

Session 22

6 April 2023

Shared 4 April 2023

FLEXFORUM | 

The logo icon consists of a red circle containing a stylized white circuit board trace that forms a square with an arrow pointing to the right.

Session overview

1. Draft advice on opportunities to improve learning-by-doing
2. Incorporation
3. Task # 7 – valuing and pricing flexibility
4. Engagement update
5. Workplan update
6. Administration
7. Resiflex update

Draft advice on opportunities to improve learning-by-doing

Draft advice – coming

- presentation by Ray Hardy and discussion
- Advice is scheduled for delivery by 28-04-23

Next steps – similar process as for previous FF Insights

- Like it or hate it comments on draft advice by Monday 17 April (noting public holidays)
- Final draft will be shared for review and comment by Thursday 20 April 2023
- final tidyification and publication

Action for this item:

1. Agree on the main points and messages in the draft advice
2. Agree the process and timing for finalising the FF Insights presenting the draft advice for delivery by 28-04-23

Incorporation

A draft Constitution and draft Policies and Procedures shared 27 March 2023

- 2 responses by 3 April
- question about subscription amounts and thresholds

Next steps

- You agree the draft constitution is ready to share with a wider audience – what material and substantive changes are needed?
 - the Policies and Procedures (which can be amended by the Steering Group) detail things like subscription amounts and thresholds and selection criteria
- We share the draft rules with existing and prospective FlexForum participants, subject to any revisions agreed by the group – target to do this in the week starting Monday 17 April – is two weeks enough time for people to consider and respond?
- Schedule a meeting to do 3 things
 - approve the constitution
 - resolve to apply for incorporation
 - confirm proposed office holders ie, Steering Group members, including the Chair, before submitting a list to MBIE to decide appointments. Nominations should be provided by prospective participants at the same time they indicate they want to join – need to
- Once members of the Steering Group are appointed, finalise the incorporation process, eg, requires signatures from 5 organisations and payment of \$88.89+gst

Action for this item:

1. Agree on the next steps

Task # 7 - valuing and pricing flexibility

Quickfire round of discussion on the themes and points to cover and next steps

- Task 7 is a paper documenting FlexForum insights on valuing and rewarding flexibility and identifying research questions. Scheduled for release by 28 April 202 (MBIE contract)

Themes and points suggested so far

- focus on value-stacking by a party working for a consumer to optimise DER to maximise value from input price signals, eg, energy, Tx, Dx etc
- source and interference in the price signal, eg, the ongoing retailer pass-through of distribution price signal saga
- A section headed something like "What should distribution pricing look like to maximise the consumer benefits of flexibility"

Next steps – similar process as for previous FF Insights (but more compressed)

- Views on themes and points by Friday 14 April (noting public holidays)
- First draft will be shared for review and comment by Wednesday 19 April (on an as is where is basis)
- Final draft will be shared for review and comment by Monday 24 April 2023
- final tidyification and publication

Whether this is achievable depends on having clarity and focus about the scope and purpose asap

Action for this item:

1. Get in touch on themes and points to cover by Friday 14 April
2. Agree the process and timing for finalising the task

Engagement update

Engagement since previous session

- FF Speaker series event on 21 March – DOEs from idea to implementation – any suggestions for the next webinar?
- session with EECA and MBIE on continuing government financial support on 30 March
 - a funding proposal is being developed to be presented after easter
- Downstream – several people expressed interest in getting involved

Upcoming engagement

- Electricity CE Forum - meeting on 13 April
- FlexForum speaker series webinar is being arranged to discussion Powerco experience with its RFP process (connects to FF Insights on contracting). Timing to be confirmed
- Government is seeking feedback on a draft EV charging infrastructure strategy. Comments by 11 May – does the FF want to say anything?
 - You can read the draft strategy and associated documents at <https://consult.transport.govt.nz/>
 - Targeted workshops are happening – EV charging infrastructure and the energy sector is 1 May 1030-1200


MBIE has asked us to identify expected deliverables (ie, policy advice) for the coming 12 months in the funding proposal. Some options:

- advice on Commerce Commission IM review
- insights (a submission) on the draft EV charging strategy
- insights on why a new Ancillary Service is needed to address winter peak issues
- tasks flagged through the critical path assessment...

Need an indicative set of deliverables by mid-April to finalise the funding proposal

Workplan update: overview of progress

The workplan is [here](#)

Task	Scope & output	Timing	Notes
1. Scope and confirm a Delivery Model for the Flexibility Plan	Purpose is to get input on a minimum viable set of arrangements for the future FlexForum – role and functions, participation & resourcing – to produce and agree a charter for the future FlexForum	Deliver by 31-05-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Getting expert advice on incorporation
2. FF insights: Network access and connection arrangements	A paper documenting FlexForum insights on network access and connection and identifying specific research questions	Published 31-01-23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinar = 21 March 2023 Speakers from ANU and SAPN
3. FF insights: Flexibility contractual arrangements	A paper documenting FlexForum insights on the main terms of trade in contracts for flexibility and identifying specific research questions	Published 30-03-23 	
4. Dependencies, gaps and critical path	A critical path analysis exercise is identifying progress, gaps and opportunities against the steps in the Flexibility Plan	See next page	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need this for EA and to inform next workplan 3 groups have shared views on impact/timing for each step
5. FF insights: Barriers to progress	Document the barriers to progress identified by the FlexForum during phase 1, the impacts and the resulting research questions (ie, steps).	After easter break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First draft shared 8 February 2023 – comments were good Will share final draft and suggested timeframe for publication after easter
6. Step #C Customer journey mapping	A project which undertakes a customer journey mapping exercise. The Orion Resi-flex (residential flexibility) project includes residential customer journey mapping	Expected by April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered via the Orion/WE Resi-flex project
7. FF insights: valuing and pricing flexibility	A paper documenting FlexForum insights on valuing and rewarding flexibility and identifying research questions	28 April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial input received Finishing this will be tough, but we can but try
8. FF insights: Communication and connectivity	A paper documenting FlexForum insights on communication and connectivity requirements to enable flexibility and identifying research questions	30 March 2023 - Asap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Was due 30 March 2023
9. Step #B Learning-by-doing ecosystem review	A project to review how well the learning-by-doing ecosystem supports firms attempting flexibility-related R&D and commercialisation.	By 28-04-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft advice considered today
10. DER supplier flexibility awareness	A project to explore the flexibility knowledge of DER installers/hardware suppliers to identify what they would like to know to enable them to provide useful information/advice to customers	By 26-05-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveys started

Task # 4 – identifying the critical path...

3 groups shared perspectives on impact and timing for each step – these are being collated

- 17-03 and 17-03 – Eric, Mark, Scott and Jeremy
- 24-03 – Murray Henderson and Luke
- 27-03 – Terry, Shay, Evie and Tom

Each group gave a perspective on timing and impact...

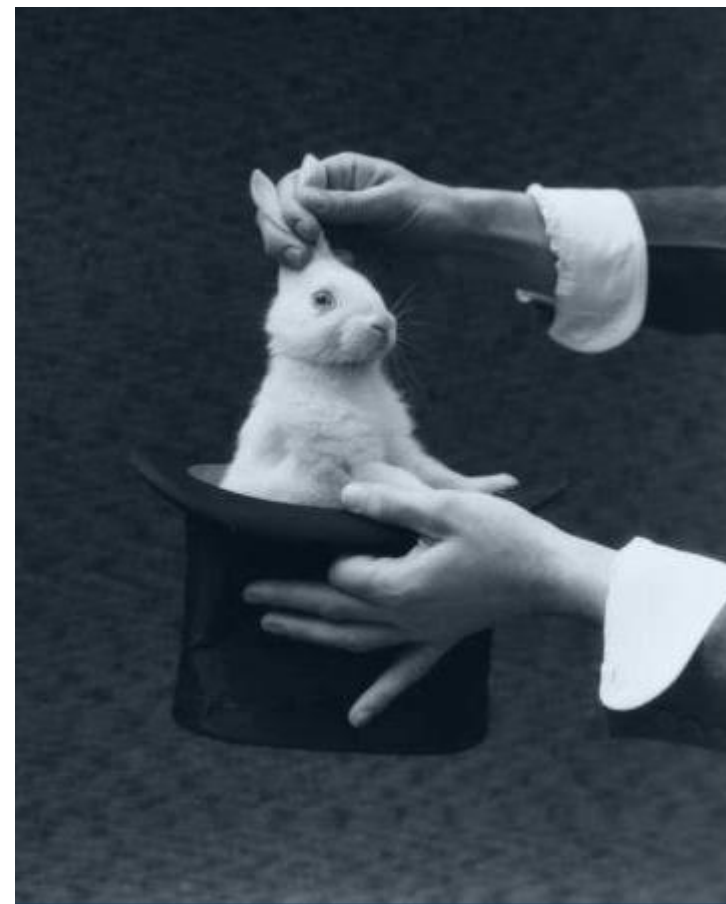
Timing: identify when the output(s) and expected outcome of the step will be needed, and why this is so

- sooner - next 12 months (1)
- 2024-25 (2)
- 2026-27 (3)
- 2028-29 (4)
- later - after 2030 (5)

Impact: describe the impact if the output(s) and expected outcome of the step are not in place by when it needs to be to support electrification and uptake of flexibility

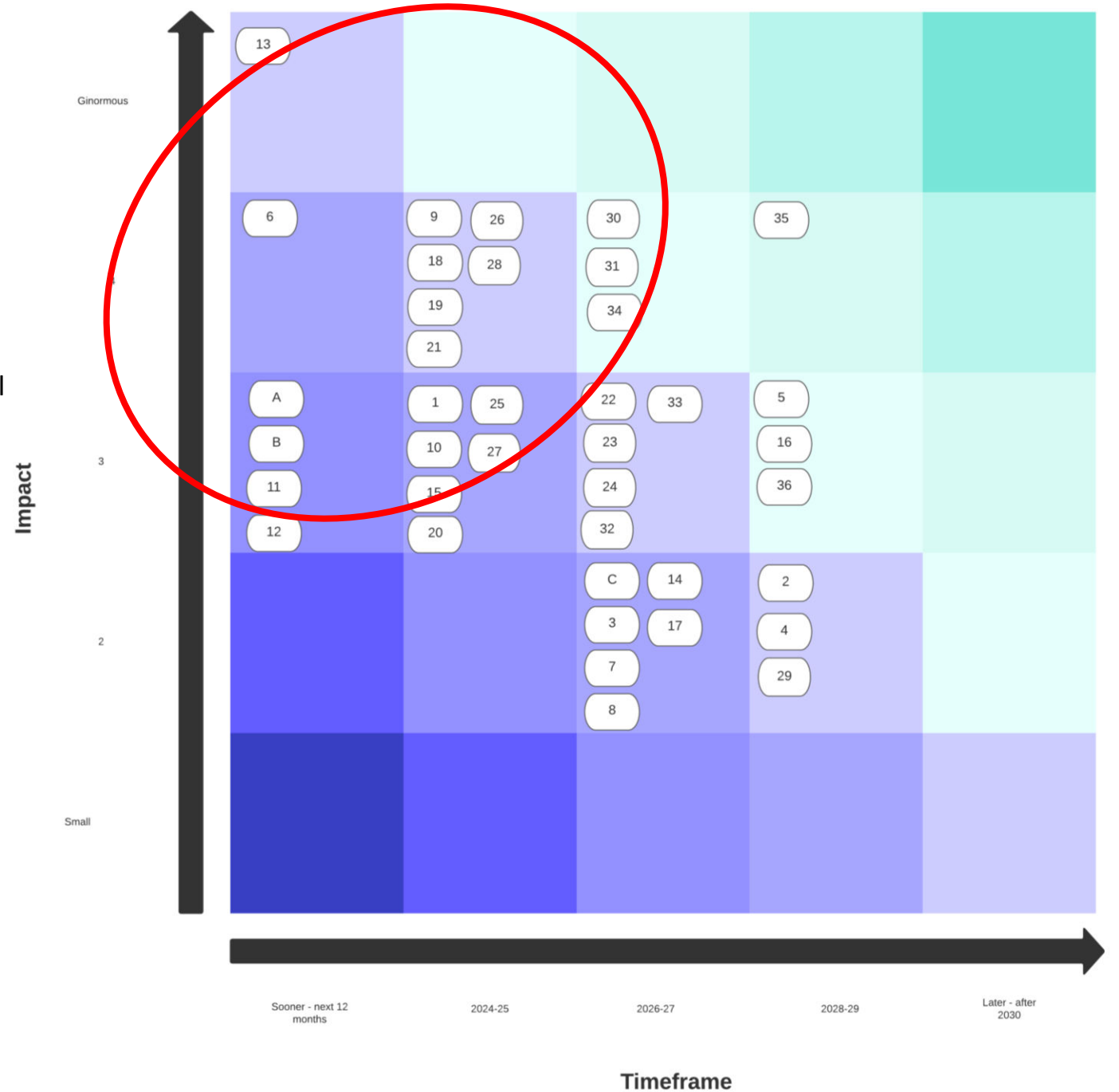
- small
- 2
- 3
- 4
- ginormous

Impacts can relate to the range of end-user experiences: reliability, affordability, customer satisfaction, emissions...



First pass assessment of the steps at the start of the critical path

- shows the averaged view of 3 groups
- the groups aligned on most steps, but not all
- most significant difference in scoring was due to a difference in the customer/DER facing perspective and supply-side perspective - qualitative assessment based on commentary will provide context



Administration

Budget update

Communication and collaboration tools – cost estimates

- MS365 suite = \$660/year assuming 5 users/admins managing access for other participants
- Google suite = \$540/year (and same user assumption as above)
- MS365/Google set up costs = \$840 including domain transfer etc
- Standalone webpage = depends on scope. A user friendly brochure website with resource functionality estimated at \$7500 to \$10,000. Plus \$75/month hosting costs
- Slack = US\$7.50/month for paid version (or just keep using the free one)

Next steps - contingent on incorporation...

ResiFlex update – customer journey mapping and personas

Orion and WE*

- progress through the Orion and WE* Resiflex project on delivering a customer journey mapping exercise (residential focus)