



warrant of fitness

CHECK SHEET



CUSTOMER	INSPECTING ORGANISATION	DATE
New Zealand Government	Motor Trade Association	June 2026

Category	Pass/Fail	Comments
Crime	✓	One of Government's clearest wins, with 49,000 fewer victims of violent crime than two years ago. Recent police crackdown on fuel theft shows what might be possible year-round with commitment from Police HQ and the extra \$390m allocated to police in the Budget.
Vehicle Safety	✗	Warrant of Fitness changes sacrificed expert safety concerns for theoretical cost savings that won't materialise. A middle-ground approach might have delivered both - there's still time to do so, if Government listens to industry and delays the second tranche of changes.
Economy	✗	Promised growth and cost of living relief has failed to materialise. Out of Government hands to an extent, but business confidence in the direction of travel is faltering. Time to kick-start after a prudent but conservative Budget.
Fuel	✓	After a ropery start on the communications front and tough calls on financial support, Government's messages and measures have been reassuringly calm and consistent. Budget allocation was considered and practical.
Immigration	✓	Minister Stanford has stood her ground despite coalition pressure, and good policy has been rolled out. Industry consultation has been constructive and processing times continue to improve. The Budget's extra compliance funding is sensible - aimed squarely at those abusing the system rather than the employers who play by the rules.
Education	✓	The NCEA replacement builds vocational learning into a single qualification pathway - a genuine, overdue uplift for trades. The Budget allocated \$69m to double trades academy places, plus \$15m for new industry-led subjects. The watch-point is national coverage - industry-led, on-the-job apprenticeship training remains the standard for developing top talent.
Overall	✓	Progress in four key areas outweighs the poor economic performance and reckless WoF changes at this inspection. Every week with high fuel prices and without the long-promised green shoots adds to the re-election pressure. Five months to turn it around...