



# Weekly Report

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<b>Week ending:</b>	6 September 2024	<b>Priority:</b>	Medium
<b>Security classification:</b>	In confidence	<b>Tracking number:</b>	MFR2024-112

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<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Action sought</b>
Hon David Seymour MINISTER FOR REGULATION	Note the contents of this report

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Aisling Risdon  
Contact: s9(2)(a)  
Ministry for Regulation

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**Minister's comments:**

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## Actions

Action		Due date	Status update
A2024-016	s9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
A2024-021	s9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
A2024-032	Include in future advice how MfR plans to raise RIA standards prior to the enactment of the RSB	Ongoing	In progress. Decisions will be sought in MFR2024-110 due 8 October 2024
A2024-037	s9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
A2024-038	s9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
A2024-039	s9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

## Briefings & Aides-Mémoire

Papers delivered to the Minister for Regulation		Date Delivered
MFR2024-113	Early Childhood Education Sector Review: Monthly Update, Issue 3	6 September
MFR2024-115	Ministry for Regulation Strategic Intentions 2024/25- 2028/29	6 September
MFR2024-116	Ministerial Policy Satisfaction Survey 1 March – 31 August 2024	6 September
MFR2024-117	Medical Products Regulator	6 September

Papers under development		Due date
MFR2024-105	Summary of initial engagement on the Agricultural and Horticultural Products Regulatory Review	12 September
MFR2024-103	s9(2)(f)(iv)	13 September
MFR2024-104	s9(2)(f)(iv)	13 September
MFR2024-115	s9(2)(f)(iv)	13 September
MFR2024-106	September update on Agricultural and Horticultural Products Regulatory Review for 24 September Joint Ministers Meeting	19 September
MFR2024-110	Draft Cabinet paper for Consultation: Improving Regulatory Policy Making	8 October

## Upcoming events/announcements

Date	Location	Event	Opportunity
Week of 2 September	Wellington	Engagement on ECE regulatory review has closed – opportunity to acknowledge and thank for participation and feedback, and outline anticipated next steps.	Speech at ECAC meeting on 4 Sep PR
Week of 2 September	Wellington	Engagement on the agricultural and horticultural products regulatory review is closing on Sunday.	Opportunity for reminder via social media
Week of 9 September	Wellington	Strategic Intentions tabled	Opportunity for PR to highlight the Ministry's first Strategic Intentions
13 September	Plant and Food Research, Palmerston North	Visit with Minister Hoggard	Joint PR with Ministers Hoggard and Simmonds – engagement on agricultural and horticultural products regulatory review closed; opportunity to thank people for feedback and outline next steps
19 September	Ministry for Regulation office, Wellington	Informal meet and greet with the team to acknowledge the Ministry is six months old	

Contact: Jade Lock, (Acting) Communications and Engagement Lead. Ph. s9(2)(a)

# Updates

## Regulatory Response Team

*For information*

The team has received three new matters this week.

RRT #	Source	Issue
RRT2024-021	Individual	Claim that the kina fishery, a small industry with annual turnover approximately \$10 million, suffers from gross over-regulation. Claims that if regulations were reviewed the industry could increase to c. \$90 million through reduced costs and opening up greater areas for harvest. s9(2)(f)(iv)
RRT2024-022	Individual	The Ministry of Education's rules, and its interpretation of RMA regulations, is preventing a school from being able to build solar farms on their property as part of their focus on environmental regulation. RRT is considering this issue.
RRT2024-023	Individual	RMA rules in section 224(f), intended to prevent fire risk, are having unintended consequences that are preventing development/redevelopment of hundreds of potential building sites in Auckland. RRT is considering this issue.

Contact: Andrew Royle, Policy Lead. Ph. s9(2)(a)

## The Ministry for Regulation at six months

*For information*

Established with effect from 1 March 2024, 1 September marked six months of operation for the Ministry for Regulation. We're looking forward to taking some time to commemorate the milestone over a shared morning tea with you on 19 September. To date, we have provided you with updates aligned to the milestones set out in the PSC Report 2024-0028: Establishment of the Ministry for Regulations – proposed phases and milestones at 1 March, 1 May and 1 July.

A more fulsome 1 March to 1 September six-month achievements update will be provided to you the week ending 13 September.

Contact: Kathryn Rush, Director Office of the Chief Executive, Ph. s9(2)(a)

## Agricultural and Horticultural Products Regulatory Review

*For information*

The team is moving from a focus on engagement towards analysis across specific workstreams for economic analysis, issues and causes, and options. This requires collating and summarising the material received and discussions held to date. There is a wide breadth of views and information to consider, but key themes are beginning to emerge. This will be captured in the next

substantive briefing for Joint Ministers on 19 September ahead of your collective meeting on 24 September.

The review team have met individually with Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand Food Safety, Ministry for the Environment and the Environmental Protection Authority to get their direct views on the regulatory systems and what opportunities for improvement may look like. These engagements have been useful in understanding and differentiating the perspectives across the system and will be incorporated into our analysis alongside the views of stakeholders.

As of 4 September we have received 29 submissions through the engagement portal, with more expected to come towards the end of the week. The submissions portal closes on 8 September. A small number of submitters have reached out to ask for short extensions, which we are comfortable with although we have noted our substantive analysis will already be underway. We initially intended to provide a summary of engagement in the week of 9 September, but given the late submissions, we will incorporate this into the briefing on 19 September. Separately we are providing a draft joint statement for use by Ministers in the week of 9 September following the closing of submissions.

On Friday 6 September members of the review team met with the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, who are the policy agency for the regulation of agricultural and horticultural products in Australia. This provided an opportunity to learn more about their system, and the changes they've made in response to an independent first principles review that was completed in Australia in 2021.

Contact: Peter Clark, Agricultural and Horticultural Products Review Lead. Ph. s9(2)(a)

## Early Childhood Education Regulatory Review

*For information*

The Ministry's submission portal for the early childhood education sector review closed for submissions on Saturday 31 August. There was a flurry of last-minute submissions, including from some of the major representative groups. We received over 2,300 submissions through the portal:

Cohort	numbers
Parents and caregivers	774
People who work in ECE	859
Service providers	107
Other interested people (for example peak bodies, ex-teachers, academics, members of the public)	61
Written submissions	524
<b>Total (may include some duplicates so final number may change)</b>	<b>2,325</b>

The Ministry presented to the Early Childhood Advisory Committee on 4 September to give a flavour of the extent of engagement that we undertook and the types of comments that had been

made (noting they were rough impressions rather than a coherent analysis). We will provide the first update on indirect engagement, with a more comprehensive analysis, the week beginning 19 September.

The Ministry is following up with a small number of additional groups to complete our engagement including: visits to a Puna reo, Kohanga reo, and Pacifica centres; and input from the s9(2)(ba)(i)


Contact: David Wansbrough, Sector Reviews Lead. Ph. s9(2)(a) and Justine Fitzmaurice, Project Manager – Reviews, Ph. s9(2)(a)

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## Draft Cabinet paper consultations

Draft Cabinet papers that we have been consulted on will appear here. Our intent is to leave papers on this table for your reference until we are confident they have been discussed at Cabinet, after which they will be removed. **Items previously reported on are shaded grey.**

s9(2)(f)(iv)



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