

Weekly Report

MFR2026-129

Ministry for Regulation Weekly Report – 26 June 2026

Week ending	26 June 2026	Priority	Medium
Security classification	In confidence	Tracking number	MFR2026-129

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

MFR2026-129

Actions

There are no outstanding ministerial actions.

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

Papers delivered and under development

Delivered to the Minister for Regulation

There were no papers delivered to the Minister for Regulation this week.

Delivered to the office of the Minister for Regulation

There were no papers delivered to the office of the Minister for Regulation this week.

Under development

Reference	Title	Due date
MFR2026-100	Letter to Chief Executives on Regulatory Standards Act implementation	02/07/2026
MFR2026-130	Residential and Small and Medium-Scale Solar Review – Findings and Recommendations	02/07/2026
MFR2026-127	Solar installation regulatory review - draft report and Cabinet paper for ministerial consultation	02/07/2026
MFR2026-128	Low Complexity Reviews Deregulatory Options Bundle - July 2026	28/07/2026

Weekly Report

MFR2026-129

Announcements & Engagement

Ministerial Activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
1 July	TBC	Regulatory Standards Act and Regulatory Standards Board coming into effect	Media release TBC
July (TBC)	TBC	Publication of solar review recommendations	Media release/opportunity
July (TBC)	TBC	Offensive Trades	Media release/opportunity
July (TBC)	TBC	Toy Standards	Media release/opportunity
22 July	Michael Fowler Centre Wellington	Animal and Plant Health Association New Zealand Annual Conference Leaders' Breakfast	TBC support for speech
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
July (Date TBC)	Thought piece “Distortionary Costs of Regulation” - Chief Economist
July (Date TBC)	Thought piece “Seeing the system, not just the rules” - Chief Executive
1 July	Ministry for Regulation appears at Scrutiny week – Senior Leadership Team
1 July	Regulatory Standards Act comes into effect - Publishing of Notice of exclusions under the Act
3 July	New Zealand Association of Economists Conference presentation – Chief Economist
6 July	Department of Finance Australia – Meeting to discuss regulatory mapping – Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive Policy
14 July	Presentation to Government Legal Network – Head of Regulatory System Capability on Ministry for Regulation’s AI guidance for regulators
22 July (TBC)	New Zealand Institute of Economic Research Webinar – Regulatory mapping – Chief Executive
24 July	Business New Zealand Chief Executive Officer Forum presentation – Chief Executive – <i>note Minister also attending</i>
July (TBC)	Offensive Trades
July (TBC)	Toy Standards
s 9(2)(f)(iv)	

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

~~In confidence~~

Weekly Report

MFR2026-129

Updates

Chief Executive's Final Oceans Seven Swim

For information

As you know, Ministry for Regulation Chief Executive Gráinne Moss has been on leave while undertaking the final swim in her Oceans Seven challenge. On 19 June, after 12 ½ hours of swimming Gráinne successfully completed the swim. Gráinne is the first Irish woman in history to do so.

RNZ's *Nine to Noon* segment covered this year's swim¹. Gráinne returns on 29 June.

Contact: Andrew Royle, Acting Chief Executive, Ph: s 9(2)(a)

Ombudsman Final Opinion on Ministry's OIA leadership, culture and practices

For information

We have received the Chief Ombudsman's Final Opinion on his self-initiated investigation into the Ministry's Official Information Act (OIA) leadership, culture and practices. s 9(2)(g)(i)

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[Redacted text block]

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The Ministry will publish the report on its website once it has been published by the Office of the Ombudsman.

We note that the Office of the Ombudsman has also provided you a copy of the Final Opinion.

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

Hospitality Review

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

¹ <https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetoon/audio/2019040262/irish-kiwi-grainne-moss-completes-oceans-seven-challenge>

Weekly Report

MFR2026-129

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



s 9(2)(g)(i)



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

Offensive Trades Review

For information

The draft Cabinet paper was sent for agency and ministerial consultation on 24 June 2026, with feedback due by 1 July 2026. We will make any necessary updates swiftly to ensure your office receives a final version for lodging on 2 July 2026.

As advised in last week's update, the Ministry of Health have engaged with the Parliamentary Counsel Office to get the Offensive Trades Order drafting process underway. We have been advised that drafting instructions were sent on 23 June 2026.

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

Solar Panel Review

For information

We sent the draft report and Cabinet paper out for agency consultation on 22 June 2026. We intend to provide you with the report and Cabinet paper on 2 July. Subject to your feedback, Ministerial consultation will start on 6 July and we are targeting EXP on 21 July and Cabinet on 27 July.

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

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



Weekly Report

MFR2026-129

Red Tape Tipline (including the fuel tipline)

For information

As of 23 June 2026, the Ministry has received:

- 1,678 submissions on potential red tape issues (an increase of 17 in the last week), and
- 128 fuel-related tips since the remit of the tipline expanded on 29 March 2026 (no change in number over the last two weeks).

We continue to work towards the next bundle of deregulatory options to be delivered to you in late July. Some of the issues under consideration include:

s 9(2)(f)(iv)



Toy Standards Red Tape Tipline Issue

On 22 June, Cabinet agreed to modernise the Product Safety Standards (Children's Toys) Regulations 2005 by declaring New Zealand will align with Australia and adopt wider international standards.

The Ministry for Regulation progressed this issue as a low complexity review in December 2025. In early 2026, you reached agreement with the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs for this changed to be implemented.

The changes will promote trade by reducing the costs of supplying regulated toys to New Zealand, while still ensuring toys are safe for children with an estimated net benefit of \$3.6m over a 10-year period.

We understand an announcement is expected towards the end of next week being led by Minister Brewer's office.

Contact: Alex McMinn, Acting Manager Regulatory Reviews, s 9(2)(a)