



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Cameron Brewer	Portfolio	Commerce and Consumer Affairs
Title of Cabinet paper	Reducing Preventable Harm to Children Caused by Corded Window Coverings	Date to be published	1 July 2026

List of documents that have been proactively released		
Date	Title	Author
June 2026	Reducing Preventable harm to Children Caused by Corded Window Coverings	Office of the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
17 June 2026	Reducing Preventable harm to Children Caused by Corded Window Coverings ECO-26-MIN-0096 Minute	Cabinet Office
10 June 2026	Regulatory Impact Statement – Options for addressing the risk posed by corded window coverings	MBIE

Information redacted

NO

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.



Cabinet Economic Policy Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Reducing Preventable Harm to Children Caused by Corded Window Coverings

Portfolio Commerce and Consumer Affairs

On 17 June 2026, the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee:

- 1 **noted** that eight young children have died in New Zealand from strangulation by window covering cord loops since 2007;
- 2 **noted** that in December 2022, the previous government agreed to the release of a consultation document on options to address the safety risks of corded window coverings [GOV-22-MIN-0051];
- 3 **agreed** to introduce product safety regulations under section 19 of the Fair Trading Act 1986 to require any corded window coverings supplied (or offered or advertised for supply) in New Zealand to comply with one of the following standards (or parts of a standard):
 - 3.1 a standard similar to Australia's Trade Practices (Consumer Product Safety Standard – Corded Internal Window Coverings) Regulations 2010, which require that corded window coverings be supplied with installation instructions, any components specified in the installation instructions, and warning labels;
 - 3.2 a standard similar to the design and information requirements of Canada's Corded Window Covering Regulations (SOR/2019-97), which require that corded window coverings be designed and constructed so that operating cords are unreachable, or otherwise less than 22cm in length and incapable of forming a dangerous loop;
 - 3.3 EN 16433:2014, EN 16434:2014, clauses 8.2 and 15 of EN13120:2009+A1:2014;
 - 3.4 sections 4.3.1, 4.5, 5.3, 6.3, 6.7, and Appendices C and D of ANSI/WCMA A100.1-2018;
- 4 **agreed** that, subject to consultation on an exposure draft of the regulations, the regulations referred to in paragraph 3 above will commence on a specified date one year after its notification in the Gazette;
- 5 **authorised** the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (the Minister) to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to give effect to paragraphs 3 and 4 above;

- 6 **authorised** the Minister to make additional policy decisions and minor or technical changes in relation to issues that may arise during drafting, consistent with the policy intent of the paper under ECO-26-SUB-0096, including any additions or variations to the standards referred to in paragraph 3 above;
- 7 **authorised** the Minister to determine the scope of products captured by the regulations, including defining ‘corded window coverings’ and any exclusions to ensure the regulations apply appropriately to products that pose a material risk to children;
- 8 **noted** that the Minister intends to release an exposure draft of the regulations for public consultation.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon David Seymour
Hon Chris Bishop (Chair)
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Todd McClay
Hon Nicole McKee
Hon Penny Simmonds
Hon Andrew Hoggard
Hon Nicola Grigg
Hon Mark Patterson
Hon James Meager
Hon Scott Simpson
Hon Cameron Brewer

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for ECO