

Policy Background:

Driver licences have changed significantly from when annual licensing of all drivers was introduced in 1925. From 1925 local authorities issued driver licences, with a new licence issued each year. When the Ministry of Transport took over driver licensing, it issued a black booklet. From 1953, renewal was five-yearly, with a coupon fastened inside the book at each renewal. In 1986 plasticised paper licences were issued. These were known as lifetime licences as they expired over 50 years later. In 1999 plastic card licences replaced the plasticised paper licences. These need to be renewed every 10 years and feature a photograph of the holder and their signature. Nowadays, government services are increasingly becoming more digital, with work is being undertaken to introduce a digital driver licence in New Zealand in the near future.

The Digital Identity Trust Framework Bill establishes a legal framework for the provision of secure and trusted digital identity services for individuals and organisations. At this stage, the immediate scope of the DTIF Bill and Rules focuses on establishing the macro framework for the eco-system setting out the accreditation and complaints processes as well as disputes resolution processes. This also includes establishing the DITF Governance structure along with securing associated funding and funding for the existing systems offered by DIA (e.g. RealMe). The DITF is expected be passed (along with the regulations) around July this year.

**Out of Scope**, the chief digital officer, has been given priority by the Board to create a customer hub "MYNZTA type service" where an individual can log in and see all their information with Waka Kotahi in one place. She has also been given priority for issuing digital driver licences (DDL). A digital driving licence is a secure identification stored on a smartphone or other device, that an individual can use to prove that they have the right to drive and or as an evidence of age document. **Section 9(2)(g)(i)**

**Out of Scope** has indicated to the Regulatory Policy team that her team aims to have a DDL by next year.

**Out of Scope**

To verify a DDL as the legal equivalent of the physical licence, legislative change and the development of a policy and supporting infrastructure will be required. The below table provides different options and the legislation for each that may be impacted and require amendment to recognise DDL.

Act and section	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
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Commented [1]: Reissuing licences

Section 9(2)(h)

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Released under the Official Information Act 1982

<a href="#">Description</a>
LTA Interpretation
S 2 driver licence means a licence to drive that is issued or has effect under this Act, and includes an endorsement on a driver licence

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(h)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Application for  
digital driver  
licence

Use of digital  
driver licence

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Driver licence notifications – medical, F&P, demerit point warnings and suspensions, clause 77 notices requiring someone to sit a course complete a medical examination: s 29A notifications re serious specified offending

Section 9(2)(h)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Surrender of digital driver licence

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

LTA s 19

Section 9(2)(h)

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Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(h)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

LTA s 28

Section 9(2)(h)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

LTA s 28(1)(k)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

LTA s 30

LTA S 31(d)

LTA ss 89(1) and  
89(3)

LTA s 90(2)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(h)

Section 9(2)(h)

Section 9(2)(h)

Section 9(2)(h)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



Section 9(2)(g)(i)

LTA s 91G(5)

LTA s 91(H)(4)

LTA s 95(2)

LTA ss 105(8)  
and (8)(A)

Section 9(2)(h)

Section 9(2)(h)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

LTA ss 154 1(4)

LTA s 199

LTA s 237

Driver Licence  
Rule 9  
10

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(n)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Driver Licence  
Rule  
11A

Clause 12

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Section 9(2)(h)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(h)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

62

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

63

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

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Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

65

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



Section 9(2)(g)(i)

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Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

74

75

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Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

84

85

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

89 Obtaining New Zealand driver licence

**Schedule 1**  
(20)

**Amendments to other legislation**

Land Transport  
(Road User) Rule  
2004  
1.6

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Land Transport  
(Offences and  
Penalties)  
Regulations 1999  
7

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

Land Transport  
(Driver Licensing  
and Driver  
Testing Fees)  
Regulations 1999

CI 3

4

8

Health and Safety  
at Work  
(Hazardous  
Substances)  
Regulations 2017

CI 7.1©(ii)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Section 9(2)(g)(i)

7.3

9.8

13.11

Sale and Supply  
of Alcohol  
Regulations 2013

Other legislation that references a driver licence:

[Summary Proceedings \(Credit Reporting of Fines\) Regulations 2011](#)

[Criminal Procedure Act 2011](#)

[Privacy \(Information Sharing Agreement Facilitating Customer Nominated Services\) Order 2020](#)

[Land Transport \(Motor Vehicle Registration and Licensing\) Regulations 2011](#)

[Real Estate Agents \(Licensing\) Regulations 2009](#)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

[Human Tissue Act 2008](#)

[Land Transport \(Drug Driving\) Amendment Act 2022](#)

[Intelligence and Security Act 2017](#)

[Health and Safety at Work \(Hazardous Substances\) Regulations 2017](#)

[Road User Charges \(Applications for Exemption for Certain Classes of Light RUC Vehicles\) Regulations 2013](#)

[Sentencing Act 2002](#)

[Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 2021](#)

[Prostitution \(Operator Certificate\) Regulations 2003](#)

[Secondhand Dealers and Pawnbrokers Act 2004](#)

[Customs and Excise Regulations 1996](#)

[National Animal Identification and Tracing Act 2012](#)

[Child Protection \(Child Sex Offender Government Agency Registration\) Act 2016](#)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



[Animal Products Regulations 2000](#)

[National Animal Identification and Tracing \(Infringement Offences\) Regulations 2012](#)

[Food Safety Law Reform Act 2018](#)

[Summary Offences Act 1981](#)

[Criminal Records \(Clean Slate\) Act 2004](#)

[Electronic Identity Verification Act 2012](#)

[Prostitution Reform Act 2003](#)

[Sale and Supply of Alcohol Regulations 2013](#)

[Children's \(Requirements for Safety Checks of Children's Workers\) Regulations 2015](#)

[Nelson Lakes National Park Bylaws 2006](#)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982