



## Steering Group meeting

When	Thursday 10 April 2025, 0930-12
Where	Virtual
Who	Shay Brazier, John Campbell, Terry Paddy, Toby Stevenson, Matt Smith, Rebecca Osborne, Fiona Wiseman Secretariat: Craig Evans, Lyndal Blatch Observers: Brian FitzGerald (EECA), Daniel Gnoth (Ara Ake)
Apologies	Mark Herring (EA), Peter Bartlett (MBIE), Sean McCready (CC)

## 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.

The Steering Group confirmed the temporary appointment until the AGM of Tim Calder to the SG.

## Strategic items

### 2: Flexibility Plan 2.0

The SG discussed the implications and opportunities for FlexForum of Flexibility Plan 2.0.

The SG noted progress with updating the Plan:

- Members at a 14 March workshop endorsed the approach and proposed steps, and a further iteration was shared with Members on 3 April
- Flexibility Plan 2.0 is an upgrade with extensive changes to better reflect the human journey, clarify wording and include new steps given experience since August 2022. The SG noted content is detailed and requires serious study to absorb it.

The SG discussed the potential that Members may not approve the Plan if they are not familiar with the detail. The SG:

- agreed the development process provided Members several opportunities since late 2024 to contribute to the Plan
- requested Members be given a further reminder to provide input by 18 April
- noted the Plan is the FlexForum plan, and Members may have their own individual views

The SG discussed the suggested task leaders, noting:

- 9 parties are listed as task leaders based on the party that is working on that task, would deliver the output or is interested. These parties have been asked for comment/input
- 10 tasks have not been assigned a leader because they require whole-of-system coordination

The SG agreed FF should assume responsibility for the 10 unassigned tasks to advocate, identify the right people for tasks, and assess existing initiatives to find potential solutions. This approach could create a stronger narrative and influence for future progress.

The SG noted the potential for natural task leaders to not agree to being listed. The SG agreed that the task leader should be the party that can/should make the change/do the job, and agreeing is not a condition of being listed. It does not require them to do the work, eg, the owner could ask industry to find solutions which they would then implement/deliver. However, they will be asked to describe progress/activity through the progress reporting process.

### 3: Engagement

The SG discussed the key interactions that have occurred since the previous Steering Group meeting. An update was provided about the engagement numbers on the website, newsletter and LinkedIn.

The SG noted discussions with Members at Downstream highlighted the value of estimating flexibility benefits

- The SG agreed resources should be assigned to drawing together existing benefit estimates, collating and sharing the information.

The SG noted that it can be difficult for Members to digest the information coming from FlexForum activities.

- The SG agreed to assign resources to preparing a short high level summary to members about activities.

### 4: Workplan

The SG noted updates to the workplan.

- Supporting learning by doing: FF is engaging with EECA on the scope and nature of FF support for the scaled DF pilot project.
- Updating the Flexibility Plan. The FF meeting scheduled for 30 April meeting includes an item to approve v2.0. Feedback is due April 18.
- Deep Dives: The deep dive into the value stack was published on 26 March. No deep dive topic on the current workplan. Members will be asked at the 30 April meeting to make the next deep dive into digitalisation and data.
- Advice to Regulators: FF will provide some brief advice to endorse the Commerce Commission draft decision about the Transpower WBOP major capex proposal.

### 5: Finance

The SG noted the financial update of the FlexForum.

## Procedural items

## 6. Actions

The SG noted the status of actions from previous sessions. All actions are underway.

## 8. Next Steering Group meeting

The SG noted a FlexForum meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 30 April

The SG requested the next SG meeting be rescheduled.

## 9. AoB/Close

Meeting finished 10.55am

FINAL