



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao



*Making Aotearoa New Zealand
the most liveable place in the world*
Aotearoa – he whenua mana kura mō te tangata

Weekly Update – Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

For the week starting 4 February 2019

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1. Strategic priorities

1.1. System Reform

We are preparing a draft Cabinet paper and accompanying briefing for your consideration on 7 February. We are consulting with other departments as part of this process (including The Treasury), and our next briefing will include a summary of the feedback received.

s 9(2)(f)(iv) and s9(2)(g)(i)

1.2. Urban

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD) is preparing a briefing for Minister Twyford that seeks decisions on options for transitioning existing urban development projects into the process for urban development projects proposed by the Housing and Urban Development Bill. The decisions made on this briefing will be included in a wash-up Cabinet paper in March. We have provided comments on a draft of this briefing and are broadly comfortable with its recommendations. We understand that Minister Twyford will receive this briefing on 7 February and that it will include a recommendation to forward it to you.

s 9(2)(g)(i)

1.3. Water

Response to 'Regulation for Commercial Vegetables' memo from Horticulture NZ

In December 2018 Horticulture NZ sent you a memo entitled Regulation for Commercial Vegetables. We have met with a Horticulture NZ representative to discuss this memo. Key issues include the effects of paying for nitrogen on the supply (and therefore the price) of domestic vegetables, how nitrogen allocation can provide for crop rotation, improvements in nitrogen management practices for commercial vegetables, and the proposed national policy statement on versatile soils. We expect to provide a joint briefing (with the Ministry for Primary Industries) on these issues to you and Minister O'Connor in the week beginning 11 February.

Essential Freshwater National Direction Advice

At the end of last year you made a decision to delay consultation to give the advisory groups more time to consider the issues and provide recommendations. Following this decision, we have been considering the upcoming agendas for the advisory groups, and the timing of advice to you seeking decisions on aspects of the national direction package.

We are currently developing options on all aspects of the national direction package, based on the preliminary advice put to Ministers late last year, and our ongoing conversations with the advisory groups. This process is ongoing, however we will keep you informed throughout February and March. We will provide papers seeking final decisions in late March and throughout April. Decisions and Cabinet papers will be finalised in May, and will go to Cabinet in June. We have provided your office with an indicative timeframe of when advice is likely to be provided.

2. Updates for noting

2.1. Consultation process for urban national direction

As part of the Urban Growth Agenda you have agreed to consult in April/May this year on a new national policy statement (NPS) that combines quality intensification policy proposals with the existing NPS on urban development capacity [briefing 18-B-05704]. We will need a decision from you on the process for consultation for the NPS as it has implications for timeframes for delivery and resourcing. We will be briefing you separately on this next week.

2.2. Sustainable Development Goals – Voluntary National Review

In 2015, all United Nations member states, including New Zealand, adopted the 2030 Agenda. This is a blueprint for sustainable development, which includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs serve as a global action plan to end poverty, promote peace and prosperity, and protect the planet. New Zealand is scheduled to present its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) to the United Nations in July 2019 on its progress implementing the SDGs. This will be an opportunity to showcase New Zealand's commitment to global sustainable development goals. Domestically, the report will provide context as to how the SDGs fit alongside New Zealand government policy and the wellbeing agenda.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) is leading the coordination of the VNR. The Ministry for the Environment is responsible for reporting against two key SDG goals: clean water and sanitation, and climate action. The other environmental goals are assigned to other lead agencies. Draft content on these two goals was submitted to MFAT on Friday 1 February. Public consultation and stakeholder engagement on the draft report will take place in March/April this year. Governance of the report's

production sits with the Deputy Chief Executives Measuring Progress Steering Group. The final report will be signed off by Cabinet ahead of a submission to the United Nations in June 2019.

2.3. Hawke's Bay Regional Council – potential plan change

Hawke's Bay Regional Council is exploring the possibility of introducing a plan change to retrospectively amend the existing Plan Change 6, covering the Tukituki. In particular this would defer implementation of the first "step-up" for an increased minimum flow regime by two years. That first step came into effect in May 2018 and is now embedded in relevant resource consents as a consent condition. The second "step-up" that comes into effect in 2023 is not the subject of any proposed change.

The low flow regime and subsequent consents to take water were based on the proposed Ruataniwha Dam providing supplementary storage. The proposed dam project was abandoned in mid-2017. The Tukituki Water Taskforce has suggested to the Council that the time between the demise of the scheme and the effective date of the increased flow regime (May 2018) was insufficient to allow the community (land users and irrigators) to transition to the new flow regime.

The Council has written to about 500 "interested" parties to gauge the likely response to such a change. If there is significant opposition, the planning process and potential litigation may extend beyond the timeframe of the change. However, this leaves the Council with a potential issue around consents until the second minimum flow step increase takes effect in 2023. The Council has also talked about requesting a streamlined planning process, although this option has not been explored in detail.

It is understood that some water users are in the process of finding supplementary water sources. There is an application to the Provincial Growth Fund for a review of water augmentation options to achieve water security for the economic and environmental resilience of Central Hawke's Bay and the wider Hawke's Bay economy.

Council officers are collating responses from interested parties and will recommend a course of action to the Council on 20 February.

2.4. National Planning Standards – update on officials meeting with Minister Sage

The Department of Conservation (DOC) and Ministry for the Environment officials met with Minister Sage on 24 January to discuss her feedback on the planning standards briefings provided between October and December 2018. The Minister has agreed to most of the recommendations in those briefings, but has requested further advice on two areas of concern. These include:

- concern that allowing coastal provisions to be located throughout plans, which reflects emerging practice to support integrated plans, might undermine the role and implementation of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement
- strong reservations about the recommended rural production zone.

We will provide advice to you on both issues in the coming days. We note that your next joint meeting is on 12 February. Our advice may trigger a need for discussion on one or more of these issues at that meeting.

Next steps

We expect to deliver a draft Cabinet paper to your office on 8 February for your consideration, in advance of its consideration at the Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee (ENV) on 14 March. Our final briefing, along with our

recommendations report and recommended standards, will be delivered on 25 February.

2.5. Ohakea community water scheme

Since meeting with you in mid-January we have continued to make progress on the Ohakea project within the national PFAS programme. The Ministry of Health provided an independent engineer's public health review of the design report, that we received from the Manawatu District Council in mid-January. It confirmed our initial assessment that more information is needed from the Council about its preferred option to have confidence that the scheme is fit for purpose, best practice, and that the costs are fair and reasonable.

We have met with the Council to work through the reviewer's comments and we expect to receive a revised report within a week or two. You are scheduled to meet with Minister Mark on 13 February to discuss broader issues arising from PFAS contamination at Ohakea and, in particular, the proposed community water scheme. We are preparing a joint briefing with Defence for your meeting.

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3. Briefing notes

4 February – 1 March

Title	Lead agency	What this briefing covers	Date due to your office
Urban Planning Pillar: draft National Policy Statement on Urban Development	MfE	This briefing provides a preliminary draft National Policy Statement on Urban Development (Quality Intensification) for discussion at the 12 February Urban Growth Agenda Ministers Meeting.	7 February
Urban Planning Pillar: Decisions on consultation process	MfE	This briefing seeks a decision on the consultation process for the draft National Policy Statement on Urban Development (Quality Intensification).	7 February
Comprehensive review of the resource management system – draft Cabinet paper and Environmental Defence Society report	MfE	This briefing attaches a draft Cabinet paper on the scope and process of the review for your consideration. It provides follow-up advice on outstanding questions regarding the review. This paper also attaches analysis on the Environmental Defence Society's synthesis report on the resource management system, as well as talking points for your speech at the report launch in February.	7 February
Cover briefing note for draft Cabinet paper – National Planning Standards decisions	MfE	This briefing discusses the draft Cabinet paper on National Planning Standards decisions.	8 February
Meeting with Interim Climate Change Committee	MfE	This briefing updates you on MfE and the Interim Committee's interactions, in preparation for your meeting with David Prentice.	8 February
Response to 'Regulation for Commercial Vegetables' by Horticulture NZ	MPI	This briefing provides advice on issues raised in the December 2018 Horticulture NZ memo entitled Regulation for Commercial Vegetables.	11 February
Three Waters regulation – initial concept for discussion	DIA (joint MfE and MoH)	This briefing provides an overview of the policy options under development to improve regulation of Three Waters services. This will inform the joint Ministers' meeting on 14 February.	TBC (prior to 14 February 2019)
Urban Growth Agenda: Wider costs and benefits of urban development – identifying, measuring, and valuing costs and benefits	MfE	This paper presents findings on identifying, measuring and valuing the range of costs and benefits associated with urban development.	14 February
Recommended Final Planning Standards	MfE	This paper provides the recommended Final Planning Standards.	25 February
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			
Meeting with Minister Mark on Responding to PFAS contamination at Ohakea Air Base.	MfE (joint with NZDF)	This briefing will provide you with information to support your meeting with Minister Mark on identifying a community solution to PFAS contamination at the Ohakea Air Base.	11 February

4. Cabinet material

4 February – 1 March

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our suggested timeframes
Reclassifying five organisms as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Proposes that five organisms be reclassified as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.	Due to lodge: 14 February Due to ENV Committee: 21 February Due to Cabinet: 25 February
Comprehensive review of the resource management system – scope and process	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Seeks agreement to the scope and process of a comprehensive review of the resource management system in 2019.	TBC
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			TBC
Options for a royalty on bottled water	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	TBC
Approval of policy decisions on EEZ decommissioning regulations	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Following public consultation on proposals for decommissioning regulations under the EEZ Act, this paper seeks Cabinet approval for final policy decisions and to issue drafting instructions.	TBC

5. Cabinet material we have been consulted on

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
Establishing a new independent infrastructure body	Treasury	DEV	<p>The paper proposes to establish a new independent infrastructure body to carry out infrastructure strategy and planning, and infrastructure procurement and delivery support.</p> <p>MfE commented on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the need to signal how the Government will direct the infrastructure body in terms of the outcomes it should be seeking to deliver in the infrastructure strategy. For example, these could include infrastructure that supports the four wellbeings, adaptation to climate change and managing the impacts of natural hazards, and quality urban development and co-ordinated infrastructure and land-use planning that is efficiently used and maintained the timeframe of the infrastructure strategy ideally being longer than 30 years given the long lifetimes of infrastructure and the time horizons needed in climate adaptation the opportunity for the infrastructure body to use the spatial planning framework (currently under

			development) to build consensus around infrastructure priorities.
Building system legislative reform programme: Release of discussion paper	MBIE	DEV	<p>The paper seeks agreement to undertake public consultation on proposed changes to the building regulatory system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MfE supported a proposed cap on the liability of building consent authorities, and the requirement for improved building product information and certification. These proposals may assist councils to support the innovation needed in the building sector to build at pace and scale, and limit risk averse behaviour MfE suggested that building product information requirements should also include information on the environmental impacts of the products <p>More broadly, we commented on future opportunities to improve the Building Act, including for example the need to address building performance and ensure the Act takes the impact of climate change into account, and the need to consider any gaps between RMA and Building Act regulation.</p>
Biogenic methane reductions under the Climate Change Bill	MfE Climate Change	DEV (13 February)	<p>This paper proposes to set the target component for biogenic methane emissions under the Climate Change Bill at 35 per cent below 2016 levels by 2050. MfE supports the proposals in this paper. The proposed target level is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consistent with limiting global warming to 1.5°C. It represents the midpoint of the central range of scenarios for reductions in agricultural methane consistent with this temperature goal in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report likely to be achievable. Analysis from the Biological Emissions Reference Group indicates that this level of emissions reduction is achievable by 2050 if current and potential future emissions reduction technologies are developed and taken up a strong signal to emitting sectors. Innovation will be a key part of our transition to a low emissions economy. A strong target can support development and take up of new emissions reduction technologies and behaviours. manageable. The target level affects the magnitude of the overall economic impact. Where and how these impacts are felt depends on the policies used to drive achievement of the target. For example the Government has signalled, should biogenic agricultural emissions be introduced to the Emissions Trading Scheme, that this sector would receive a free allocation of units.

6. Official Information Act requests

6.1. Ministerial

Request	Correspondent	Reference	At your office	Due to send
Copies of various Essential Freshwater briefings referenced in reply to WPQ 26600	s 9(2)(a) Parliament	18-O-2555	28 January	4 February
Copy of Methyl Bromide and Forestry Implications Letter – Thursday 20 Sep (Ref WQ 28195-2018)	s 9(2)(a) MP for Coromandel	18-O-02788	29 January	5 February
Written advice relating to potential taxes, levies, permit allocation or other regulation of nitrogen fertiliser and/or nitrogen leached.	s 9(2)(a) Senior Policy Advisor	18-O-02556	5 February	12 February

6.2. Departmental

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
Records pertaining to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Genetic Modification dated 1 December 1999 to 31 March 2001.	s 9(2)(a)	18-D-02789	7 February
Copy of business case prepared by ECan for the Ministry for the Environment that describes how improving Te Waihora to national standards would have 'severe social and economic' consequences.	s 9(2)(a) McGill University, Department of Natural Resource Sciences	18-D-02833	8 February
Personal grievances and workplace bullying complaints from 2014 – 2018 per year and region.	s 9(2)(a)	18-D-02830	11 February
Clarification of 1080 and eco-toxic logo	s 9(2)(a)	18-D-02832	11 February
Waste and plastic bottle waste destinations and receivers.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00004	13 February
List of Uber and taxi rides – December 2017 – 18.	s 9(2)(a) - New Zealand Taxpayers Union	19-D-00073	13 February
Information, provisions and procedures for fireworks from 1996.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00006	13 February
Diversity, integration, and cohesion.	s 9(2)(a) CaDDANZ (Capturing the Diversity Dividend of Aotearoa New Zealand)	19-D-0005	13 February
Copy of letter to Minister Parker referred to in WRC email, copies of any other correspondence between the Minister or the Ministry for the Environment and any other persons pertaining to WPL applications, notes of discussions regarding WPL applications.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00092	18 February
All information the Ministry for the	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00070	20 February

Environment holds in respect of the Awatarariki area including proposed changes to district and regional plans and proposed voluntary/managed/forced retreat from our homes.	s 9(2)(a)		
Information regarding the address 77 Allis Bloy Place, Ruakaka.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00100	22 February
Details of locations where PFAS contamination is five times above the guidelines. For each location include the highest recorded levels of each of the compounds, date of the sample, and the latest updated recorded level per compound.	s 9(2)(a) Radio NZ	18-D-02639	22 February
All correspondence between yourself and your Minister since 26 October 2017.	s 9(2)(a)	18-D-02573	20 February

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Weekly Update – Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

For the week starting 11 February 2019

Environment weekly meeting 4pm – 4.45pm, Tuesday 12 February

Attendees: Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

Vicky Robertson, Secretary for the Environment

Cheryl Barnes, Deputy Secretary, Water and Climate

James Walker, Deputy Secretary, Partnerships and Customers

Natasha Lewis, Deputy Secretary, Environmental Stewardship and Strategy

Amanda Moran, Deputy Secretary, Natural and Built System

Glenn Wigley, Director, Natural and Built System

Jo Gascoigne, Director, Natural and Built System

Minister's office staff attending:

John Blincoe, Senior Ministerial Advisor

Hayden Johnston, Private Secretary

Claire Gibb, Private Secretary

Corin Higgs, Ministerial Adviser

Deb Thornton, Senior Private Secretary

	Agenda Item	Lead	Paper / verbal update	Mins
1.	Discuss Weekly Update	Vicky Robertson	Verbal update	10
2.	Climate Change Bill target update	Cheryl Barnes	Verbal update	5
3.	RMA Bill	Amanda Moran	Verbal update	10
4.	Comprehensive review of resource management system	Amanda Moran	Verbal update	5
5.	PFAS	Glenn Wigley	Verbal update	5
6.	PCE's review of Environmental Reporting Act and science-system brief	Natasha Lewis	Verbal update	5

1. Strategic priorities

1.1. Urban

You are meeting Urban Growth Agenda Ministers on 12 February to discuss the Infrastructure Funding and Financing work led by the Treasury. Due to the length of this item, Ministers' offices are looking to schedule another meeting between you, Minister Twyford and possibly Minister Genter to discuss the national direction proposals on quality intensification under the Urban Planning Pillar.

1.2. Water

Assessment of impacts of Essential Freshwater policy proposals

As part of the policy work for the Essential Freshwater programme the Ministry is assessing the impacts of each of the freshwater policy proposals. A significant part of this work involves reviewing and synthesising previous studies undertaken by Crown Research Institutes, universities, central and local government, and some international studies. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

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s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Essential Freshwater package – key decisions and timing

We will provide you with a briefing next week to update you on the key decisions and timing for the Essential Freshwater package to be released for consultation in July – August 2019. The briefing will also provide advice on how we propose engaging with Kahui Wai Māori, the Iwi Leaders Group, Freshwater Leaders Group, Regional Council Water Subgroup and Science, and the Technical Advisory Group in preparing the Essential Freshwater package and over the consultation period. We will discuss the briefing with you at a water policy meeting on Thursday 14 February. At this meeting we can also discuss whether you wish to receive our advice on proposals for Three Waters environmental regulation before your meeting with Minister Mahuta.

Three Waters Joint Ministers' Meeting

On Thursday 14 February, you will attend a joint Ministers' meeting on Three Waters service regulation (chaired by Minister Mahuta). The Ministry for the Environment has been contributing significantly to developing initial regulatory proposals for managing risks to drinking water sources, and environmental impacts related to wastewater and stormwater services. Two briefings will be provided to support this discussion. The Department of Internal Affairs will provide an overview of all initial proposals to all Ministers attending. On 11 February we will provide a separate briefing to you and to the Associate Minister for the Environment (Urban Water). The briefing will contain additional information on the environmental regulation proposals.

1.3. System Reform

We have provided you with our next briefing on setting up the comprehensive Resource Management Act 1991 review (2018-B-05221 refers). We are working towards having this paper available at the first meeting of the Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee on 14 March.

We have been meeting with agencies to discuss their feedback on the draft Cabinet paper and the scope and process for the review. s 9(2)(g)(i)

The briefing also provides analysis and talking points for the release of the Environmental Defence Society synthesis report *Reform of the Resource Management System: The next generation* that you are launching on 12 February.

There is an opportunity, if needed, to discuss the advice and talking points prior to the Environmental Defence Society launch at the weekly officials' meeting on 12 February. We have also scheduled a policy session with you on 14 February to discuss the content of the briefing and draft Cabinet paper in more detail.

2. Updates for noting

2.1. Update on Auckland Joint Work Programme – bus tour of South Auckland urban growth area

On 7 February Auckland Deputy Mayor, Bill Cashmore, Mayor Phil Goff and Councillor Chris Darby hosted Ministers Twyford and Salesa, and senior officials, on a bus tour of the major South Auckland growth areas. This was to support the proposed Auckland Council and Government Joint Work Programme on Housing and Urban Growth.

Sites visited were:

- Paerata Rise. This is a 300 hectare development, and will be part of a future 528 hectare development planned to produce 4,500 homes near the current Wesley College site
- Auranga near Drury. Here 167 hectares are currently being developed to supply 2,700 homes, and ultimately up to 7,000 homes, by 2020
- Drury South Crossing. This is attached to Stevenson's Quarry, and is a 360 hectare master-planned business park

Auckland Deputy Mayor Cashmore selected these projects to illustrate the significant scale of development going on in South Auckland, their dependence on good transport links – to rail and via Mill Road in particular, and the best practice being employed to ensure that the development can be built and maintained sustainably.

We will provide you with details of the whole proposed work programme, terms of reference, and next steps by 25 February.

2.2. Strategic engagement with regional Environmental Monitoring and Reporting group

On Thursday 14 February, the Ministry is hosting a strategic workshop with our Environmental Monitoring and Reporting (EMaR) partners. EMaR brings together regional council chief executives, mayors and councillors, as well as deputy secretaries from central government agencies, including Stats NZ, Land Information New Zealand and the Department of Conservation.

The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Simon Upton, will attend this session to provide his independent thoughts and assessment of the current state of environmental reporting. This will include the possible future needs of environmental data and science, and his upcoming review of the Environmental Reporting Act 2015.

The purpose of the workshop is to engage strategically with our regional sector partners to increase alignment of central and regional government objectives, with a particular focus on the monitoring and reporting of environmental data and information. This is part of our Environmental Stewardship role, and will be the first of many strategic engagement

opportunities in 2019 to develop a national vision and roadmap for environmental data and information to meet reporting, policy, research and public demand.

We will share the outcomes of this session with you as part of our ongoing discussions about improving our science and data capability.

2.3. 'Denewing' – reclassifying organisms is not new under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act

Prior to Christmas, a draft Cabinet paper proposing the reclassification of five organisms as “not new” was circulated for ministerial consultation. Minister Sage in her capacity as the Minister of Conservation has requested further information from the Department of Conservation and has questions regarding the ‘denewing’ process. Officials will discuss her concerns at their weekly meeting with her, and this will also be discussed at your meeting with Minister Sage on Tuesday.

The paper is proposed to be lodged on 14 February for the Environment Committee (ENV) on 21 February.

2.4. Ministerial meeting on implementing a Sustainable Land Use Budget package

You are meeting with Ministers O'Connor, Sage, and Mahuta on 13 February to discuss the proposed Sustainable Land Use (SLU) Budget package for Budget 2019. The meeting was initiated by Minister Sage. We understand the Minister will note the challenges in implementing such a significant Budget package and the importance of departments being joined up in their implementation efforts. We expect that she will propose that Ministers' support for the package be contingent on departments working jointly to develop an implementation plan that Ministers approve.

We are broadly comfortable with such a proposal, and consider the additional oversight by Ministers would help ensure that funding is applied in a coherent and integrated way. However, there are a number of issues that need further consideration. These include ensuring that at least some resources are available from the start of the new financial year so we do not lose momentum in delivering the Government's freshwater reforms. We are preparing a joint briefing for this meeting.

2.5. Official Information Act (OIA) request about the Ministry's use of taxis

The Ministry for the Environment has received an official information request from the New Zealand Taxpayers Union for information about the Ministry's use of taxis. The information will be released on Wednesday 13 February and is likely to generate media coverage.

The content of the information provided will be based on the travel audit that we undertook in October 2018. The audit highlighted that the Ministry was spending approximately \$3,000 a week on taxi travel. Travel costs are a necessary part of doing business, but this figure is too high and we are taking steps to bring the amount down. These include strengthening the approval, monitoring and reporting process.

We will be proactively releasing details on our website early next week of our travel spend, and the steps we are taking to manage costs and meet our goal of being a sustainable organisation.

3. Briefing notes

11 February – 8 March

Title	Lead agency	What this briefing covers	Date due to your office
Response to 'Regulation for Commercial Vegetables' by Horticulture NZ	MPI	This briefing provides advice on issues raised in the December 2018 Horticulture NZ memo entitled Regulation for Commercial Vegetables.	11 February
Meeting with Minister Mark on Responding to PFAS contamination at Ohakea Air Base.	MfE (joint with NZDF)	This briefing will provide you with information to support your meeting with Minister Mark on identifying a community solution to PFAS contamination at the Ohakea Air Base.	11 February
Budget 2019 ministerial meeting: Implementation of a possible sustainable land use package	MfE	This briefing will provide background information and options in support of a ministerial meeting on 13 February (initiated by Minister Sage) to discuss the implementation of any sustainable land use package agreed as part of Budget 2019.	11 February
Three Waters Review: drinking water and environmental regulation – information for Regulatory Ministers' meeting on 14 February 2019	DIA (joint MfE and MoH)	This briefing provides an overview of the policy options under development to improve regulation of Three Waters services. This will inform the joint Ministers' meeting on 14 February.	TBC (prior to 14 February 2019)
Three Waters Review: Additional information on environmental regulation	MfE	This briefing provides further information on the proposals for enhanced environmental regulation that are being developed under the Three Waters Review project.	11 February
Cover briefing note for draft Cabinet paper – National Planning Standards decisions	MfE	This briefing discusses the draft Cabinet paper on National Planning Standards decisions.	11 February
Urban Growth Agenda: Wider costs and benefits of urban development – identifying, measuring, and valuing costs and benefits	MfE	This paper presents findings on identifying, measuring and valuing the range of costs and benefits associated with urban development.	14 February
PCE's Review of Environment Report Act response and Science System brief	MfE	Advice on the PCE's letter regarding his Review of the Environmental Reporting Act, and broader context of the current science-system priorities and initiatives.	15 February
Ozone Layer Protection Act – 2016 and 2017 Annual Reports	MfE	Briefing to provide you with the 2016 and 2017 annual reports under the Ozone Layer Protection Act 1996.	19 February
2019 March Baseline Update (excluding Climate Change related appropriations) and the Statement of Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets as at 31 December 2018	MfE	For you to approve and sign the 2019 March Baseline Update submission (Environment related appropriations within Vote Environment) and the Statement of Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets as at 31 December 2018.	15 February
Urban Planning Pillar: draft National Policy Statement on Urban Development	MfE	This briefing provides a preliminary draft National Policy Statement on Urban Development (Quality Intensification).	25 February
Urban Planning Pillar: Decisions on consultation process	MfE	This briefing seeks a decision on the consultation process for the draft	25 February

		National Policy Statement on Urban Development (Quality Intensification).	
Recommended Final Planning Standards	MfE	This paper provides the recommended Final Planning Standards.	25 February
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			
Lessons from the Streamlined Planning Process for System Reform	MfE	Response to your request for MfE's reflections on how the first two completed SPPs. We also provide feedback on the process or changes that could be made as part of the comprehensive review of the resource management system.	28 February
Options following decision on Pest Control Regulations.	MfE	Advice canvassing options that may be progressed, following a Court of Appeal decision on Pest Control Regulations.	28 February
Advice and initial policy options for renewable electricity generation	MfE/MBIE	Paper providing advice and initial policy options for renewable electricity generation.	28 February

4. Cabinet material

11 February – 8 March

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our Suggested timeframes
Reclassifying five organisms as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Proposes that five organisms be reclassified as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.	Due to lodge: 14 February Due to ENV Committee: 21 February Due to Cabinet: 25 February
Comprehensive review of the resource management system – scope and process	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Seeks agreement to the scope and process of a comprehensive review of the resource management system in 2019.	TBC
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			TBC
Options for a royalty on bottled water	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	TBC
Approval of policy decisions on EEZ decommissioning regulations	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Following public consultation on proposals for decommissioning regulations under the EEZ Act, this paper seeks Cabinet approval for final policy decisions and to issue drafting instructions.	TBC
National Planning Standards – report back on consultation, changes, approval and implementation	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	The approval of the first set of National Planning Standards must be gazetted by 19 April 2019. You and Minister Sage have delegated decision making to approve the Planning Standards. The requirement to	Due to lodge: 7 March Due to ENV Committee: 14 March Due to Cabinet: 18 March

		go to Cabinet is mostly convention and also comes from the commitment in a previous ENV paper to report back on the consultation process and get endorsement for the policy approach.	
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5. Cabinet material we have been consulted on

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (no 2) – council-controlled organisations	DIA	DEV	<p>This paper seeks agreement to a SOP to the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (No 2) that makes a number of changes to the Bill.</p> <p>MfE commented on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increased accountability arrangements on CCOs – we supported these proposals which may help Councils to direct CCOs to meet environmental outcomes. removal of provisions related to Watercare’s Infrastructure Growth Charge (IGC) – it would be beneficial if the IGC was differentiated to reflect the true cost of development in different locations to send appropriate price signals, but we agreed with DIA that this could be progressed via the Infrastructure Funding and Financing work programme due to implications for Auckland Council’s balance sheet. the proposal to remove provisions encouraging multiply owned CCOs – we agreed that there is little demand for this at present, and that any changes needed for three waters service delivery reform needs to be considered once the policy work on three waters is further progressed. the proposal to remove proposed changes to the requirements on the Secretary of Local Government in setting non-financial performance measures– we agreed with DIA’s recommendation to consider this matter as part of the work on the regulatory framework for three waters.
Establishing a new independent infrastructure body	Treasury	DEV	<p>The paper proposes to establish a new independent infrastructure body to carry out infrastructure strategy and planning, and infrastructure procurement and delivery support.</p> <p>MfE commented on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the need to signal how the Government will direct the infrastructure body in terms of the outcomes it should be seeking to deliver in the infrastructure strategy. For example, these could include infrastructure that supports the four wellbeings, adaptation to climate change and managing the impacts of natural hazards, and quality urban development and co-ordinated

			<p>infrastructure and land-use planning that is efficiently used and maintained</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the timeframe of the infrastructure strategy ideally being longer than 30 years given the long lifetimes of infrastructure and the time horizons needed in climate adaptation the opportunity for the infrastructure body to use the spatial planning framework (currently under development) to build consensus around infrastructure priorities.
Building system legislative reform programme: Release of discussion paper	MBIE	DEV	<p>The paper seeks agreement to undertake public consultation on proposed changes to the building regulatory system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MfE supported a proposed cap on the liability of building consent authorities, and the requirement for improved building product information and certification. These proposals may assist councils to support the innovation needed in the building sector to build at pace and scale and limit risk averse behaviour MfE suggested that building product information requirements should also include information on the environmental impacts of the products. <p>More broadly, we commented on future opportunities to improve the Building Act, including for example the need to address building performance and ensure the Act takes the impact of climate change into account, and the need to consider any gaps between RMA and Building Act regulation.</p>
Biogenic methane reductions under the Climate Change Bill	MfE Climate Change	DEV (13 February)	<p>This paper proposes to set the target component for biogenic methane emissions under the Climate Change Bill at 35 per cent below 2016 levels by 2050. MfE supports the proposals in this paper. The proposed target level is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consistent with limiting global warming to 1.5°C. It represents the midpoint of the central range of scenarios for reductions in agricultural methane consistent with this temperature goal in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report likely to be achievable. Analysis from the Biological Emissions Reference Group indicates that this level of emissions reduction is achievable by 2050 if current and potential future emissions reduction technologies are developed and taken up a strong signal to emitting sectors. Innovation will be a key part of our transition to a low emissions economy. A strong target can support development and take up of new emissions reduction technologies and behaviours. manageable. The target level affects the magnitude of the overall economic impact. Where and how these impacts are felt depends on the policies used to drive

			achievement of the target. For example the Government has signalled, should biogenic agricultural emissions be introduced to the Emissions Trading Scheme, that this sector would receive a free allocation of units.
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6. Departmental Official Information Act requests

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
Personal grievances and workplace bullying complaints from 2014 – 2018 per year and region.	s 9(2)(a)	18-D-02830	11 February
Clarification of 1080 and eco-toxic logo	s 9(2)(a)	18-D-02832	11 February
Waste and plastic bottle waste destinations and receivers.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00004	13 February
List of Uber and taxi rides – December 2017 – 18.	s 9(2)(a) New Zealand Taxpayers Union	19-D-00073	13 February
Information, provisions and procedures for fireworks from 1996.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00006	13 February
Diversity, integration, and cohesion.	s 9(2)(a) CaDDANZ (Capturing the Diversity Dividend of Aotearoa New Zealand)	19-D-0005	13 February
Copy of letter to Minister Parker referred to in WRC email, copies of any other correspondence between the Minister or the Ministry for the Environment and any other persons pertaining to WPL applications, notes of discussions regarding WPL applications.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00092	18 February
All information the Ministry for the Environment holds in respect of the Awatarariki area including proposed changes to district and regional plans and proposed voluntary/managed/forced retreat from our homes.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00070	20 February
All correspondence between yourself and your Minister since 26 October 2017.	s 9(2)(a)	18-D-02573	20 February
Total spending on advertising over the past five financial years, including 2018/19 to date.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00122	21 February
Information regarding the address 77 Allis Bloy Place, Ruakaka.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00100	22 February
Details of locations where PFAS contamination is five times above the guidelines. For each location include the highest recorded levels of each of the compounds, date of the sample, and the latest updated recorded level per compound.	s 9(2)(a) Radio NZ	18-D-02639	22 February

Weekly Update – Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

For the week starting 18 February 2019

Environment weekly meeting 3.00pm – 3.45pm, Monday 18 February

Attendees: Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

Vicky Robertson, Secretary for the Environment

Cheryl Barnes, Deputy Secretary, Water and Climate

James Walker, Deputy Secretary, Partnerships and Customers

Natasha Lewis, Deputy Secretary, Environmental Stewardship and Strategy

Amanda Moran, Deputy Secretary, Natural and Built System

Glenn Wigley, Director, Natural and Built System

Lorena Stephen, Director, Mana Taiao

Minister's office staff attending:

John Blincoe, Senior Ministerial Advisor

Hayden Johnston, Private Secretary

Claire Gibb, Private Secretary

Corin Higgs, Ministerial Adviser

Deb Thornton, Senior Private Secretary

	Agenda Item	Lead	Paper / verbal update	Mins
1.	Discuss Weekly Update	Vicky Robertson	Verbal update	10
2.	Kaipara Harbour Sedimentation report	Lorena Stephen/Natasha Lewis	Verbal update	10

1. Strategic priorities

1.1. System Reform

We met with you on 14 February to discuss the advice contained in our recent briefing and draft Cabinet paper on establishing the scope and process for your comprehensive review of the resource management system (2019-B-05221 refers).

s 9(2)(f)(iv) and s9(2)(g)(i)

[Redacted content]

1.2. Urban

Wider costs and benefits of urban development

At a meeting with officials on 1 November 2018, you and Minister Twyford directed officials to provide a report on the wider costs and benefits of urban development. The Ministry for the Environment, supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Internal Affairs, have engaged MRCagney and three peer review experts to provide this report. The report focuses on:

- a. the range and categories of costs and benefits of urban development, and
- b. the appraisal approaches, measurement methodologies, and the range of metrics for environmental, social and economic costs and benefits.

The lead consultant is finalising the report and we will provide it to you by 21 February. We intend to discuss this work with you at an upcoming policy discussion, and to meet with you and Minister Twyford to discuss the next steps.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted content]

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

2. Actions and decisions

2.1. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

3. Updates for noting

3.1. s 6(a)

3.2. At-Risk Catchments project – exemplar catchments

The exemplar catchment workstream of the At-Risk Catchments project (ARC project) will identify a small group of catchments where a collaborative approach may be taken to help improve the health of waterways from the bottom-up. It will also identify gaps

that could be filled by regulatory or non-regulatory interventions. This small group of catchments will be representative of a range of pressures and issues. It will help to deliver quick action and learn more about what works on the ground. Ministry officials are continuing to work with partner agencies, the Department of Conservation (DOC), and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), on the ARC project.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

3.3. Hawke's Bay Regional Planning Committee (RPC) workshop 20 February 2019

In July 2018 you attended the Hawke's Bay Regional Forum with the Post Settlement Governance Entity (PSGE), and government agency and local government representatives from the region. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

3.4. Commonwealth Ocean Acidification workshop and New Zealand Ocean Acidification Community workshop

The Ministry for the Environment will attend the Commonwealth Ocean Acidification workshop and the New Zealand Ocean Acidification Community workshop in Dunedin from 17 to 22 February.

The Commonwealth Ocean Acidification workshop, hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, brings international experts and Commonwealth government officials together under the banner of the Commonwealth Blue Charter. Heads of Government signed up to this Charter at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting last

year. Participants will explore ways to address the adverse impacts of ocean acidification on marine life and ecosystems (these include the potential flow-on effects for economies that depend on fisheries, aquaculture and marine tourism, and for coastal communities that rely on coral reefs for protection). The 45 experts and officials represent the Commonwealth Secretariat, USA, UK, and Australia, as well as Commonwealth countries in the Pacific, Africa, and the Caribbean. Collaborators include the Ministry for the Environment, the Ministry for Primary Industries, the New Zealand Ocean Acidification Community, Otago University, and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research. A communications plan is in place to address media interest, which is likely given the close link between ocean acidification and climate change.

The New Zealand Ocean Acidification Community workshop will enable scientists and central and local government officials to discuss the latest research in ocean acidification, the potential implications for New Zealand, and to co-ordinate management tools and approaches. The Ministry for the Environment will attend in our capacity as the New Zealand representative on the Executive Committee of the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification (OA Alliance). New Zealand signed up to the OA Alliance in 2017. The OA Alliance supports members through scientific information exchange, sharing mitigation and adaptation strategies, and providing support for development of action plans.

We will update you on any significant outcomes from the meetings.

3.5. Environment Aotearoa 2019

Preparation is underway for the release of Environment Aotearoa 2019 (EA 2019). This is the three-yearly report that focuses on the environment as a whole, drawing on the previous five domain reports. You will be given a copy of the report and a briefing 24 hours prior to the release of the report, in line with environmental reporting protocols. Given the cross cutting nature of the report, it will have relevance across many ministerial portfolios. Therefore, we intend to invite a number of your colleagues to the briefing.

At 11am on 16 April, Vicky Robertson and Liz MacPherson, Chief Statistician, will release the report together via a media conference. That evening the Ministry will host a stakeholder event to raise awareness of the report's findings and start the conversation about what collective action is needed to address the challenges presented.

4. Briefing notes

18 February – 15 March

Title	Lead agency	What this briefing covers	Date due to your office
Development of policy recommendations for decommissioning regulations under the EEZ Act	MfE	This briefing provides you with an overview of submissions received on proposals for decommissioning regulations under the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012 (EEZ Act). It seeks agreement in principle to our proposals for iwi engagement and public consultation on decommissioning plans.	22 February

Ozone Layer Protection Act – 2016 and 2017 Annual Reports	MfE	Briefing to provide you with the 2016 and 2017 annual reports under the Ozone Layer Protection Act 1996.	19 February
Talking Points for Landcare Trust meeting 21 February 2019	MfE	This meeting note refreshes the talking points provided to you in November 2018, in advance of your meeting with Landcare Trust representatives on 21 February.	19 February
Urban Growth Agenda: wider costs and benefits of urban development – identifying, measuring, and valuing costs and benefits	MfE	This paper presents findings on identifying, measuring and valuing the range of costs and benefits associated with urban development.	21 February
Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund – round 2, 2018/19 funding recommendations	MfE	This briefing seeks the Minister's decisions on applications to round two of the Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund, and approval to publish the updated CSRF Priority List on the Ministry for the Environment's website.	21 February
Urban Planning Pillar: draft National Policy Statement on Urban Development	MfE	This briefing provides a preliminary draft National Policy Statement on Urban Development (Quality Intensification).	25 February
Urban Planning Pillar: decisions on consultation process	MfE	This briefing seeks a decision on the consultation process for the draft National Policy Statement on Urban Development (Quality Intensification).	25 February
Recommended Final Planning Standards	MfE	This paper provides the recommended Final Planning Standards.	25 February
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			
Lessons from the Streamlined Planning Process for System Reform	MfE	Response to your request for MfE's reflections on how the first two completed SPPs. We also provide feedback on the process or changes that could be made as part of the comprehensive review of the resource management system.	28 February
Advice and initial policy options for renewable electricity generation	MfE/MBIE	Paper providing advice and initial policy options for renewable electricity generation.	28 February
Update on proposed sediment attributes	MfE	This briefing provides an update on proposed sediment attributes and seeks initial decisions on proposed attributes' technical form and content.	1 March
Update on Te Mana o te Wai and Māori values for freshwater system health in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM)	MfE	This provides you with an update on Te Mana o te Wai and Māori values for freshwater system health in the NPS-FM.	4 March
Fair allocation – initial workable proposals	MfE	Advice on options for allocation of discharges to freshwater, to go in mid-year discussion document.	4 March
Update on policy direction for ecological flows and levels	MfE	This paper updates you on the policy direction for ecological flows and levels.	14 March

5. Cabinet material

18 February – 15 March

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our Suggested timeframes
Reclassifying five organisms as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	Proposes that five organisms be reclassified as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.	Lodged: 14 February Due to DEV Committee: 20 February Due to Cabinet: 25 February
Comprehensive review of the resource management system – scope and process	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Seeks agreement to the scope and process of a comprehensive review of the resource management system in 2019.	Due to lodge: 7 March Due to ENV Committee: 14 March Due to Cabinet: 18 March
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			TBC
Options for a royalty on bottled water	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	TBC
Approval of policy decisions on EEZ decommissioning regulations	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Following public consultation on proposals for decommissioning regulations under the EEZ Act, this paper seeks Cabinet approval for final policy decisions and to issue drafting instructions.	TBC
National Planning Standards – report back on consultation, changes, approval and implementation	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	The approval of the first set of National Planning Standards must be gazetted by 19 April 2019. You and Minister Sage have delegated decision making to approve the Planning Standards. The requirement to go to Cabinet is mostly convention and also comes from the commitment in a previous ENV paper to report back on the consultation process and get endorsement for the policy approach.	Due to lodge: 7 March Due to ENV Committee: 14 March Due to Cabinet: 18 March

6. Cabinet material we have been consulted on

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (no 2) – council-controlled organisations	DIA	DEV	This paper seeks agreement to a SOP to the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (No 2) that makes a number of changes to the Bill. MfE commented on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increased accountability arrangements on CCOs – we supported these proposals which may help

			<p>Councils to direct CCOs to meet environmental outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removal of provisions related to Watercare's Infrastructure Growth Charge (IGC) – it would be beneficial if the IGC was differentiated to reflect the true cost of development in different locations to send appropriate price signals, but we agreed with DIA that this could be progressed via the Infrastructure Funding and Financing work programme due to implications for Auckland Council's balance sheet. • the proposal to remove provisions encouraging multiply owned CCOs – we agreed that there is little demand for this at present, and that any changes needed for three waters service delivery reform needs to be considered once the policy work on three waters is further progressed. • the proposal to remove proposed changes to the requirements on the Secretary of Local Government in setting non-financial performance measures – we agreed with DIA's recommendation to consider this matter as part of the work on the regulatory framework for three waters
Establishing a new independent infrastructure body	Treasury	DEV	<p>The paper proposes to establish a new independent infrastructure body to carry out infrastructure strategy and planning, and infrastructure procurement and delivery support.</p> <p>MfE commented on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the need to signal how the Government will direct the infrastructure body in terms of the outcomes it should be seeking to deliver in the infrastructure strategy. For example, these could include infrastructure that supports the four wellbeings, adaptation to climate change and managing the impacts of natural hazards, and quality urban development and co-ordinated infrastructure and land-use planning that is efficiently used and maintained • the timeframe of the infrastructure strategy ideally being longer than 30 years given the long lifetimes of infrastructure and the time horizons needed in climate adaptation • the opportunity for the infrastructure body to use the spatial planning framework (currently under development) to build consensus around infrastructure priorities.
Building system legislative reform programme: Release of discussion paper	MBIE	DEV	<p>The paper seeks agreement to undertake public consultation on proposed changes to the building regulatory system. We note that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the building regulatory system needs to support innovation and capability in the building sector to deliver the number of dwellings needed at pace and scale • a well-functioning construction market is one of the four markets (alongside land,

			<p>infrastructure and development markets) that are crucial to deliver urban outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Building Code needs to be redesigned to support innovative design and materials, pre-approved designs and prefabricated buildings, to deliver quality mixed-use and medium density housing. <p>We note that MBIE has now removed the proposed cap on the liability of building consent authorities which we supported, and suggest further thinking is needed to reduce risk averse behaviour that limits the delivery of quality dwellings at pace and scale.</p>
Biogenic methane reductions under the Climate Change Bill	MfE Climate Change	DEV (13 February)	<p>This paper proposes to set the target component for biogenic methane emissions under the Climate Change Bill at 35 per cent below 2016 levels by 2050. MfE supports the proposals in this paper. The proposed target level is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consistent with limiting global warming to 1.5°C. It represents the midpoint of the central range of scenarios for reductions in agricultural methane consistent with this temperature goal in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report likely to be achievable. Analysis from the Biological Emissions Reference Group indicates that this level of emissions reduction is achievable by 2050 if current and potential future emissions reduction technologies are developed and taken up a strong signal to emitting sectors. Innovation will be a key part of our transition to a low emissions economy. A strong target can support development and take up of new emissions reduction technologies and behaviours. manageable. The target level affects the magnitude of the overall economic impact. Where and how these impacts are felt depends on the policies used to drive achievement of the target. For example the Government has signalled, should biogenic agricultural emissions be introduced to the Emissions Trading Scheme, that this sector would receive a free allocation of units.
Dam safety regulations: Release of discussion paper	MBIE	DEV	<p>This paper seeks agreement to undertake public consultation on a regulatory regime for post-construction dam safety under the Building Act. MfE has asked that the discussion document is edited to clarify how the effects of climate change will be addressed in managing dam safety. Provided these changes are made we think you should support this paper.</p> <p>The paper is proposed to be considered at DEV on 6 March.</p>

7. Official Information Act requests

7.1. Ministerial

Request	Correspondent	Reference	At your office	Due to send
National PFAS Programme Overview	s 9(2)(a) Stuff journalist	19-O-00151	22 February	1 March

7.2. Departmental

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
List of Uber and taxi rides – December 2017-18.	s 9(2)(a) New Zealand Taxpayers Union	19-D-00073	13 February
Diversity, integration, and cohesion.	s 9(2)(a) CaDDANZ (Capturing the Diversity Dividend of Aotearoa New Zealand)	19-D-0005	13 February
Copy of letter to Minister Parker referred to in WRC email, copies of any other correspondence between the Minister or the Ministry for the Environment and any other persons pertaining to WPL applications, notes of discussions regarding WPL applications.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00092	18 February
All correspondence between yourself and your Minister since 26 October 2017.	s 9(2)(a)	18-D-02573	20 February
Total spending on advertising over the past five financial years, including 2018/19 to date.	s 9(2)(a) Stuff journalist	19-D-00122	21 February
Information regarding the address 77 Allis Bloy Place, Ruakaka.	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00100	22 February
Details of locations where PFAS contamination is five times above the guidelines. For each location include the highest recorded levels of each of the compounds, date of the sample, and the latest updated recorded level per compound.	s 9(2)(a) Radio NZ	18-D-02639	22 February
Summary of all public correspondence on chemtrailing in New Zealand	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00152	8 March

8. Office of the Ombudsman complaints

8.1. Ministerial

Complaint	Correspondent	Reference	At your office	Due to send
Doesn't accept that specific information requested about the Royal Commission on Genetic Modification is not held by you.	s 9(2)(a)	491263	20 February	22 February

8.2. Departmental

Complaint	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
Doesn't accept that specific information requested about the Royal Commission on Genetic Modification is not held by the Ministry.	s 9(2)(a)	491256	22 February

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982

Weekly Update – Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

For the week starting 25 February 2019

Next environment weekly meeting 4.00pm – 4.45pm, Tuesday 12 March

Attendees: Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

Vicky Robertson, Secretary for the Environment

Cheryl Barnes, Deputy Secretary, Water and Climate

James Walker, Deputy Secretary, Partnerships and Customers

Amanda Moran, Deputy Secretary, Natural and Built System

Glenn Wigley, Director, Natural and Built System

Shaun Lewis, Director, Mana Honohono

Minister's office staff attending:

John Blincoe, Senior Ministerial Advisor

Hayden Johnston, Private Secretary

Claire Gibb, Private Secretary

Corin Higgs, Ministerial Adviser

Deb Thornton, Senior Private Secretary

	Agenda Item	Lead	Paper / verbal update	Mins
1.	Discuss Weekly Update	Vicky Robertson	Verbal update	10
2.	Ouvea Pre-mix	Shaun Lewis	Verbal update	5

1. Strategic priorities

1.1. System Reform

We have shared your draft Cabinet paper on setting the scope and process for a comprehensive review of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) with the Associate Ministers for the Environment and the Minister of Climate Change. We had initial discussions with these Ministers at their last weekly updates and offered the opportunity for a more in-depth discussion with officials if needed. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted]

1.2. Urban

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted]

1.3. Water

Freshwater – update on At Risk Catchments

You asked to see draft at risk catchments (ARC) maps prior to the release of the consultation document in April. We can share indicative maps with you in next week's update, but please be aware the reason for the April release is that we are using the latest state and trends data, which is embargoed from public release until mid-April.

The first workshop for the ARC National Information project has been confirmed for 27 February in Wellington. It is the first step in a collaboration with experts in biophysical sciences and Mātauranga Māori. Scientific collaborators are self-selected members of the Freshwater Taskforce's Science and Technology Advisory Group (STAG), and Mātauranga Māori experts were nominated by Kahui Wai Māori (KWM).

The outputs of this workshop are:

- an agreed definition of all elements required to conduct catchment-level assessments of vulnerabilities, risks, and management options.
- agreed methods to conduct catchment assessment for each stage. This includes methods of engagement for each stage, if required.
- an agreed list of resources to deliver each stage:
- data, existing research, models
- participants/collaborators for each stage, consultation, and new research.
- an agreed delivery plan, including timeframes and outputs (eg, information, maps, reports and documented methods).

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Freshwater s 9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted]

Resignation from the Freshwater Leaders Group

On Monday 18 February, Lees Seymour, the forest industry representative on the Freshwater Leaders Group, contacted the Chair and tendered his resignation. As required by the group's terms of reference Mr Seymour will also be writing to you to tender his resignation.

Recent changes in Mr Seymour's organisation have seen him taking on more responsibility and overseas travel. These changes will make it difficult for Mr Seymour to give the group work the dedication, commitment and most importantly the time needed.

Mr Seymour has offered to help find a replacement from the forestry sector if needed. You have asked for advice on whether or not you should replace Mr Seymour.

It is approximately four months before public consultation on the Essential Freshwater policy proposals takes place. Based on experience establishing the Freshwater Leaders Group, we estimate that it would take two months to find and appoint a replacement from the forestry sector. This would leave two meetings for the new representative to become familiar with the material the Group has already considered. Because of this, and the fact that the work underway does not directly impact on forestry, we recommend that no replacement is made.

Do you agree not to replace Lees Seymour on the Freshwater Leaders Group?

Yes/No

Freshwater – up-date on four regional councils

Otago Regional Council

You wrote to the Chair of Otago Regional Council (ORC) on 6 August and again on 14 December 2019, regarding a plan change for establishing minimum flows in three catchments. In the first letter you suggested that call-in and referral to the Environment Court would be a cost efficient process. In the December letter you set out an expectation of receiving a framework to address the issues of low flows in these catchments and expressed interest in receiving the Council's plans. The response to the second letter relayed information about a stakeholder meeting and a Council workshop, with a plan to be delivered at a subsequent meeting in mid-February. We understand the Council meeting at the end of January called for further stakeholder engagement and a report back in March.

The situation is complex. However, we remain concerned that delays in establishing a planning regime for low flows may lead to further litigation and, at the least, short term consents that will restrict certainty to the land users. Applications for new consents to replace deemed permits will have no planning criteria to use as a basis for assessment by the Council.

It is understood that the Chair has issued an invitation for you to meet councillors. We recommend that you take up this invitation. However, depending on timetabling, it may further delay action, as requested in your earlier correspondence. We will provide you with further advice in the week of 25 February.

Horizons Regional Council

You met the Chair and senior officers from Horizons Regional Council on 19 December 2019 to discuss the report from the independent legal and planning experts about the One Plan. You encouraged Horizons to urgently deliver a single plan change to address nitrogen leaching rates and to develop a viable consenting pathway for applicants (not a guarantee of a resource consent). You also encouraged them to include horticulture in the planning process.

Officials met Council officers and their consultants at the beginning of February, to emphasise the messages from your meeting and encourage them to set up and share a timeline to achieve the objectives set for them. We understand the Chair is shortly to write to you.

The Council will receive initial advice in February, with further decisions due in March. It is understood the advice will include a broader context on the development of the One Plan over the next 10 years, as well as addressing immediate issues. The Council is concerned to notify the plan by mid-year, prior to the local body elections. They have expressed a desire to include some mechanism to address the high level issues for horticulture, but say there is substantial further work needed to look at the plan structure and options to treat horticulture “differently”, as you have outlined. We have encouraged them to seek early engagement with Hort NZ.

Environment Southland

Crown Law advice to you about joining the appeals on the Environment Southland plan is due to you in the week ending 22 February.

Hawke’s Bay Regional Council

The Council wrote to about 500 interested parties to test the idea of a plan change to defer the effective date of the low-flow regime for Tukituki from May 2018 (sic) to May 2020. They received 55 responses, with nearly half opposed to the proposal to delay implementation.


The Council considered the issue on 20 February and the recommendation is not to proceed with the plan change because of resource issues and potential opposition. This may leave Hawke’s Bay Regional Council (HBRC) exposed to litigation in respect of breaches to conditions of resource consents if users take more than that stipulated in their consents, given they have no alternative supply aka Ruataniwha. HBRC is reviewing its compliance/enforcement “toolbox” and considering liaising with users to develop plans for security of supply.

Freshwater – Update on Select Committee Consideration of Water Metering

We presented our response to the Office of the Auditor-General report on water metering regulations. The Select Committee was pleased that we are acting on the report’s recommendations including reviewing the regulations.

1.4.

s 9(2)(g)(i)



2. Updates for noting

2.1. Ministry in support of the Auditor-General's performance audit

In May 2019 the Auditor-General (John Ryan) will table a performance audit report to Cabinet that will present findings for how four regional councils are managing impacts on their freshwater quality. This work is focussed on what has changed since the Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) originally audited the same four councils (Environment Southland, Horizons Regional Council, Taranaki Regional Council, and Waikato Regional Council) in 2010–11.

The Ministry is supportive of the OAG's audit report. Initial conversations indicate that the report will present several systematic issues (ie, regional freshwater data collection inconsistencies due to no enforceable national monitoring standards) that the Ministry has identified as key priorities to address in order to provide robust policy advice and a more representative national environmental reporting programme

It is important to note that the OAG has requested that this analysis aligns to the analysis carried out on the river water quality data in the publication of Environment Aotearoa 2019, which will be released 18 April. This alignment of analysis ensures consistency in reporting and data use, allowing the Ministry to support the OAG officials through their reporting process

Please note that the Ministry and the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment (Simon Upton) will review the OAG's draft report in the coming months, and will provide you with a briefing prior to the final report being presented to cabinet.

2.2. Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 reassessments programme update

We are continuing to work with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) on proposals to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the current chemicals reassessments process under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 (HSNO Act). We are looking to improve the use of decisions by international regulators (a concept known as 'trusted regulator'), information requirements for applicants, data protection measures, and a range of other options to improve the reassessment process.

To date, the Ministry and the EPA have been working together on the initial policy phase, determining the scope of the policy problems and the approach for early consultation. Early engagement with iwi partners, stakeholders and other government agencies will take place in late February to early March. We will provide you with further advice as the programme develops. We are aiming for a Cabinet paper in June seeking approval to release a discussion paper for submissions, with final policy decisions to be made in December.

2.3. Auckland Council has invited Ministers' feedback on its proposed changes to Special Character Overlay provisions in the Auckland Unitary Plan

On 29 January, Auckland Council wrote to us seeking your feedback on a proposed change to the Special Character Areas Overlay (SCAR) rules in the Auckland Unitary Plan (AUP). Under the Resource Management Act 1991, during the preparation of a plan (including a plan change) the relevant local authority shall consult the Minister for the Environment and other Ministers who may be affected (clause 3(1)(a) and (b) of Schedule 1). This ministerial consultation is a precursor to wider public consultation.

The proposed plan change is the Council's response to an Environment Court Declaration that the Council incorrectly applied the SCAR rules in the AUP for the period 1 December 2016 to 19 December 2017. In December 2017, the Court declared that where SCAR rules and underlying residential zone rules coincide the most restrictive activity status should apply, and the standards of the SCAR and the underlying zone should both apply in the assessment of a resource consent.

Prior to the Declaration, the Council presumed that SCAR rules should prevail if they coincide with underlying zone rules. The Ministers for the Environment and Education, and the Housing New Zealand Corporation (HNZC) joined as parties to Declaration proceedings and gave evidence that the SCAR and underlying zone rules should be 'additive' rather than exclusive.

On the basis of the Declaration, the Council investigated resource consents it had issued for residential activities in areas subject to the Special Character Overlay. In August 2018, the Council confirmed that approximately 320 consents were issued in error. The Council is reassessing those consents at no cost to consent holders.

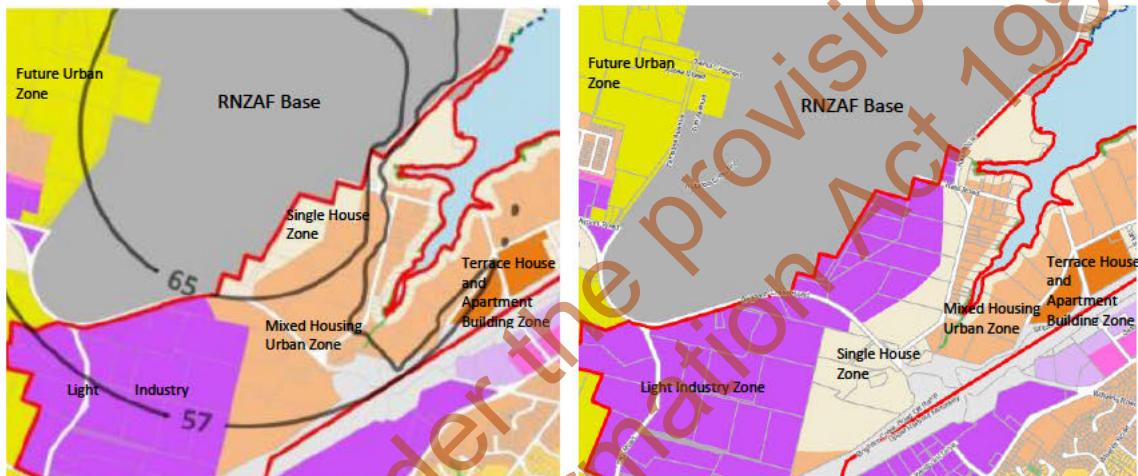
The proposed plan change aims to ensure the SCAR and underlying zone rules will interact in the manner originally intended by the Council (ie, where the rules of the SCAR and the underlying residential zone coincide, SCAR rules will prevail). We consider the proposed plan change to be problematic because:

- it may further limit the scope for intensification in Auckland
- there is no evidence of assessment against the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity
- it departs from the position set out in the draft National Planning Standards that overlay rules and underlying zone rules are additive
- it is likely to interfere with the progress of plan changes to implement the structure plans for Paerata-Pukekohe and Opaheke-Drury. This could delay the release of greenfield land for urban development in southern Auckland.

Housing New Zealand Corporation and the Minister of Education are intending to provide feedback to the Council on the proposed plan change. We will work with those agencies to ensure that our response to the Council is consistent with the objectives of the Urban Growth Agenda, and we will update you on progress as needed.

2.4. Auckland Council plan change to enable urban development at Whenuapai is delayed pending New Zealand Defence Force decisions

In September 2017, Auckland Council publicly notified a proposed change to the Auckland Unitary Plan (AUP) to rezone 360 hectares of greenfield land at Whenuapai from Future Urban Zone to a mix of residential and business zones. The proposed plan change will enable development of 6000 dwellings and 124 hectares of business land, consistent with the Whenuapai Structure Plan.



Noise Contour Map from NZDF engine testing noise report (September 2017)

Proposed Whenuapai Plan Change – Proposed Zoning Map (notified September 2017)

Hearings on the proposed plan change in May 2018 were adjourned by the Independent Hearings Commissioners. Based on concerns raised by submitters, Council staff have done further work with the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) to understand the potential impact of engine testing noise. New noise modelling has shown different noise contours from those (in the left image) that the Council used to determine the zoning in the notified plan change (right image). The new modelling data means the proposed plan change will need to be varied to rezone approximately 130 hectares of this land. This variation will require public notification, further delaying the release of greenfield land at Whenuapai for urban development.

Recent media coverage has highlighted submitters' frustrations about the delays. Cabra Developments Limited expressed concern that its development of 250 sections is now in limbo and holding costs are increasing. Council staff approached us regarding the protracted nature of the plan change process, asking whether there is an alternative, faster solution to progress the plan change variation.

We are investigating this issue with the Ministry for Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In particular we have approached NZDF to discuss whether it can move its engine testing site which would allow adverse noise effects to be contained within the airbase.

We will provide you with an update on this matter in the coming weeks.

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982

3. Briefing notes

25 February – 22 March

Title	Lead agency	What this briefing covers	Date due to your office
Review of the Environmental Reporting Act 2015 and the Science System	MfE	Provides a letter of response to the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment about his review of the Environmental Reporting Act, an overview of the work with the science and data system, and the shifts that are needed and opportunities to influence investment in the science and data system	25 February
National Planning Standards – consultation with Ministers	MfE	Assists your office to circulate the Cabinet paper on Planning Standards approval, and the recommended version of the Planning Standards.	25 February
Recommended Final Planning Standards	MfE	This paper provides the recommended Final Planning Standards.	25 February
Monthly PFAS Situation Update	MfE	This briefing updates you and other interested Ministers on the All of Government PFAS Programme	25 February
Urban Planning Pillar: decisions on consultation process	MfE	This briefing seeks confirmation of your decision on the consultation process for the draft National Policy Statement on Urban Development (Quality Intensification).	28 February
Lessons from the Streamlined Planning Process for System Reform	MfE	Response to your request for MfE's reflections on how the first two completed SPPs. We also provide feedback on the process or changes that could be made as part of the comprehensive review of the resource management system.	28 February
Urban Growth Agenda: wider costs and benefits of urban development – identifying, measuring, and valuing costs and benefits	MfE/HUD	This briefing presents the key findings from an external report commissioned to quantify the wider impacts of urban development and offers options for next steps.	28 February
Update on proposed sediment attributes	MfE	This briefing provides an update on proposed sediment attributes and seeks initial decisions on proposed attributes' technical form and content.	1 March
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			
Update on Te Mana o te Wai and Māori values for freshwater system health in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM)	MfE	This provides you with an update on Te Mana o te Wai and Māori values for freshwater system health in the NPS-FM.	4 March
Fair allocation – initial workable proposals	MfE	Advice on options for allocation of discharges to freshwater, to go in mid-year discussion document.	4 March
Methyl bromide 2020 recapture obligation: meeting with stakeholders	MfE	Summary of current situation regarding 99.9% recapture obligation for methyl bromide by October 2020. Identifies way forward ahead of meeting with Ministers O'Connor, Jones, and Sage on 11 March, and with stakeholders on 25 March.	6 March
Advice and initial policy options for renewable	MfE/MBIE	Paper providing advice and initial	7 March

electricity generation		policy options for renewable electricity generation.	
Dissolved oxygen attribute	MfE	Seeks decisions on proposed amendments to dissolved oxygen attribute in Appendix 2 of National Objectives Framework in National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.	11 March
Nutrients update	MfE	Provides an update on discussions with Water Taskforce advisory groups on nutrient management in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.	11 March
Update on policy direction for ecological flows and levels	MfE	This paper updates you on the policy direction for ecological flows and levels.	14 March
Background and talking points for meeting with Federated Farmers on 31 March	MfE	Provides background information and talking points to support your meeting with Federated Farmers on 31 March. You are to discuss biodiversity, local government, and freshwater management.	18 March

4. Cabinet material

25 February – 22 March

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our Suggested timeframes
Reclassifying five organisms as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	Proposes that five organisms be reclassified as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.	Lodged: 14 February Due to DEV Committee: 20 February Due to Cabinet: 25 February
National Planning Standards – report back on consultation, changes, approval and implementation	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	The approval of the first set of National Planning Standards must be gazetted by 19 April 2019. You and Minister Sage have delegated decision making to approve the Planning Standards. The requirement to go to Cabinet is mostly convention and also comes from the commitment in a previous ENV paper to report back on the consultation process and get endorsement for the policy approach.	Due to lodge: 7 March Due to ENV Committee: 14 March Due to Cabinet: 18 March
Comprehensive review of the resource management system – scope and process	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Seeks agreement to the scope and process of a comprehensive review of the resource management system in 2019.	Due to lodge: 28 March Due to ENV Committee: 4 April Due to Cabinet: 8 April
s 9(2)(f)(iv)			TBC
Options for a royalty on bottled water	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	s 9(2)(f)(iv)	TBC

Approval of policy decisions on EEZ decommissioning regulations	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Following public consultation on proposals for decommissioning regulations under the EEZ Act, this paper seeks Cabinet approval for final policy decisions and to issue drafting instructions.	TBC
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5. Cabinet material we have been consulted on

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
The future of rail and investment to support a reliable and resilient rail system	MoT	DEV	<p>This paper seeks agreement to changes that will support the delivery of the Government's vision for heavy rail. MfE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> supported the proposal to move planning and funding for rail into the National Land Transport Programme and National Land Transport Fund frameworks. This will promote better integration of land use and transport planning as decisions under these frameworks are required to take national and regional policy statements into account. questioned whether further thought could be given to fast-tracking rail electrification to reduce future emissions suggested an appropriate carbon price to calculate the benefits of rail suggested considering improvements to rail as a method to reduce domestic aviation travel (and associated emissions).
Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (no 2) – council-controlled organisations	DIA	DEV	<p>This paper seeks agreement to a SOP to the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (No 2) that makes a number of changes to the Bill.</p> <p>MfE commented on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increased accountability arrangements on CCOs – we supported these proposals which may help Councils to direct CCOs to meet environmental outcomes. removal of provisions related to Watercare's Infrastructure Growth Charge (IGC) – it would be beneficial if the IGC was differentiated to reflect the true cost of development in different locations to send appropriate price signals, but we agreed with DIA that this could be progressed via the Infrastructure Funding and Financing work programme due to implications for Auckland Council's balance sheet. the proposal to remove provisions encouraging multiply owned CCOs – we agreed that there is little demand for this at present, and that any changes needed for three waters service delivery reform needs to be considered once the policy work on three waters is further progressed. the proposal to remove proposed changes to the requirements on the Secretary of Local Government in setting non-financial performance measures– we agreed with DIA's

			<p>recommendation to consider this matter as part of the work on the regulatory framework for three waters.</p>
<p>Building system legislative reform programme: Release of discussion paper</p>	<p>MBIE</p>	<p>DEV</p>	<p>The paper seeks agreement to undertake public consultation on proposed changes to the building regulatory system. We note that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the building regulatory system needs to support innovation and capability in the building sector to deliver the number of dwellings needed at pace and scale a well-functioning construction market is one of the four markets (alongside and, infrastructure and development markets) that are crucial to deliver urban outcomes the Building Code needs to be redesigned to support innovative design and materials, pre-approved designs and prefabricated buildings, to deliver quality mixed-use and medium density housing. <p>We note that MBIE has now removed the proposed cap on the liability of building consent authorities which we supported, and suggest further thinking is needed to reduce risk averse behaviour that limits the delivery of quality dwellings at pace and scale.</p>
<p>Biogenic methane reductions under the Climate Change Bill</p>	<p>MfE Climate Change</p>	<p>DEV (13 February)</p>	<p>This paper proposes to set the target component for biogenic methane emissions under the Climate Change Bill at 35 per cent below 2016 levels by 2050. MfE supports the proposals in this paper. The proposed target level is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consistent with limiting global warming to 1.5°C. It represents the midpoint of the central range of scenarios for reductions in agricultural methane consistent with this temperature goal in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report likely to be achievable. Analysis from the Biological Emissions Reference Group indicates that this level of emissions reduction is achievable by 2050 if current and potential future emissions reduction technologies are developed and taken up a strong signal to emitting sectors. Innovation will be a key part of our transition to a low emissions economy. A strong target can support development and take up of new emissions reduction technologies and behaviours. manageable. The target level affects the magnitude of the overall economic impact. Where and how these impacts are felt depends on the policies used to drive achievement of the target. For example the Government has signalled, should biogenic agricultural emissions be introduced to the Emissions Trading Scheme, that this sector would receive a free allocation of units.

<p>Dam safety regulations: Release of discussion paper</p>	<p>MBIE</p>	<p>DEV</p>	<p>This paper seeks agreement to undertake public consultation on a regulatory regime for post-construction dam safety under the Building Act.</p> <p>MfE has asked that the discussion document is edited to clarify how the effects of climate change will be addressed in managing dam safety. Provided these changes are made we think you should support this paper.</p> <p>The paper is proposed to be considered at DEV on 6 March.</p>
<p>Developing a Whole-Of-Government Strategy For Wai 262</p>	<p>TPK</p>	<p>MCR</p>	<p>This paper proposes the development of a new approach to address Wai 262 that aligns with the Government's priorities, and seeks to provide advice on the approach in October (subject to Cabinet agreement). This follows Te Puni Kōkiri's December 2018 report on the progress made in the implementation of Waitangi Tribunal recommendations, which featured in Wai 262. The report highlighted that while some progress on Wai 262 has been made, the Crown has not addressed key issues underlying the Wai 262 claims.</p> <p>There is a large group of Ministers with a portfolio interest in Wai 262. The new approach proposed in the paper establishes sub-groups of Wai 262 portfolio Ministers on the basis of the following focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Focus Area 1: Taonga works and mātauranga Māori – Portfolios with strong links to taonga works, te reo Māori or mātauranga Māori ii. Focus Area 2: Taonga species and mātauranga Māori – Portfolios with strong links to taonga species, the environment and mātauranga Māori iii. Focus Area 3: International indigenous matters – Portfolios with strong links to international indigenous matters. <p>As Minister for the Environment, you would be part of Focus Area 2. Each sub-group would develop and implement an integrated work programme on Wai 262 issues within their focus area, and across focus areas where appropriate. The Ministry would work with Te Puni Kōkiri and other agencies on any development of advice on the new approach.</p>

6. Official Information Act requests

6.1. Ministerial

Request	Correspondent	Reference	At your office	Due to send
National PFAS Programme Overview	s 9(2)(a) Stuff journalist	19-O-00151	22 February	1 March

Information prepared by the Ministry for the Environment, for the Minister's Office and the Minister personally, on the issue of the ouvea premix disclaimed as onerous property by the liquidators of Taha International Ltd and associated companies.	s 9(2)(a)	19-O-00199	5 March	12 March
Information sent and/or received by the Minister and/or his office relating to Genetic Pest Management/Genetic Engineering.	s 9(2)(a)	19-O-00282	11 March	18 March

6.2. Departmental

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
<p>I would like to obtain a copy of the business case prepared by ECan for the Ministry for the Environment that describes how improving Te Waihora to national standards would have 'severe social and economic' consequences.</p> <p>The case is referenced in the following Stuff article from August 9, 2018: https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/95610302/improving-lake-to-national-standard-would-have-severe-social-and-economic-consequences</p>	s 9(2)(a) McGill University	18-D-02833	1 March
All information the Ministry for the Environment holds in respect of the Awatarariki area, including proposed changes to district and regional plans and proposed voluntary/managed/forced retreat from our homes	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00070	1 March
Summary of all public correspondence on chemtrailing in New Zealand	s 9(2)(a)	19-D-00152	8 March
All surveys, polls or assessments of public opinion conducted by or on behalf of the Ministry for the Environment between 26 October 2017 and 12 February 2019. The total cost of each individual poll, survey or assessment of public opinion over the period.	s 9(2)(a) Leader of Opposition	19-D-00186	12 March
Information on departmental spending in the last five years (broken down by year) on buying new furniture and office supplies for its offices around New Zealand?	s 9(2)(a) RNZ	19-D-00283	19 March