

## Steering Group meeting

<b>When</b>	Thursday 10 October 2024, 0930-1200
<b>Where</b>	Virtual
<b>Who</b>	Toby Stevenson, Matt Smith, Fiona Wiseman, Terry Paddy, Rebecca Osborne Secretariat: Craig Evans, Lyndal Blatch Observers: Peter Bartlett (MBIE), Brian FitzGerald (EECA), Mark Herring (EA), Sean McCready (CC)
<b>Apologies</b>	Shay Brazier, John Campbell, Ryan Kuggeleijn, Briony Bennett (Ara Ake)

## Session notes

### 1: Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the session.

The SG:

- confirmed there was a quorum
- noted their individual obligations relating to the Commerce Act 1986 prohibiting anti-competitive conduct
- noted apologies
- confirmed the agenda.

## Strategic items

### 2: FlexForum as the go place for flexibility

The SG discussed what the opportunities are to make FlexForum the go to place for flexibility and to figure out the actions of how we improve this.

The SG agreed FlexForum is pretty well known across the ecosystem, but key decision makers don't always know how it can help them get stuff done faster and better. It also agreed the unique selling point is the ability to put expert, consensus-based facts on the table faster than anyone else.

- unless closely involved in FF, people are not necessarily clear on the difference between FlexForum and the Future Networks forum.

- the unique selling point for FlexForum is it collates a wide range of views, and even if not able to achieve consensus, it is unique to have difficult conversations where every voice is heard.
- FlexForum can do two complementary things - advise on policy settings and commission/undertake/review practical trials. The focus has been on advice, but putting more emphasis on learning-by-doing would be valued by policy makers.

The SG agreed there are several other topics which would benefit from the FF workshop treatment, ie, topics with multiple interests and affects across the ecosystem. The SG agreed FF should be more active and forward looking in the problems it takes on. This means developing a workplan that reflects what conversations that NEED to happen and when, eg, based on what needs to be landed in 12-24 months.

- FlexForum brings together a broad range of people and experience as a facilitator, coordinator, collaborator group. The broad cross-industry representation is the difference of FlexForum.
- Flexforum is all about bringing people together that haven't been together and learning new things of how people are working/solving these problems. This tool does a good job of helping focus on the things that matter and identify things people disagree with.
- Let's be seen as hosting these workshops and consistently getting people out there to think/talk about the gnarly problems and really uncovering the unknown implications of changes without thinking about them.

The SG agreed that doing more deep dive workshop processes requires extra delivery capacity

- The SG discussed the resourcing required to do the job well, ie, ensuring workshops and events are well prepared to create an environment to get everyone's opinions and views.
- The SG agreed that the workshop processes feed into the 'doing more by learning'
- The SG discussed that these workshops are about finding solutions e.g. there could be 100 different ways to solve the issues, and these workshops help establish the top 5 solutions that would work for most people across the ecosystem.

## Standing items

### 3: Engagement

The SG noted updates to the engagement work.

- The SG noted that there has been no progress made with the who to catch up with plan due to the focus on Flex Day.

### 4: Workplan

The SG noted updates on workplan progress and other FlexForum tasks.

The SG all agreed on the three main tasks to be focused on – accelerating flexibility through doing (ie, Flex Day), updating the flexibility plan and advice to regulators.

### 5: Finance

The SG noted the finance update, cash flow projections and status of subscription payments.

## Procedural items

### 6: Membership requests

The SG noted Membership requests approved since the previous SG meeting, and interest from further parties.

The SG reconfirmed the approval of waivers of the membership subscription for EEA, ANU BSGIP and Otago University.

### 7: Actions

The SG noted the status of actions from previous sessions.

## 8: Next Steering Group meeting

The SG agreed the next SG meeting would be 14 November 2024.

## 9: Any other business

Meeting finished 10.59am

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