

**Ministry for Regulation Weekly Report – 10 April 2026**

Week ending	10 April 2026	Priority	Medium
Security classification	In confidence	Tracking number	MFR2026-077

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

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Actions

No actions this week.

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)		
MFR2026-070	Revised draft circular on expectations for good-law making	09/04/2026

Delivered to the office of the Minister for Regulation

Reference	Title	Date delivered
MFR2026-068	Updated draft Cabinet paper on Product Labelling for ministerial consultation	09/04/2026
MFR2026-075	RSA Implementation: Exclusion notice House resolution process	10/04/2026

Under development

Reference	Title	Due date
MFR2026-073	Information Release: Cabinet papers on Regulatory Standards Act implementation	15/04/2026
MFR2026-062	Ministerial Satisfaction Survey for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 March 2026	16/04/2026
MFR2026-074	Certification of Vote Regulation for Budget 2026	16/04/2026
MFR2026-076	RSA Implementation: Regulatory Standards (Excluded Legislation) Notice 2026	16/04/2026

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Announcements & Engagements

Ministerial activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
Week beginning 13 April	Wellington	RSA / new circular announcement	Ministerial press release
20 April	Wellington	Announcement of Regulatory Standards Board membership Launch of Board complaints portal	Ministerial press release MfR web copy on biographies Board complaints portal goes live (TBC)
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			
May (TBC)	Parliament	Regulatory mapping event (TBC)	Announcement at event
May (TBC)	Parliament	Sandbox launch event (TBC)	Announcement at event
May (TBC)	TBC	Solar panels announcement	Announcement at event Full comms package

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
Week beginning 13 April	RSA / new circular implementation website updates (including proactive release of Cabinet materials)
16 April	Review Manager and Review lead presenting about Telecommunications Review to the New Zealand Telecommunications Forum
May (TBC)	Regulatory mapping event (TBC)
May (TBC)	Sandbox launch event (TBC)
May (TBC)	Solar panels announcement comms

Contact: Cuwan van der Wat, Senior Advisor, Communications and Engagement, s 9(2)(a)

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Updates

Regulatory Standards Act Implementation

For information

We are aiming to have the key material that supports the implementation of the Consistency Accountability Statement (CAS) requirements finalised by the end of April. This will give agencies sufficient time to prepare for complying with the new requirements from 1 July. The key material includes:

- The new Cabinet Circular;
- The statutory guidance on CAS requirements and review plans; and
- A package of non-statutory guidance and templates – which largely relate to the requirements in the new Circular.

Once this material is finalised, we will then focus on:

- Outreach and training to support agencies to understand the new requirements
- Finalising changes to online platforms and other systems/processes needed to support the new regime (for deployment on 1 July).

The Parliamentary Counsel Office has provided feedback on the drafting of the Exclusions Notice, which we are currently considering. We will provide you with an updated Exclusions Notice on 16 April, for you to approve for presentation to the House of Representatives.

Contact: Pip van der Scheer, Manager, Regulatory Management System, [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Regulatory Standards Board Establishment

For information

We understand that the Governor-General has signed and returned the instruments of appointment for the members of the Board. They have been included in your weekend bag for your final signature. Once signed, the instruments and letters will be sent to each appointee. The Ministry will notify the appointments in the Gazette.

As discussed with your office, you are scheduled to announce the appointment of the Regulatory Standards Board Chairperson and members, along with the launch of the public submissions portal, on 20 April. The portal is also currently scheduled go live at the time of the announcement, enabling the Ministry to begin compiling matters for the Board ahead of its commencement. A draft press release is already with your office.

While the Board is unable to undertake any business prior to 1 July, we have arranged to hold induction sessions with the Chairperson and the other members in May. We have arranged time for you to meet the Chair on 13 May, and the rest of the Board on 27 May.

Contact: Anshuman Chakraborty, Head of Legal and Board Establishment Lead, [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

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Telecommunications Review

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

The Ministry has accepted an invitation on Thursday, 16 April, to discuss the Review at an event hosted by the New Zealand Telecommunications Forum. We plan to discuss how we approached the Review, our findings, and recommendations.

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

Product Labelling Review

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Hospitality Review

For information

The amendment to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 allowing hospitality businesses to open on restricted trading days (Christmas Day, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and ANZAC day morning) under normal licensing conditions has been well-received by the public and the sector. Minister McKee said in her press release last week that if any hospitality businesses were experiencing difficulties over the Easter period to email her directly. We have asked the Ministry of Justice if any feedback was received and will assess whether we need to address it within the Review.

While the amendment has resolved one of our workstreams, our work has highlighted how outdated the Shop Trading Hours Act 1990 is. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

We are progressing the other workstreams, including undertaking cost benefit analysis on the preferred options. In addition, we are planning workshops for next month to discuss preferred options with agencies and key stakeholders.

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

Future Reviews

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv) Last week, we provided you with advice on three medium complexity reviews that could be undertaken s 9(2)(f)(iv) solar panels, s 9(2)(f)(iv) You have agreed to

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progress solar panels s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Following confirmation from your office, we will engage with agencies responsible for residential solar panel regulation prior to your announcement of the review.

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

Mapping New Zealand's Regulatory Landscape

For information

Following last week's update, we are refining our analysis, including testing new tools, to check early findings about overlapping regulation, complexity in legislation, and how resources are being used. Where feasible, findings will be benchmarked against comparable jurisdictions.

We continue to refine the A3s previously shared with you and your office. We also intend to share emerging themes with your office. We anticipate providing a draft report to you by mid-May.

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

Red Tape Tipline (including the fuel tipline)

For information

Red Tape Tipline (RTT) staff have been prioritising fuel tip analysis since it expanded the tipline to receive fuel tips on 29 March 2026. Due to the focus on fuel tips, as discussed with your office, the delivery of the next deregulatory bundle will be delayed until mid-May.

We have received a total of 102 fuel-related tips since the remit of the tipline expanded on 29 March 2026.

Further updates on the fuel response can be found in the next item. The RTT will continue to be open to receive fuel tips, but these will be reported on separately going forward.

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

Fuel security response

For information

As you are aware, the Ministry has recently been invited into a lead role in the fuel crisis response. To date our role has largely involved using the Red Tape Tipline to identify deregulatory actions to support New Zealand's fuel resilience, including shaping up initiatives for inclusion in the Phase 2 response. However, we are now more fully engaged in the leadership on Phase 2 and our expanded role moving forward will include:

- an oversight role in relation to the deregulatory part of the response, including helping agencies with their analysis of ideas and design of solutions; and
- working with the Department of Internal Affairs and local authorities to identify and implement fuel savings from temporary operational adjustments to local authority monitoring and enforcement functions.

This role is likely to evolve further as the crisis develops.

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

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Ombudsman self-initiated investigation

For information

As reported late last year, the Ombudsman selected the Ministry (one of five agencies) for a self-initiated investigation into the Ministry's Official Information Act 1982 compliance and practice. The focus of the investigation was on how the Ministry's OIA leadership, culture, and performance monitoring impact official information practices, processes, and overall compliance.

Over the past several months the Ombudsman carried out surveys and interviews with staff members. The active investigation stage is now complete, and we have been advised that a draft report will be provided to the Ministry for comment this month. We understand the final report is due in June.

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

HR awards finalist

For information

A small number of our staff attended the HR NZ Awards on 26 March, held at the International Convention Centre in Auckland. The Ministry was a finalist in the Talent Acquisition category. Our nomination focused on the establishment of the Ministry and recruitment of our permanent workforce, noting our success in building a high performing, innovative and transparent culture that enables us to deliver at pace. The Awards brought together hundreds of HR professionals from across the private and public sectors, awarding winners across multiple individual and organisational categories.

Hōhepa Hawkes Bay won the Talent Acquisition category, with the Ministry for Regulation recognised as one of four finalists.

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

Budget 2026

For information

Next week we will send you a briefing seeking your agreement to certify Vote Regulation to the Minister of Finance for Budget 2026. As the appropriation Minister you have authority over the Vote to issue the certification. We will provide you with copies of both the Supplementary Estimates and the Main Estimates for Vote Regulation. We will also provide you with draft letters to the Minister of Finance for your signature.

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



Draft Cabinet paper consultations

Below is a draft Cabinet paper we have recently been consulted on that we wanted to bring to your attention.

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

Title	Probable Committee	Comment
s 9(2)(f)(iv)		