

Weekly Report

MFR2026-137

Ministry for Regulation Weekly Report – 9 July 2026

Week ending	9 July 2026	Priority	Medium
Security classification	In confidence	Tracking number	MFR2026-137

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

MFR2026-137

Actions

Reference	Action	Due date	Status update
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			

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	Due date
s 9(2)(f)(iv)		
MFR2026-100	Letter to Chief Executives on Regulatory Standards Act implementation	09/07/2026
MFR2026-130	Residential and Small and Medium-Scale Solar Review – Findings and Recommendations	09/07/2026

Delivered to the office of the Minister for Regulation

Reference	Title	Due date
s 9(2)(f)(iv)		

Under development

Reference	Title	Due date
s 9(2)(f)(iv)		
MFR2026-131	Ministerial Satisfaction Survey for the period 1 April 2026 to 30 June 2026	17/07/2026
MFR2026-128	Low Complexity Reviews Deregulatory Options Bundle - July 2026	30/07/2026

Weekly Report

MFR2026-137

Announcements & Engagement

Ministerial Activity

Date	Location	Details	Opportunity
July (TBC)	TBC	Publication of solar review recommendations	Media release/opportunity
July (TBC)	TBC	Offensive Trades	Media release/opportunity

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Ministry for Regulation activity

Date	Details
15 July	Thought piece “Seeing the system, not just the rules” - Chief Executive
July (Date TBC)	Thought piece “Distortionary Costs of Regulation” - 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	New Zealand Institute of Economic Research Webinar – regulatory mapping – Chief Economist
24 July	Business NZ Chief Executive Officer Forum presentation – Chief Executive – <i>note Minister also attending</i>
July (TBC)	Offensive Trades
July/Aug (TBC)	Publication of solar review recommendations

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

Weekly Report

MFR2026-137

Updates

New Zealand Association of Economists conference

For information

The Ministry's Economics Team attended the 66th Annual Conference of the New Zealand Association of Economists, in Christchurch from 1 to 3 July 2026. The conference was an opportunity to hear the latest economics thinking and research, and to connect with economists across academia, government, and the private sector.

The Ministry's Chief Economist, Kevin Counsell, presented a session on 'The effects of product labelling regulation on entry and welfare in the supermarket sector', which set out the results of a cost-benefit analysis Kevin and Isabelle Sin (Lead Advisor, Economics) undertook on product labelling regulations in the grocery sector.

The session had good engagement and was well received. It was positively mentioned in a Newsroom article titled 'The quiet victories of the NZ economy'.¹

Contact: Kevin Counsell, Chief Economist, s 9(2)(a)

Helping to reshape Firearms Safety and Education New Zealand's regulatory strategy

For information

As part of supporting the application of good regulatory practice, the Regulatory System Capability team regularly engages with agencies to provide practical support on strategic and operational challenges.

We recently provided advice to Firearms Safety and Education New Zealand on re-shaping their regulatory strategy towards their key outcome of achieving a measurable reduction in firearms-related harm. Both Firearms Safety and Education New Zealand and the Ministry of Justice (who are handling the transition programme) have given positive feedback on the quality and responsiveness of the Ministry's advice.

Contact: Alex McMinn, Head of Regulatory System Capability, s 9(2)(a)

Hospitality Review

For information

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

¹ [The quiet victories of the NZ economy - Newsroom](#)

Weekly Report

MFR2026-137

Offensive Trades Review

For information

The Cabinet paper was considered by the Cabinet Business Committee (CBC) on 6 July 2026, who agreed to delete the list of offensive trades in Schedule 3 of the Health Act 1956 [CBC-26-MIN-0032 refers].

We are now working with the Ministry of Health to prepare a paper for the Cabinet Legislation Committee (LEG). We understand that Minister Brown will receive this paper on 13 July, and that it will be lodged on 16 July for the LEG meeting of 23 July.

s 9(2)(h)

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

Solar Panel Review

For information

On 9 July 2026, we provided you with a package of material that includes the Review's:

- final report
- draft Cabinet paper for Ministerial consultation
- A3 summary
- short-form report
- cost benefit analysis
- summary of engagement

We are scheduled to discuss this material with you at the agency meeting on 14 July 2026.

In order to go to EXP on 4 August and be considered by Cabinet on 10 August, the Cabinet paper will need to be lodged on 30 July. This means that Ministerial consultation needs to start no later than 20 July.

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

Red Tape Tipline (including the fuel tipline)

For information

As of 8 July 2026, the Ministry has received:

- 1,697 submissions on potential red tape issues (an increase of 12 in the last week); and
- 130 fuel-related tips since the remit of the tipline expanded on 29 March 2026 (an increase of one from last week).

We continue to work towards the next bundle of deregulatory options to be delivered to you in late July. This may include options on:

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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

~~In confidence~~

Weekly Report

MFR2026-137

Change to reporting cadence

For information

Following agreement from your office, we will be shifting to fortnightly “weekly” reports to align with the recent change to fortnightly agency meetings. The reports will be delivered for the weekend bag prior to each agency meeting. The next report will be 24 July and then settle into a fortnightly cadence.

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