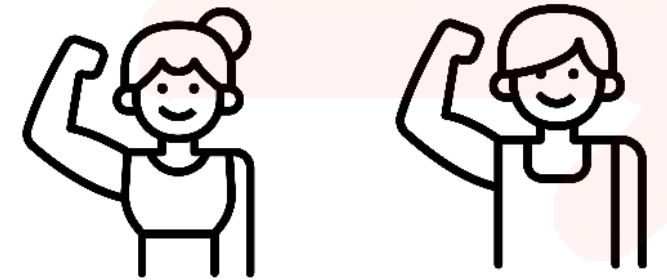


FlexForum Steering Group

Meeting agenda and context

09 July 2026



Agenda: 09 July 2026

1. Welcome

Strategic items

2. 2026 AGM materials
3. (draft) Communications framework for FF work on pricing and propositions

Standing items

2. Engagement
3. Workplan
4. Finance

Procedural items

2. Membership
3. Actions
4. Next meeting
5. AoB/Close

1 Welcome

Purpose of this item:

- Welcome
- Apologies
 - Matt Bostwick
 - Nicole Kirkham
 - Mal Cleland
 - Mark Herring
- Reminders
- Interests
- Confirm the agenda

The purpose of the FlexForum is to **support coordinated and collaborative action** to make it easier for households, businesses and communities to maximise the value of consumer and distributed energy resources and flexibility to:

- support affordable and reliable operation of the electricity market and power system
- enable accelerated electrification by households and businesses as part of the transition in Aotearoa New Zealand to zero emissions economy

You should all be familiar with the requirements of the Commerce Act 1986, prohibiting anti-competitive conduct. You should not discuss commercially sensitive areas of competitive activity, including (but not limited to) relating to agreements to fix, control or maintain prices, restrict output or capacity, or allocate markets or customers

A written record of the discussions today will be available on the FlexForum webpage.

As steering group members you are acting in an individual capacity not as a representative of your organisation.

2 2026 AGM Materials

Actions: Endorse the 2026 AGM materials

Purpose of this item: ...for the Steering Group to discuss the 2026 AGM materials.

The 2025 AGM agenda is:

1. Welcome

The year that was

1. A report on FlexForum affairs for 2025-26. Members will be asked to accept this report on FF affairs from the Chair. *A working draft is being worked on.*
2. Annual statement of accounts for 2025-26. Members will be asked to accept the (signed) [2025-26 financial statements](#).

The year ahead

1. Progress with delivering the Flexibility Plan 2.0. Members will be asked to accept the progress report, and reflect on the implications for the year ahead. *A working draft is [here](#). It will be (or has been) shared with Members.*
2. FlexForum Workplan and Budget for 2026-27. Members will be asked to approve the 2027 budget proposal and accept the associated workplan. *See AGM materials.*

Steering Group vacancies

1. Confirm Steering Group members. Nominations matched vacancies. No voting is required. Members will be asked to confirm the appointment of the Toby as chair, and Malcolm as SG member.

Final words

1. Final words. *What it says.*

No other business has been proposed. The draft 2026 AGM materials are [here](#). They will be sent to Members Thursday 23 July.

3 Communications framework for FF work on pricing and propositions

Purpose of this item: ...for the Steering Group to discuss the draft communications framework for the FF advice to ERGANZ on flexibility options to benefit vulnerable and low-income households.

ERGANZ got the advice on 30 June. The advice will be published later in July to give the ERGANZ team time to digest. We've asked to discuss it with the ERGANZ Board.

- [this advice to ERGANZ on flexibility options for financially vulnerable customers](#) was developed using the insights from an international scan of flex propositions targeting financially vulnerable customers, the 4 June pricing deep dive workshop, plus the subsequent input of several Members.
- Here is the [international scan of flex propositions targeting financially vulnerable customers](#)

Heft has produced a communications framework for the FF advice to ERGANZ on actions to flexible propositions. The framework will inform how we talk about the ERGANZ advice and then the pricing and physical orchestration deep-dive. We want regulators and decision makers to understand what needs to be done to create a smart, flexible system that works for everyone, not just those who can afford to invest in flexible resources.

- [Strategic communications framework](#)
- [International scan: practitioner cheat sheet](#)
- [Stakeholder plan](#)

How can members help?

- Help amplify the key messages through discussions, presentations and their digital channels.
- Repost and share our LinkedIn posts - We will have a three week LinkedIn content series highlighting the advice and international scan.
- Use the international scan cheat sheet to start discussions with leaders and decision makers about this work.

3 Engagement (1)

Actions: For noting. No actions requested.

Purpose of this item:

- conversations had and upcoming
- advice to regulators
- update on who is listening to FlexForum through its website, newsletter and linkedin channels

Conversations had and upcoming

- 18 June 2026 = NZ Climate Foundation re: its Clean Electricity programme
- 19 June 2026 = Energy Transition Framework Quarterly meeting
- 23 June = quarterly catch up with ENA

Advice to regulators

- Regulatory consultations relevant to flex plan steps are noted here. A response to the Enabling market evolution paper may be prepared if time permits to highlight the FF insights on the data system.
 - [Enabling market evolution: market operations service provide 10-year roadmap](#) (14 July)... the EA is effectively asking whether its a good idea to upgrade the data system and data sharing infrastructure. The recent FF insights on the data system says it is a very good idea which would assist delivery of a large number of steps.

3 Engagement (2)

Website: website users and sessions stayed relatively stable in June. Two interesting observations were a significant spike in traffic on 4 June likely due to traffic coming from the workshop session and AI assisted search popping up a traffic source for the first time. Website traffic is correlated with linkedin posts, newsletter and Friday Flash publication.

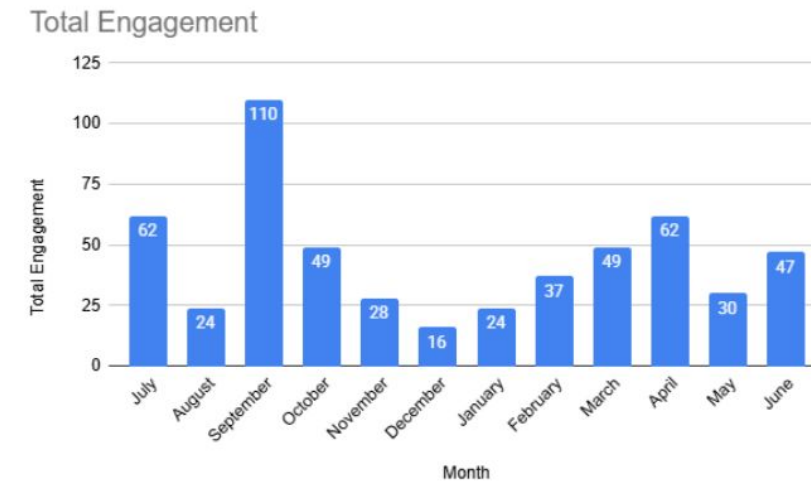
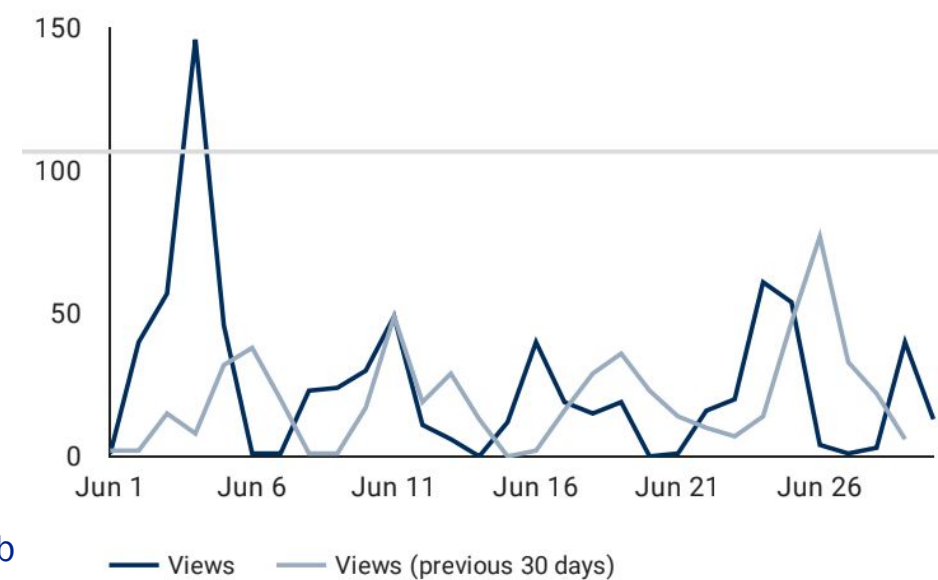


Newsletter was published 29 June. A 33.9% unique open rate is excellent. The knowledge hub had the most clicks (13).



FF fortnightly flashes to Members went on 5 June and 19 June with unique open rates of 41.7% and 31.6% respectively indicating an interested audience.

FF posted 8 times on linkedin in May. LinkedIn activity enjoyed good growth on the engagement front (all coming from Likes). Post of the month with 16 likes was The power system is a lot like the body nervous system. Followers = 659.



4 Workplan (1)

Purpose of this item: an update on progress with FlexForum tasks/activities across 4 areas.

1. Flexibility Plan progress assessment
2. Deep dives to provide a FF view ('vision') on foundational issues/topics
3. Knowledge sharing
4. Support for learning-by-doing

Actions:

1. Provide feedback on the themes and conclusions described in the draft progress report.
2. Decide Flex Day 2026 logistics

Flexibility plan progress assessment. This is a must-do task required by the FF constitution. The 2026 focus is assessing and reporting progress. ...a working draft of the (3rd) progress report is here. Members will be asked to accept the report at the 2026 AGM.

- The draft report will be shared with Members for feedback.

Deep dives. These provide the foundation for FF advice about priorities/dead-ends etc for learning-by-doing and regulatory action for critical topics/issues by filling obvious gaps in understanding of the problems/opportunities.

A deep dive on pricing and orchestration mechanisms is underway.

- A record of the session has been published.
- Further sessions are needed, but have not been scheduled due to resourcing constraints.

The topic is of increasing interest to key parties: the EA has background work underway on flex- motivating network pricing; the EECA scaled flexibility pilots are wrestling with pricing practicalities; and ERGANZ is considering the FF advice on flexible propositions for financially vulnerable customers.

4 Workplan (2)

Knowledge sharing. Information and updates on flex-y activity are: not regularly shared; scattered across many websites; and provide varying levels of detail. FF Members very much want more current information on who is doing what.

- content for flex project updates is being collected. Further updates are ready but we are waiting on feedback from project leads (revolve, Orion, and Powerco).
- monthly lunchtime sessions are underway... next up: the August session is Powerco and its DSO programme
- **Flex Day 2026**... initial thinking is a stand-alone event (.)
 - Time: mid-October... either a full day or 2 half days (pm/am) with an organised dinner for flex champions to interact etc.
 - Place: does someone have free or cheap space for 50-60 + people?
 - Theme = focusing on practical experience gained in the past year, and the implications.

Note: the EEA conference is in Auckland, 22-24 September. The pre-conference programme = DSO workshop and Resolving technical barriers to PV

Support for learning-by-doing. FF is uniquely placed to enhance collaboration/synergies by joining dots between the diverse range of actors undertaking learning-by-doing. Activities currently underway:

- The updated proposal for FF support of the EECA Flexibility scaled pilot programme is [here](#). This is the nearly final version. The final version for signing should be available by the SG meeting. The approach provides FF a regular revenue stream for providing ecosystem engagement; programme and pilot monitoring; project updates and expert advice.

5 Finance update

Purpose of this item:

- note the financial situation
- note the status of membership renewals
- discuss the 2027 budget proposal (see AGM materials)
- review and decide annual subscription amounts
- discuss the revised EECA contract.

-

Status of membership renewals invoiced and outstanding...

- 2 invoices outstanding
- 3 anniversaries in July
- 1 anniversary in August

5 Finance update

2027 budget proposal... see page 10 of the [draft 2026 AGM materials](#).

Review and decide the annual subscription amounts.

- [The policies and procedures say the SG](#) ‘...will annually review the amounts for each annual subscription category described in clause 1.2 to ensure the amounts are sufficient to fund the functions and activities described in the FlexForum Workplan and budget.’
- No change to the annual subscription amounts is proposed. Note: any change would best take effect from September 2026.

A [revised contract](#) has been developed with EECA

- The 2026 budget will be reforecast once the contract is signed to reflect the new arrangements.
- Extra doers will be needed to deliver the EECA contract.
- Resourcing required for the remaining activities is being assessed in consultation with EECA. Resources will be identified/secured once task scope/timing is confirmed.

Actions:

1. Endorse the 2027 budget proposal be provided to Members at the AGM.
2. Approve annual subscription amounts remaining at current levels.
3. Endorse the chair signing the revised EECA contract.
4. Approve the chair agreeing a contract with a suitable doers(s) to assist with delivering the EECA contract

6 Membership requests

Purpose of this item:

- note Membership enquiries, requests and decisions since previous meeting

3 membership enquiries since our last meeting.

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Actions: none requested

7 Actions

Purpose of this item:

- Note actions

Actions from FlexForum and Steering Group meetings from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2026 are documented here: [FF collated actions - FF and SG meetings](#)

- all time-bound or time-critical actions are complete or underway.

Actions: No action requested

8 Next meeting

Purpose of this item:

- confirm the date for the next Steering Group meeting

Next Steering Group meeting. The next SG meeting is Thursday 13 August 2026.

ACTION: confirm the date for the next SG meeting.

9 Other business

Purpose of this item:

- Other business