Capital Markets Regulatory Reforms

Phase Two consultation

Unlocking growth through dynamic capital markets

A stronger economy means more jobs in high-value sectors and higher living standards for New Zealanders. Dynamic capital markets are essential to delivering economic growth and supporting global success.

Capital markets connect investment with business, enabling firms to innovate, expand, and compete globally. When capital flows efficiently, more New Zealand companies can scale faster, hire more people, and compete on the global stage.

New Zealand has strong foundations, including stable institutions and trusted regulation. But our capital markets are not as deep or competitive as they need to be. The cost of capital remains high, too many businesses look offshore for funding and expansion, and overseas investment into New Zealand is not high enough.

The Government is acting to change this.

The vision

New Zealand's capital markets need to be:

- deeper and more globally competitive
- attracting and deploying capital into productive activity
- supporting business growth at all stages and a range of investment objectives
- trusted by businesses seeking capital and by investors

This requires a modern regulatory regime that supports innovation, expands investment opportunities, is ambitious for New Zealand's economy, and lacks unnecessary barriers including costs.

MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

New Zealand Government
Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa

Have your say on...

1. Capital Markets regulation for the future

Our current capital markets regulatory system was implemented in the wake of the global financial crisis, with a strong focus on risk reduction. The Government is building the next phase of New Zealand's capital markets. Your input will help shape it, including your views on how to build a capital markets framework that is more modern, ambitious, and designed to support the growth New Zealand needs.

The Government's objective is straightforward—capital markets that are trusted, competitive, and focused on supporting economic growth. That means maintaining appropriate investor protections and market integrity, while being willing to challenge settings that are too costly, too uncertain, or no longer fit for purpose.

The discussion document gives you the opportunity to share your thoughts on what you think the Government's priorities for change should be, and where New Zealand should aim to position itself globally in the competition for capital.

2. Specific regulatory areas for change

In addition to these broader questions, the discussion document seeks feedback on a range of options for change in the eight regulatory areas listed below.

1. Product disclosure statements
2. Director and issuer liability
3. Catalist market settings
4. USX audit requirements
5. Crowdfunding and peer-to-peer lending limits
6. Wholesale investor settings
7. Auditor liability
8. Broker activity and visibility of offers

Your feedback will help shape a capital markets system that better backs New Zealand businesses to grow and succeed.

Read the full discussion document and access the response template here.

Consultation feedback is due Tuesday 25 August 2026, 5:00 pm.

Instructions on how to make a submission are included in the discussion document.