



8 October 2024

Andrew Riddell

[fyi-request-27966-e2cbb6f7@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-27966-e2cbb6f7@requests.fyi.org.nz)

**Official information request**

**Our ref: R00484**

Tēnā koe Andrew

I refer to your Official Information Act (OIA) request received on 5 September 2024. You requested:

*Can the Ministry please provide copies of the rest of the directions and instructions it has received from the Minister for Regulation. Note this request is specific to directions and instructions, not all communications.*

On 10 September 2024, you clarified your request to:

*Regarding my request for copies of the rest of the directions and instructions it has received from the Minister for Regulation,*

*I can advise that the directions and instructions I am interested in are directions and instructions on the organisation and operation of the Ministry for Regulation, matters relating to criteria or considerations when reviewing or helping develop regulations, and topics and areas where existing regulations may need to be or should be reviewed.*

The Ministry for Regulation (the Ministry) has received limited official directions and instructions from the Minister relating to the organisation and operation of the Ministry. Since its establishment on 1 March 2024, the Ministry has worked in a collaborative manner with the Minister for Regulation, which has included open, informal conversations between the Minister and officials about matters in his portfolio.

***Directions and instructions on the organisation and operation of the Ministry***

The Minister's expectations of the Ministry, and further detail on the operation of the Ministry can also be found in the Strategic Intentions document, which has since become available on our website at [www.regulation.govt.nz/mfr-what-we-do/corporate-publications](http://www.regulation.govt.nz/mfr-what-we-do/corporate-publications).

You may be aware of the two regulatory reviews the Ministry is progressing, specifically in the Early Childhood Education and Agricultural and Horticultural sectors. The directives for these can be

found in the Act National Coalition Agreement Policy programme<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, the coalition Government's quarterly action plans have provided the following directions for the Ministry:

- Initiate the first regulatory sector review.
- Initiate the second regulatory sector review to identify and remove unnecessary red tape
- Release a discussion document on the Regulatory Standards Bill
- Initiate the third regulatory sector review to identify and remove unnecessary red tape

You can access the quarterly action plans on the Beehive's website. The most recent plan is available at: [www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-09/Q4%20Action%20Plan.pdf](http://www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-09/Q4%20Action%20Plan.pdf)

Please also refer to our response to your previous OIA request (MFR-24OIA008), where we provided you with links to several documents concerning the organisation and operation of the Ministry. The documents included:

- *Establishment of the Ministry for Regulation*; and
- *Letter to the Prime Minister outlining proposed scope and working arrangements for the Regulation portfolio*

which set out the roles, functions, and operating expectations of the Ministry.

***Criteria or considerations when reviewing or helping develop regulations; areas where existing regulations may need to be reviewed***

The Minister expects that when the Ministry considers and reviews regulations, a robust cost/benefit analysis is undertaken, any proposed solution has a well-defined problem statement, and the proposed regulations address the problem.

The Minister has commissioned a report on options for future regulatory reviews which the Ministry is progressing. The paper will provide options for the next regulatory review for the Minister to consider as well as the framework used by the Ministry when selecting these options.

As discussed in our response to your previous request, the Ministry uses the *Government Expectations for Good Regulatory Practice* to assess regulations and is guided by the 2020 Regulatory Stewardship Reporting Framework. The Ministry uses the criteria and considerations found in these documents when reviewing regulations. These were both provided to you in our previous response.

The Minister and his advisors will also suggest regulatory issues for the Ministry to consider. These are incorporated in the Weekly Report, where the Ministry updates the Minister on actions taken and progress in key workstreams. The Ministry proactively publishes the weekly reports on its website, and you can view them at: [www.regulation.govt.nz/mfr-what-we-do/information-releases](http://www.regulation.govt.nz/mfr-what-we-do/information-releases).

---

<sup>1</sup>[https://assets.nationbuilder.com/actnz/pages/13849/attachments/original/1715133581/National\\_ACT\\_Agreement.pdf?1715133581](https://assets.nationbuilder.com/actnz/pages/13849/attachments/original/1715133581/National_ACT_Agreement.pdf?1715133581)

The Ministry will make redactions under sections 9(2)(f)(iv) and 9(2)(g)(i) from the proactive releases. Other matters may be redacted in accordance with the Act, and these will be noted accordingly.

**Right of review**

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please contact [hello@regulation.govt.nz](mailto:hello@regulation.govt.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we may publish this letter (with your details removed) on the Ministry for Regulation website.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aisling Risdon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Aisling Risdon

**Head of Ministerial Services**  
**Ministry for Regulation**