

LEGISLATION TRACKER

As at 25 September 2026



What is the legislation tracker?

Parliament rose for the 2026 General election on 24 September. This special edition of the tracker records what stage each piece of legislation in the Parliamentary process had reached at the time Parliament rose. These are segmented into three categories:

- in the final stages of the Parliamentary process (red) - the Bill has passed the point where public submissions or other action can influence the final design of legislation (i.e. we define this point as having been reached when the Bill is reported from the Select Committee) and
- live for submissions (white) – the Select Committee is accepting submissions (but will not hear them until after the election)
- we also note legislation that was signalled in coalition agreements or Ministerial statements, but did not advance to Select Committee at the time it rose for the election. The most notable of these is the Local Government (Infrastructure Funding and Financing) Amendment Bill.

If you are aware of a piece of legislation that is missing from the tracker or a detail that needs amendment or amplification, please contact Raymond Horan at raymond.horan@taituara.org.nz.

What happens to legislation during the election period and in the new Parliament?

One of the first pieces of business in a new Parliament is to consider a motion reinstating Bills that the Government wishes to reinstate from the previous Parliament. Anything that is reinstated, is reinstated at the stage that it had reached when Parliament rose. For example, if Parliament chose to reinstate the Land Transport (Revenue) Bill, it would resume at second reading because that was the stage it had reached before the election.

The Select Committees have kept submission portals open and will continue to accept submissions on the five items in white during the election period. In most cases they have set an indicative date of 1 December for submissions.

As Parliament has risen, this will be the last legislation tracker until we are clear on the shape of the next government and its priorities. We are not expecting to issue tracker until mid-December at earliest. In the meantime, we will keep people advised of any changes to items open for submissions through the weekly update.

Changes this month

When Parliament rose we were tracking 20 bills.

The following Bills have entered the tracker this month: the Local Government (Rate-capping) Amendment Bill; the References to te Tiriti of Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi (Strength of Legislative Obligations) Amendment Bill; the References to te Tiriti of Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi (Standardisation) Amendment Bill; and the References to te Tiriti of Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi (Repeals) Amendment Bill.

The following bills have left the tracker this month:

- the Emergency Management Bill (received royal assent on 3 September)
- the Local Government (System Improvements) Amendment Bill (received royal assent on 18 September)
- the Public Works Act Amendment Bill (completed the Parliamentary process on 15 September)
- the Building (Earthquake Prone Buildings) Amendment Bill (completed the Parliamentary process on 15 September)
- the Planning Bill (completed the Parliamentary process on 22 September)
- the Natural Environment Bill (received royal assent on 22 September),

Land Transport (Revenue) Amendment Bill. Government Bill Introduced 13 November.	Introduces new tolling options and other changes to the tolling process. Also makes amendments to clear the way for the movement from fuel excise to roaduser charges for light vehicles	Awaiting Committee of the Whole House stage.	No further action proposed.
Data and Statistics (Census) Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced	Provides for an annual Census from 2030 (Census to be based on administrative data)	Awaiting second reading, Update: looks unlikely to proceed following opposition withdrawal of support.	No action.
Valuers Bill Government Bill Introduced 14 May 2025	Modernises the Registration of Valuers Act	Awaiting second reading. Note – as a revision Bill there is no Committee of House Stage, and no debate at third reading.	No action – Bill modernises legislation but makes no policy change.
Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Improving Alcohol Regulation) Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 16 March	Amends the legislation to “improve regulation and promote economic development” (i.e make alcohol more accessible).	Awaiting second reading. Select Committee reported on 25 August.	No action.
Hazard Substances and New Organisms Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 12 May	Amends the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 to streamline and improve application processes and pathways, support risk-proportionate decision-making and public participation, and	Primary Production Select Committee to report by 17 September.	No action.

	enhance compliance, monitoring, and enforcement under the Act		
Better Regional Boundaries Bill Members' Bill Introduced 30 April	Bill would require government agencies to review their boundaries and align with territorial authority boundaries within five years.	Governance and Administration Select Committee to report by 1 October (extended).	Submitted in favour.
Conservation Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 7 May	This bill amends the Conservation Act 1987 to streamline the management of land, better enable appropriate use of conservation land, and support more effective administration of conservation land..	Referred to the Environment Select Committee. Report due 12 November.	No action.
Local Government (Port Companies Accountability) Amendment Bill Members' Bill Introduced 22 May 2025	Reverses the exclusion of port companies from LGOIMA, good employer obligations, and having to have regard to the interests of the community in which they operate.	Referred to Transport and Infrastructure Select Committee. Report due 20 November.	No action.
Environmental Reporting Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 23 June 2026.	Bill amends the Environmental Reporting Act 2015. The Bill clarifies the intended use and outcomes of reporting, reduces the frequency of synthesis reports, strengthens mechanisms for data collection and adds drivers and outlooks as required components of environmental reports.	Referred to Environment Select Committee. Report due 30 December.	No action

Local Government (Management of Local Authorities) Amendment Bill Private Members Bill	Bill provides the governing body of the local authority must direct or supervise the CE's management of the local authority, and that the governing body has all powers necessary to do so.	Referred to the Governance Select Committee. Report due 30 December.	Submit
Building Act Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 30 June 2026.	More comprehensive changes to building consenting making it easier for private BCAs, address barriers to voluntary consolidation, national consenting body, ensuring national consistency, strengthening roles and responsibilities, new consent pathway for commercial buildings, new assurance pathways more self certification – further streamlining, risk and liability.	Referred to Transport and Infrastructure Select Committee. Submissions due 15 November	Submit
Climate Change Response Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 15 July 2026	Makes targeted policy changes to the principal Act including an obligation on local authorities to undertake adaptation planning in priority locations.	No first reading in this Parliament.	Submit
Local Government (Rate capping) Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 24 August 2026	Bill to give effect to policy decisions around rate-capping.	Referred to Finance and Expenditure Select Committee. Committee clerk advises submitters to be ready by 1 December.	Submit.

References to te Tiriti of Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi (Strength of Legislative Obligations) Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 15 September 2026	This Bill is described as "amend(ing) the weighting of te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi provisions in legislation to a single standard of "take into account".	Referred to Justice Select Committee. Public encouraged to share views by 1 December.	To be confirmed
References to te Tiriti of Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi (Standardisation) Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 15 September 2026	. This Bill is described as "implement(ing) a standardised drafting approach to descriptive Treaty provisions and references to the Treaty in legislation without substantively changing their legal effect."	Referred to Justice Select Committee. Public encouraged to share views by 1 December.	To be confirmed
References to te Tiriti of Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi (Repeals) Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 15 September 2026	This Bill is described as "repeal(ing) statutory references to the principles of te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi in a number of Acts."	Referred to Justice Select Committee. Public encouraged to share views by 1 December.	To be confirmed
Climate Change Response Amendment Bill Government Bill Introduced 15 July 2026	Makes targeted policy changes to the principal Act including an obligation on local authorities to undertake adaptation planning in priority locations.	No first reading in this Parliament.	Submit

Te Ture Whenua Māori Amendment Bill Government Bill	Amends Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 to "better enable Māori economic development".	Announced in the release of the Quarter One 2025 Action Plan. <u>Speculative</u> – this may include changes to the Rating Act	Submit if extends to Rating Act, otherwise no action.
Local Government (Infrastructure Funding and Financing) Amendment Bill Government Bill	Bill will replace development contributions with a system of development levies. Possible changes to targeted rates.	Announced by Ministers Bishop and Watts on 16 September 2026.	Submit with 'in principle' support
Health Act 1956 (Offensive Trades) Amendment Act (<u>Title Speculative</u>) Government Bill	Removes the requirement for annual registration of people undertaking an offensive trade.	Unclear. Announced by Ministers Brown and Seymour on 14 August 2026.	To be determined
Biosecurity Amendment Bill Government Bill	Bill to give effect to any policy decisions to modernise this legislation. Consultation closed December 2024.	2026?	To be determined
Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill (Head start TBC)	Bill to give effect to policy decisions around simplifying LG, including the establishment of a Head Start pathway for reform.	Legislation still expected in May 2027?	Submit.
Waste Management Bill	<u>Speculative</u> – implementing the conclusions of the 2023 consultation	Not clear how fast this is progressing within MFE.	Submit if and when it comes.

	on waste management (also apparently the current consultation).		
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