Expectations for Good Law-making	26/03/2026
MFR2026-065	Road closure for events: Decision on timeline	26/03/2026
s 9(2)(f)(iv)		
MFR2026-062	Ministerial Satisfaction Survey for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 March 2026	16/04/2026

Weekly Report

MFR2026-061

Announcements & Engagements

Ministerial activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
26 March	Wellington	Telecommunication Regulatory Review outcome	Announcement of the report findings and Cabinet decisions Ministerial Press

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
23 March	Chief Advisor to Chief Executive conference call with Rocket Lab team about regulatory issues
24 March	Chief Economist presenting at Environment and Resource Management Law Update Conference
25 March	Chief Economist guest lecture Auckland University of Technology: First year economics course.
25 March	Deputy-Chief Executive Organisational Enablement and Chief Economist presenting at Minter Ellison Rudd Watts' thought leadership event with private sector clients.
25 March	Deputy-Chief Executive Organisational Enablement, Chief Economist and Head of People and Operations panel event for the Auckland University of Technology investment club.
Throughout March	Extensive programme of university career expos

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

Weekly Report

MFR2026-061

Updates

Regulatory Standards Act

For information

The following Cabinet papers were lodged on 19 March, to support implementation of the Regulatory Standards Act:

- Strengthening and streamlining processes for making and reviewing regulation
- Initial notice to exclude selected legislation from the Regulatory Standards Act 2025

We are well advanced in preparing the draft Cabinet Circular and the final exclusion notice, in line with the recommendations in these Cabinet papers. We anticipate providing these to you shortly after EXP decisions.

As per MFR2026-060, we will continue to work with Crown Law Office, Parliamentary Counsel Office and other agencies to address remaining areas of feedback on the statutory guidance, ahead of providing to you and the Attorney General for final approval in the coming weeks.

Alongside the above, we are progressing work to support implementation of the new Circular. This includes finalising the new templates, preparing new or updated guidelines (including for regulatory analysis summaries (RASs), advance notice of major regulatory proposals, and review plans), and making changes to online systems. We are also planning for communication and outreach on the new system settings, to support understanding and compliance from when the requirements come into force.

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

Telecommunications Review

For information

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Following Cabinet agreement to the Review's recommendations, we are working with your office to prepare for the release of the Review report. We have provided your office with copies of the materials for proactive release.

s 9(2)(b)(ii)



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

Product Labelling Review

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



Weekly Report

MFR2026-061

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

We are continuing to engage with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and other key agencies on the digital labelling trial under the Food Act 2014. The expressions of interest process for the digital labelling trial went live last week and will close on 8 April.

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

Hospitality Review

For information

With the conclusion of last week's Hospitality Summit, we have completed our stakeholder engagement for now. We intend to test packages of options through targeted engagement in May. The team is working through the analysis within the various workstreams s 9(2)(f)(iv)

There were some interesting ideas generated from our workshop at the Summit last week on this issue that will support our consideration of these issues.

We have completed our detailed timeline and reached out to your office this week to schedule discussions with you and portfolio Ministers on the more substantive workstreams s 9(2)(f)(iv)

In addition, we will look to schedule a meeting in mid-July between you and Minister Upston to discuss our recommendations.

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

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Red Tape Tipline

For information

As of 17 March 2026, the Ministry had received a total of 1,565 submissions on potential red tape issues. We currently have 25 low-complexity reviews underway.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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