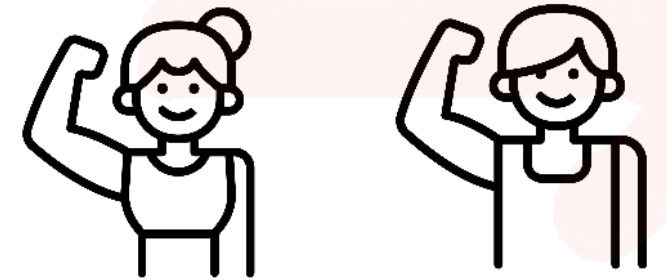


FlexForum Steering Group

Meeting agenda and context

21 May 2026



Agenda: 21 May 2026

1. Welcome

Strategic items

2. FF activities, the wider landscape and the opportunity

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
- 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 FF activities, the wider landscape and the opportunity

Purpose of this item: ...to review the opportunities to ensure FF activities are taking full advantage of the flex conversation

FF is working on the things that people - Members and the wider ecosystem - are interested in and talking about

- digitalisation... eg, Arup, EA digitalisation roadmap + flexibility work programme, ecca working groups on device functionality
- pricing and physical orchestration... eg, erganz request for advice on propositions for low-income households, EA flexibility work programme
- knowledge sharing particularly from learning-by-doing.

We have been looking for ways to give FF the ability to give people what they want

- ...resourcing to do start and complete work plan tasks sooner and usefully inform flex conversations and decisions
- ...resourcing for more systematic collation of insights and experiences to inform scoping and assessment of learning-by-doing and define priorities.

Some further context - an initial desktop scan of progress with Flexibility Plan 2.0 identified

- there is progress (ie, done, or nearly implemented) on several steps through regulatory changes with dated implementation (eg, improved billing, EIEP14A, distribution connection process reforms). These regularly changes however are not addressing key flex enablers.
- progress is less advanced where activity and progress involves system architecture, common standards, or shared cross-industry ways of working (eg, LV visibility/capacity datasets, common use-case specifications, registry changes for flex resources, consistent B2B terms of trade, product disclosure).... the slower pace of progress is particularly prevalent for pricing and digitalisation-related issues.
- a recurring theme is that activity exists but experience is not being systematically collated, standardised, or made routine, with this a necessary condition of further progress to deliver a step(s) (eg, common specifications; consistent operating practices).

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

- 5 June = Micheal Librieck breakfast event in Wellington
- 22 May = EA (Wellington) workshop on its draft flexibility programme (+ 3 other sessions)
- 6 May 1200-1330 = BEC hosted Arup which shared a proposal to develop a data sharing infrastructure equivalent to the proposal in the FF Insights
- 21 April = ENA/ERGANZ event at Parliament.

Advice to regulators

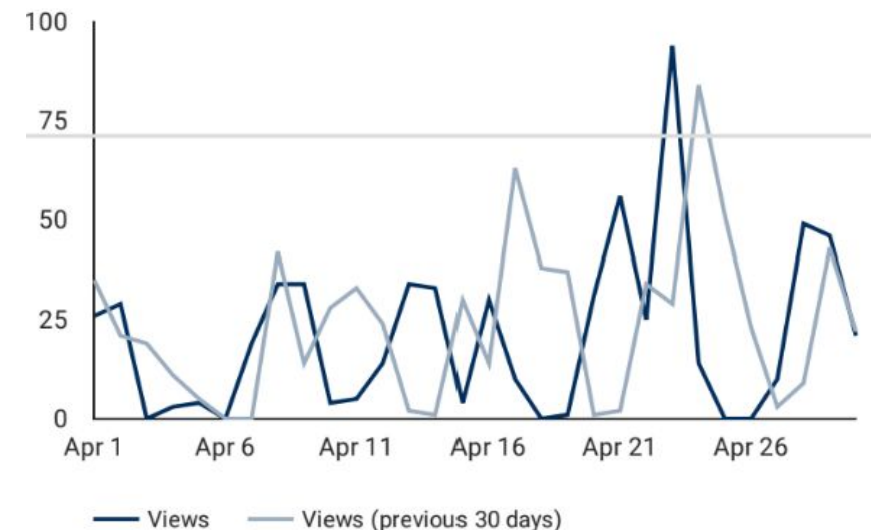
- no responses to regulatory consultations are being prepared.

3 Engagement (2)

Website: Good to see the new content getting some good visits with the Resi-Flex project update getting some good traffic, second only to our home page in views last month.

Social media content is pushing people to the website.

Less good to see is the overall statistics that were down across all core areas last month. Pointing to lower online activity overall.

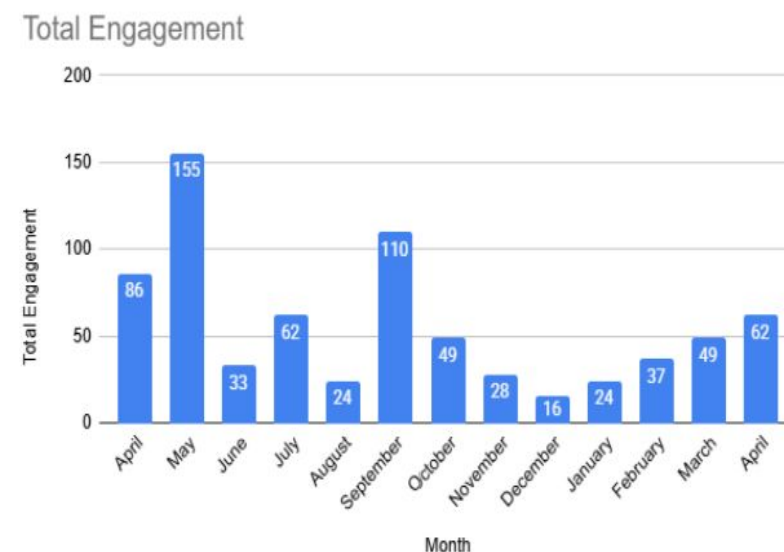


April newsletter was published 28 April. The strength and quality of our database is evidence here in our latest newsletter statistics. All showing green across the board (nearly). We have an engaged audience who values our content.



FF fortnightly flashes to Members were sent 10/4 & 24/4. Increased in open rate of 36.4% and 37.5%.

FF made 6 linkedin posts in April, We had more excellent engagement in our posts from April seeing growth for a 4 month in a row. Post of the month was 'FlexForum hosting Dr Gabrielle Kuiper '.



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

Flexibility plan progress assessment. This is a must-do task required by the FF constitution. The 2026 focus is assessing and reporting progress. ...the (3rd) progress report must be ready early July ahead of the 2026 AGM on 31 July.

- An [initial desktop scan of activity](#) against each step was shared on slack with Members on 19 May.
- FF Members will be asked to review offline and via several small workshops in the next couple of weeks.

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. FF Members have decided that the two most pressing gaps are Digitalisation and Pricing/orchestration.

Deep dive into the 'digitalisation and data' snake pit. Write up of a FF Insights is 99% done. It will be released via the May newsletter next week

- the draft insights were shared with Members on 23 April and discussed by a selection of Members on 5 May. Everyone was happy with description of the issues and resulting advice. The FF insights makes conclusions equivalent to an [Arup position paper](#) discussed at a 6 May BEC event.

Deep dive on pricing and orchestration mechanisms is underway.

- A Member workshop is scheduled for 4 June to kick off the deep dive. Its focus is customer propositions and the factors determining how (and when etc) retailers develop and offer flexibility propositions. It will also help complete the ERGANZ task exploring flexible customer propositions (focusing on those reducing the energy burden).
- Further workshops will be scheduled to consider further pricing and orchestration topics. The timing is dependent on resourcing (note item 2 discussion).

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. The learning project updates page was the 5th most popular in April
 - Update on Building a future-proof Queenstown through flexibility collating Queenstown electrification accelerator and Energising Queenstown projects was published 12 May. A Resiflex update was published 23 April.
 - 4 further updates have been prepared, with publication depending on hearing back from project leads (revolve, Orion, Vector and Powerco).
- monthly lunchtime sessions are underway... next up: 4 June and the Anthill team. The Gridsight team is presenting in July.
- Flex Day 2026... initial thinking on time, place and theme = September or October in Wellington or Auckland focusing on practical experience (field trips?).

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 eecca scaled DF pilots, Transpower WBOP flex programme, and Local Flex all are exploring questions noted in the pricing and orchestration deep dive. The series of structured workshops for the deep dive will collate the questions, and the findings will provide boundaries for the project assessment. Discussions are happening with eecca on the FF role in supporting the scaled DF project.
- supporting research coordination/collaboration to achieve: a standard research data set; more data sharing (for related/follow on research); greater sharing of research expertise; and minimising research duplication (and research gaps). Initial discussions had with Ara Ake, university Members and EECA.

5 Finance update

Purpose of this item:

- financial situation
- status of membership renewals

Status of membership renewals...invoiced and outstanding...

- no membership anniversaries in May
- 2 anniversaries in June

6 Membership requests

Purpose of this item:

- note Membership enquiries, requests and decisions since previous meeting
- No new membership enquiries this month

7 Actions

Purpose of this item:

- Note actions

Actions from FlexForum and Steering Group meetings from 1 July 2023 to 30 April 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 11 June 2026.

ACTION: confirm the date for the next SG meeting.

9 Other business

Purpose of this item:

- Other business