



Ministry for Regulation Weekly Report – 1 May 2026

Week ending	1 May 2026	Priority	Medium
Security classification	in confidence	Tracking number	MFR2026-099

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

Reference	Action	Due date	Status update
A2026-099	Ministry for Regulation to engage with Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors to understand further the issues they raised directly with the Minister and provide a report back to the Office.	08/05/2026	In Progress

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
MFR2026-096	Fuel response - Regulatory relief workstream update (28 April)	28/04/2026
MFR2026-097	Residential and Small and Medium-Scale Solar Review: Terms of Reference	29/04/2026
MFR2026-098	Talking points for LEG on 30 April	29/04/2026
MFR2026-093	Immaterial Government Amendment Papers: Non- statutory guidance for government agencies and Instrument of Delegation	30/04/2026

Delivered to the office of the Minister for Regulation

Reference	Title	Date delivered
MFR2026-081	Information Release: Regulatory Standards Board Appointments - Key advice papers	29/04/2026
MFR2026-085	Information release: Cabinet Paper – Future Regulatory Reviews	30/04/2026

Under development

Reference	Title	Due date
MFR2026-088	Draft Report - The State of New Zealand's Regulatory Systems: Revealing the structure and scale of regulation	14/05/2026
MFR2026-089	Solar Energy Regulatory Review – initial findings and recommendations	14/05/2026
MFR2026-090	Low Complexity Reviews May bundle	14/05/2026

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Announcements & Engagement

Ministerial activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
7 May	Electric Cherries (Otago)	Solar panels announcement	Announcement at event Full communications package
20 May	Parliament	Regulatory mapping event	Announcement at Parliament
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
6 May	Victoria University School of Government – Review Manager guest lecturer on regulatory reviews
7 May	Solar panels announcement
20 May	Announcement of regulatory mapping
21 May	Deputy Chief Executive, Organisational Enablement - panellist at GovTech
22 May	Chief Executive speaking at Commerce Commission Board event
25 May	Chief Executive speaking at Business NZ quarterly business update

Contact: Erina O'Donohue Head of Communications and Engagement, s 9(2)(a)

Updates

Fuel security response

For information

Work across agencies to develop a set of measures for the later stages of a fuel crisis is continuing. Individually, none of the proposed measures would deliver large fuel savings. This reflects the fact that the economy is already relatively fuel-efficient and has become even more so in response to sustained high fuel prices. Taken together, however, the package is likely to deliver material fuel savings overall, if it is needed.

The proposals also involve some difficult trade-offs that would not be attractive even in current conditions. However, they are the kinds of compromises New Zealanders would probably be willing to accept if the country were to move into Phases 2 or 3 of the National Fuel Plan. On that basis, the package is shaping up as a sensible set of options to have ready should the situation deteriorate.

Alongside our central role in this cross-agency work, we have continued to monitor the Fuel Tipline and engage with industry (most recently Engineering New Zealand) and local government groups. Based on this engagement, we are confident that most, if not all, opportunities for regulatory relief have been identified. Stakeholder feedback has been positive, particularly regarding the Government's decision not to intervene directly in fuel allocation in ways that could distort the economy. There has also been strong support for our work to help local authorities improve their fuel efficiency.

Contact: Adam Jackson, Chief Advisor to the Chief Executive, [S 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Regulatory Standards Act implementation

For information

Following the conclusion of our current consultation with agencies about practicality and workability, we are aiming to provide your office with a package of non-statutory guidance, resources and templates to support the implementation of the new Cabinet Circular next week. This package will contain:

- Final templates for Regulatory Analysis Summaries (RAS), Summaries of Underpinning Analysis, and Minister/Maker reasons statements;
- Economic framework resources;
- Guidance on the RAS process and quality assurance of RASs; and
- Publication standards for RASs and Consistency Accountability Statements.

A second tranche of non-statutory guidance material will follow in the second half of May – including guidance on consultation and advance notice requirements, and plans for reviews of existing legislation.

Contact: Andrew Royle, Deputy Chief Executive Policy, [S 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

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Telecommunications Review

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

We continue to work with the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment and the Commerce Commission on implementation.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Contact: Liam Taylor, Acting Manager Regulatory Reviews, s 9(2)(a)

Hospitality Review

For information

We are starting to engage with agencies on the regulatory issues we have identified and the potential options to resolve them, including through the Senior Officials Group next week. This engagement is intended to flesh out any implementation risks or unintended consequences of our preferred options.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Mapping New Zealand's Regulatory Landscape Review

For information

We are now drafting the Review report. During the week of 4 May, we will brief the Senior Officials Group and Gráinne will brief her colleagues at the Public Service Leadership Team meeting. We plan to provide you with a draft by 14 May.

On 20 May you are hosting an event at Parliament to launch New Zealand's first regulatory landscape map. The event will launch the Ministry's work to map the system and discuss next steps to support ongoing improvement across the public sector. The event will include remarks from you and the Ministry's Chief Executive. Public sector leaders and private sector stakeholders have been invited.

Contact: Liam Taylor, Acting Manager Regulatory Reviews, s 9(2)(a)

Solar Panel Review

For information

We provided you with a copy of the draft Terms of Reference [MFR2026-097] on 30 April 2026.

We are continuing engagement with sector stakeholders and agencies. We have identified several opportunities for simplifying and streamlining the installation process and discussed these with your office.

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We understand you intend to announce the solar review on 7 May, and we are working with your office to support the announcement. We will provide you with a briefing on 15 May outlining emerging findings and opportunities to improve the solar approval and installation process prior to your attendance at the Electrify Queenstown event on 18 May.

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

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Red Tape Tipline (including the fuel tipline)

For information

As of 29 April 2026, the Ministry had received

- 1,610 submissions on potential red tape issues, and
- 112 fuel-related tips since the remit of the tipline expanded on 29 March 2026, (5 new tips since 22 April).

The Red Tape Tipline received a slightly increased rate of tips across April as a result of also calling for tips for the fuel response. However, 42 non-fuel related submissions were also received.

More than half of the new submissions stated that the type of issue they were experiencing was that it costs too much money to comply with regulatory requirements or that the requirements did not make sense in their situation. The regulatory systems those submissions were about continued to be across New Zealand's regulatory stock – but with slightly more submissions about the transport, energy and building regulatory systems compared to others.

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s 9(2)(g)(i)



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

Traffic Management Reforms

For information

Following the Going for Growth - Competitive Business Settings meeting in March, we have provided your office with a progress update on the impact of temporary traffic management reforms. This will also be provided to the Going for Growth secretariat to form part of the papers for the next meeting in early June.

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