



AIDE MEMOIRE

28 October 2025

OC251002

Hon James Meager
Associate Minister of Transport

AIDE MEMOIRE: BACKGROUND TO THE TAIRĀWHITI NAVIGATION SAFETY INFRINGEMENT FEES FOR OFFENCES REGULATIONS

Summary/Purpose

- 1 This Aide Memoire provides brief background to the proposed Maritime Transport (Infringement Fees for Offences - Tairāwhiti Navigation Safety Bylaw 2024) Regulations 2025 (the Regulations).

Gisborne District Council creates a New Bylaw

- 2 In October 2024, the Gisborne District Council (the Council) created the Tairāwhiti Navigation Safety Bylaw 2024 (the Bylaw), which replaced the Gisborne Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2012 (the Previous Bylaw). The Maritime Transport (Infringement Fees for Offences—Gisborne District Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2012) Regulations 2015 (the Previous Regulations) specified which breaches of the Previous Bylaw were infringement offences for the purposes of the Previous Bylaw and prescribed the associated infringement fees and form of infringement notice.
- 3 The Previous Regulations will be revoked under the new Regulations.

Regulations Drafting Process

- 4 Infringement regulations are generally made alongside a bylaw to ensure that a bylaw can be enforced. The offences and infringement fees relating to the Bylaw have generally been designed to be consistent with other maritime safety regimes in surrounding regions.
- 5 The Council is currently only able to enforce the Bylaw through prosecution in the District Court, which is generally a disproportionate response to the level of offending envisaged. The Regulations will enable the Council to use more proportional infringement fees for the specified offences.
- 6 In March 2025, you gave approval to issue drafting instructions to PCO. There was no need for Cabinet approval, as the Regulations are entirely routine and did not require new policy decisions since they are giving effect to the Bylaw already created by the Council (as per 7.95(d) of the Cabinet Manual 2023).

Contacts

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PROACTIVELY RELEASED BY
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT TE MANATŪ WAKA