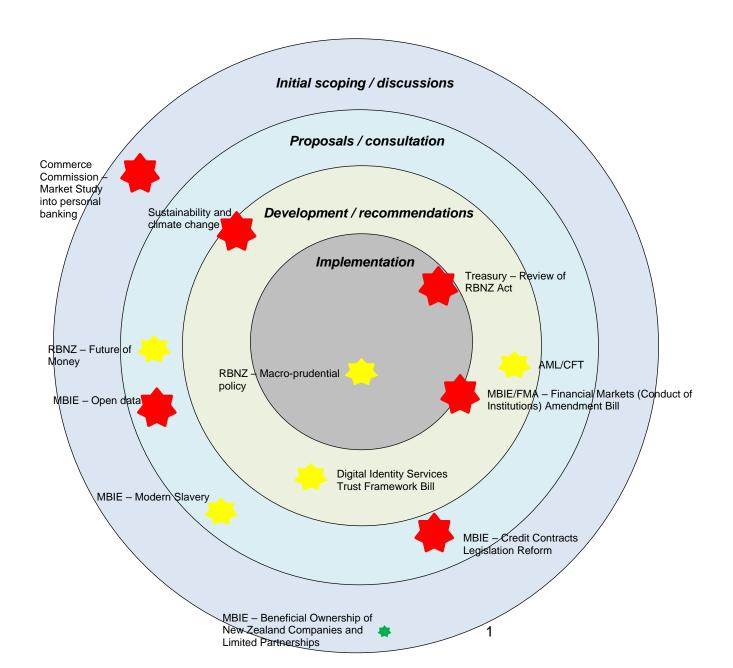


Regulatory Radar – January 2024

Current as of 2 February 2024



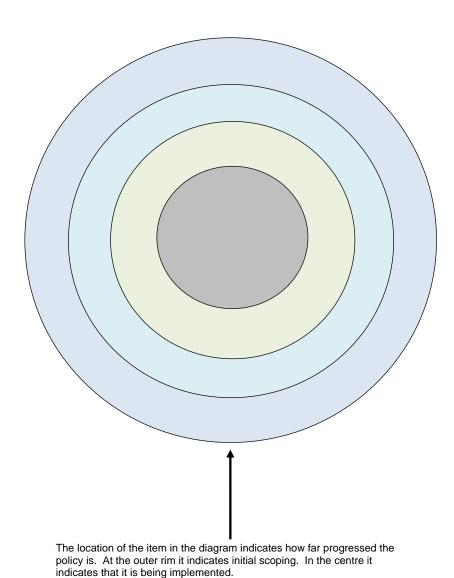


Current Priorities:

- Commerce Commission market study
- Financial Markets (Conduct of Institutions) Amendment Bill
- Deposit Takers Act
- Credit Contracts Legislation
 Amendment Act
- Open data
- Sustainability and climate change



Regulatory Radar – Key





NZBA Priority measure is based on:

- the significance of the impact that the proposals would have on industry; and
- the priority accorded to the work by the Government or relevant agency.

Current Key Priorities lists the priority work areas for NZBA.

	Relevant agencies
MBIE	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
RBNZ	Reserve Bank of New Zealand
IRD	Inland Revenue Department
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
FMA	Financial Markets Authority
LINZ	Land Information New Zealand
MSD	Ministry of Social Development
DIA	Department of Internal Affairs
MfE	Ministry for the Environment



Project	Priority	Lead agency	Comment	Next Steps
Market study to investigate banking competition	High	Commerce	On 20 June 2023, the previous Minister of Finance and Minster of Commerce and Consumer Affairs announced a market study into competition in the banking sector for personal banking services. The non-exhaustive initial scope of the market study is available here. A preliminary issues paper was published on 10 August 2023, available here .	Submissions on the Preliminary Issues Paper were published on 21 September 2023. Cross-submissions were published on 18 October 2023. NZBA did not prepare a submission on the paper. The Commerce Commission intends to release a draft report in March 2024. The final report will be published by 20 August 2024.
Financial Markets (Conduct of Institutions) Amendment Bill	High	MBIE/FMA	 The Financial Markets (Conduct of Financial Institutions) Amendment Act (CoFI) was passed on 29 June 2022. The CoFI regime regulates the conduct of financial institutions by introducing: A new conduct licensing system for banks, insurers and non-bank deposit takers such as credit unions. A new regime requiring these entities to meet high standards of customer treatment. A ban on incentives which are based on meeting sales targets. 	NZBA is continuing to engage with relevant officials and regulators on this work, as the focus turns to potential reforms and the licensing process. The FMA began accepting licensing applications for financial institution licenses on 25 July 2023.



Project	Priority	Lead agency	Comment	Next Steps
			MBIE expects all obligations in the Act and regulations to be in force by the end of 2024, and any remaining provisions will come into force on 31 March 2025 at latest.	
			The FMA has released three documents to assist institutions with applying for a COFI licence:	
			 A licence application guide A fair conduct programme information sheet The standard conditions for financial institution licences. 	
			MBIE published the final regulations on sales incentives (<u>Financial Markets Conduct (Conduct of Institutions) Amendment Regulations 2023</u>) and licensing fees (<u>Financial Markets Conduct (Fees) Amendment Regulations 2023</u>) on 8 June 2023.	
			The FMA published the <u>final guidance for the intermediated distribution</u> of financial products on 26 June 2023.	
			On 31 January 2024, the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs announced plans to reform CoFI, noting that "it needs streamlining so financial institutions have certainty and flexibility to get on with the business of delivering for their customers." No timelines have yet been provided for the reforms.	
Review of the RBNZ Act	High	Treasury	In November 2017 the previous Government <u>announced</u> it would undertake a review of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act 1989 to create a modern monetary and financial policy framework. The review is being undertaken in two phases.	The depositor compensation scheme (DCS) is intended to "go live" in October 2024. The DCS regulations are
			The changes are being implemented through the Deposit Takers Act (DTA) (which will govern RBNZ's regulatory powers and establishes a	expected to be finalised



Project	Priority	Lead agency	Comment	Next Steps
			Depositor Compensation Scheme (DCS)) and the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act (which outlines how RBNZ is governed and how it operates).	by February / March 2024.
			The Reserve Bank of New Zealand Bill received Royal Assent on 16 August 2021. The Deposit Takers Bill received Royal Assent on 6 July 2023. The RBNZ released consultation documents on proportionality, the DCS levy framework and SoFA on 31 July 2023. NZBA made submissions on the DCS Levy Framework and SoFA consultations on 25 September 2023.	We will continue to work with the RBNZ on the development and implementation of the DTA.
Credit Contracts Legislation Reform	High	MBIE	On 31 January 2024, the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs announced plans to reform the Credit Contracts and Consumer Finance Act (CCCFA). The announcement notes that "over-prescriptive lending laws have led to Kiwis missing out on loans," with reforms intended to ensure vulnerable customers are protected without preventing customers from accessing credit that they can afford. The Government is proposing a two-step process to amend the CCCFA, with changes to be announced over the coming months.	NZBA will engage with the Government, policy- makers and regulators in relation to any proposed changes to the legislation and regulations.
Open data	High	MBIE	In March 2018, Payments NZ (PNZ) <u>announced</u> an API pilot involving banks, payment providers and large retailers. The pilot tested two API standards – Account Information and Payment Initiation – and provided valuable insights into the design of a shared API framework. Following the success of the pilot, an API standards service was launched to the industry in May 2019.	NZBA will monitor any developments on the Customer and Product Data Bill in 2024, and engage with Government and policy-makers as appropriate.



Project	Priority	Lead agency	Comment	Next Steps
			On 10 November 2022, the previous Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs announced that banks will be the first sector to implement a consumer data right, also referred to as "open banking".	
			On 22 June 2023, MBIE released an exposure draft of the <u>Customer and Product Data Bill</u> . The Bill will set a regulatory framework for a consumer data right in New Zealand. NZBA's submission on the exposure draft is <u>here</u> .	
Sustainability and climate change	High	Multiple agencies	The Financial Sector (Climate-related Disclosures and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2021 introduced mandatory climate-related financial disclosure requirements. The disclosure regime requires annual disclosure of financially material climate-related risks and opportunities in mainstream financial reports, such as annual reports. The CRD regime applies in respect of reporting periods starting on and from 1 January 2023. In June 2023, the FMA released draft CRD record keeping guidance for consultation. NZBA's submission can be found here. The final guidance was published in October 2023.	NZBA will continue to engage with relevant officials on climate change matters throughout 2024, particularly in relation to a potential Climate Adaptation Bill.
			The Financial Markets Conduct (Climate-Related Disclosures) Amendment Regulations were made by Order in Council on 28 August 2023. NZBA's submission on the draft regulations can be found <a example.com="" here"="" href="https://example.com/here-new-market</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>In August 2023, the Environment Committee <u>initiated an inquiry</u> into climate adaptation. NZBA's submission on the consultation can be found <u>here</u>.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>In September 2023, MfE released a discussion document on its proposed <i>National Policy Statement for Natural Hazard Decision-making</i>. NZBA's submission on the consultation can be found here .	



Project	Priority	Lead agency	Comment	Next Steps
RBNZ Macro- prudential Policy	Medium	RBNZ	On 23 January 2024, the RBNZ launched a consultation on activating debt to income (DTI) restrictions and loosening loan to value ratios (LVR) for residential lending. The RBNZ proposes setting the DTI policy to allow banks to lend: • 20% of their residential loans to owner-occupiers with a DTI greater than 6 • 20% of their residential loans to investors with a DTI greater than 7 It proposes to ease the LVR settings at the same time, to allow: • 20% of owner-occupier lending to borrowers with an LVR greater than 80% • 5% of investor lending to borrowers with an LVR greater than 70% This consultation closes on Tuesday 12 March.	NZBA is considering whether to provide an industry submission on the DTI/LVR consultation.
AML/CFT	Medium	MoJ	In March 2023, MoJ opened a consultation on 'early' changes to the AML/CFT regime, which includes an exposure draft and a consultation document. This consultation closed on 14 April 2023. NZBA's submission can be found here . In August 2023, MoJ opened a consultation on a review of the AML/CFT (Class Exemptions) Notice 2018. This consultation closed on 15 September 2023.	NZBA's submission on the AML/CFT (Class Exemptions) Notice 2018 is available <u>here</u> .
Future of Money	Medium	RBNZ	The Future of Money – Te Moni Anamata – is considering the implications for New Zealanders of falling cash use for every-day transactions, including the impacts on the system that supplies, moves and stores it.	



Project	Priority	Lead agency	Comment	Next Steps
			In early October 2021, the RBNZ released two consultation papers under its Future of Money project, one focusing on Stewardship, and one focusing on a Central Bank Digital Currency. These consultations closed on 6 December 2021. RBNZ released a further consultation on 30 November 2021 outlining options for cash system reform, which closed on 7 March 2022.	
			NZBA prepared industry submissions on the Future of Money consultations which can be found here and here . The RBNZ published a summary of responses to the Future of Money consultations in April 2022.	
RBNZ Other	Medium	RBNZ	RBNZ Branch Review Consultation The RBNZ is reviewing its policy for branches of overseas banks. It released its key decisions of that review in November 2023, which included restricting all branches in New Zealand to engaging in wholesale business, and limiting the maximum size of an NZ branch to NZ\$15 billion in total assets. The RBNZ released a third consultation paper alongside the announcement of its key decisions, with submissions closing on 5 December 2023.	
			RBNZ Review of Connected Exposures Policy (BS8) for Banks The RBNZ recently reviewed its Connected Exposures Policy for locally incorporated banks. In October 2023, the RBNZ published the final version of its Connected Exposures Policy. The update to BS8 takes effect from 1 October 2023.	
			RBNZ Liquidity Policy Review The RBNZ has consulted on its Liquidity Policy Review. The consultation paper can be found here , and NZBA's submission here . The RBNZ has published a summary of the submissions it received and noted a further consultation is expected during 2023. The RBNZ has opened a further	



Project	Priority	Lead agency	Comment	Next Steps
			consultation on its Liquidity Policy Review, which closed on 12 May. NZBA's submission can be found here . On 5 December 2023, the RBNZ released a Summary of Submissions and Key Decisions.	
Digital Identity Trust Framework	Medium	DIA	In July 2020, the previous Cabinet agreed to establish the Digital Identity Trust Framework in legislation. In February 2021, that Cabinet approved policy proposals that underpin the Digital Identity Trust Framework, including the establishment of an Accreditation Authority and Governance Board. In September 2021, the Digital Identity Services Trust Framework Bill was introduced to Parliament. It was referred to Economic Development, Science and Innovation Committee, with submissions to the Select Committee due 2 December, with a report published 19 April 2022. NZBA's submission on the Bill can be found here. The Bill was passed on 30 March 2023.	
Modern Slavery	Medium	MBIE	In April 2022, MBIE released a consultation paper on a legislative framework for addressing modern slavery and worker exploitation. NZBA made a submission on this paper, which can be found here .	In July 2023 the previous Government announced that it is intending to introduce legislation in 6-12 months that establishes a public register to enable transparency over organisations and businesses' supply chains.



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Beneficial Ownership of New Zealand Companies and Limited Partnerships	Low	MBIE	On 19 June 2018, MBIE released a discussion document seeking feedback on what requirements there should be on New Zealand companies and limited partnerships to hold and disclose information about their beneficial owners: Increasing the transparency of the beneficial ownership of New Zealand Companies and Limited Partnerships .	MBIE anticipated it would release a draft Bill for public consultation in early 2023. We have yet to receive any updates on the status of this Bill.
			On 2 August 2018 NZBA <u>submitted</u> on MBIE's discussion paper on beneficial ownership.	
			On 22 March 2022, the previous Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs announced the Government's proposal to introduce a new beneficial ownership register for limited partnerships and companies.	