Request for views

INFORMATION PERFORMANCE STANDARD FOR COMPLIANCE CERTIFIERS

October 2026

New Zealand Government
Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa

WORKSAFE
Mahi Haumaru Aotearoa

FOREWORD

The Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances Information and Process Requirements for Compliance Certifiers) Performance Standard has been in place since 2019 and was updated in 2023. It is an important tool for supporting consistent and effective compliance certification.

As the regulatory environment, industry practices, and stakeholder expectations continue to evolve, it is timely that we take another look at whether the Standard is achieving its intended purpose.

If you are a compliance certifier, I encourage you to share your experiences openly. Tell us what is working well, where you have encountered challenges, and where greater clarity or guidance would help. We also welcome feedback from businesses, industry groups, and others with an interest in the compliance certification regime.

Your perspective matters. Whether you have a small practical suggestion, examples from your day to day work, or broader views on the future of the Standard, I encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say. The more feedback we receive, the better placed we will be to ensure the Standard remains practical, effective, and fit for purpose.

Thank you for helping shape the future of this important part of New Zealand's hazardous substances regulatory system. Your insights will directly inform our review and any future changes we make.

Kate Morrison
Head of Authorisations and Advisory

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Purpose

This paper provides an opportunity for interested parties to provide views to WorkSafe New Zealand about the issues to consider within a review of the Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances – Information and Process Requirements for Compliance Certifiers) Performance Standard 2019 and the 2023 amendment (Information Performance Standard)

The Information Performance Standard supports the hazardous substances compliance certification regime by setting requirements for the information, evidence, and records used by compliance certifiers when making certification decisions, consistent with reg 6.43(2) of the Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2017 (the Regulations).

The purpose of this review is to:

- assess the operation and effectiveness of the Information Performance Standard, and
- determine whether the Information Performance Standard continues to meet its intended purpose, or whether amendments are required.

The views of compliance certifiers and other stakeholders play an important part in this review. Feedback received will help WorkSafe understand the practical operation of the Information Performance Standard and ensure that any future decisions are informed by operational experience and industry knowledge.

We are seeking submissions in response to this paper by **5 pm**, **18 November 2026**.

This request for views is the first stage of the review process.

If amendments to the Information Performance Standard are proposed, WorkSafe will undertake formal consultation in accordance with reg 6.44. Stakeholders will have a further opportunity to comment on any proposed changes before they are finalised.

Background

The Information Performance Standard was first issued in 2019 and updated in 2023. It sets out information requirements and supporting guidance to assist compliance certifiers in carrying out certification activities under the Regulations.

As part of its regulatory stewardship responsibilities, WorkSafe periodically reviews regulatory instruments and supporting documents to ensure they remain effective, fit for purpose, and aligned with regulatory requirements.

Scope of this review

Whilst this review focuses on the Information Performance Standard, we also seek feedback on any provisions of the Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances - Location Compliance Certification for Classes 2 to 6, and 8) Performance Standard 2021(Location Performance Standard) that are inconsistent with, or not aligned to, the Information Performance Standard and whether any such issues may affect consistency.

Feedback on matters outside the scope of this review may be considered as contextual information but will not form part of any proposed changes.

What we want to understand

To help focus and inform our review, WorkSafe is seeking practical feedback about the operation of the Information Performance Standard. In particular, WorkSafe is interested in understanding:

- **how well the Information Performance Standard is working**, including whether it supports consistent, effective, and well-reasoned certification decisions
- **the clarity and usability of the Information Performance Standard**, including whether any requirements are unclear, difficult to apply, unnecessarily complex, or missing
- **the practical operation of the Information Performance Standard**, including certification renewals, site visits, certification conditions, information requirements, and record-keeping obligations
- **the relationship between the Information Performance Standard and the Location Performance Standard**, including any gaps, overlaps, inconsistencies, or areas where better alignment is needed
- **the impact of the 2023 amendment**, including whether it has improved the effectiveness, usability, or operation of the Information Performance Standard, and
- **future improvements**, including opportunities to improve regulatory outcomes, reduce unnecessary administrative burden, respond to emerging technologies or industry practices, and ensure the Standard remains fit for purpose.

The above list is provided as a guide to assist in preparing your submission and is not exhaustive. We welcome feedback on these matters, as well as any other issues you consider relevant.

Providing your views

WorkSafe invites feedback in writing from all interested parties by 5 pm on 18 November 2026.

Responses should be sent to ComplianceMonitoring@worksafe.govt.nz with the subject line 'Information Performance Standard Review: Request for views submission'.

Confidentiality

We will anonymise and publish all feedback on our website. Publishing feedback supports transparency in the review process, helps stakeholders understand the range of perspectives considered, and enables others to benefit from the experiences, insights, and suggestions shared through the consultation process.

If your submission contains information that you consider confidential, please clearly identify that information and explain why confidentiality is requested.

Next steps

Following consideration of the information, issues and opportunities raised in response to this request for your views, we will plan our review in more detail.

Any proposed amendments will be subject to formal consultation, providing a second opportunity for stakeholder feedback.

Indicative timeframes are set out below.

NEXT STEPS	INDICATIVE TIMEFRAME
Feedback in response to request for views received	Due 5 pm, 18 November 2026
Feedback published	December 2026
Review of feedback	Following request for views
Draft review conclusions and, if changes are proposed, draft statement of reasons for changes and draft amendments published for comment	March 2027
Feedback in response to draft amendments sought	April 2027
Feedback published	May 2027
Final review conclusions and, if changes are made, final statement of reasons for changes and final Information Performance Standard published	September 2027

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