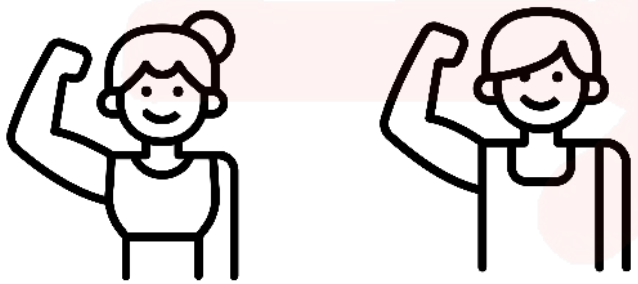
FlexForum Steering Group

Meeting agenda and context

13 August 2026



Agenda: 13 August 2026

1. Welcome

Strategic items

2. Maximising FF impact for the year ahead

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
  - Terry Paddy
  - Tim Calder
  - Matt Bostwick
  - Sean McCready
- 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 Maximising FF impact for the year ahead

Actions: None requested.

Purpose of this item: …for the Steering Group to discuss ways for FF to maximise its impact in the year ahead.

FlexForum Members - via the 2026 progress assessment - identified ‘Where things stand’ and the implications for ‘Sector priorities for 2027’.

- See the 1-page summary next page.

FF Members endorsed a workplan at the 2026 AGM involving 4 core activities to deliver FlexForum objectives and priorities. These activities are addressing the key blockers of progress highlighted in ‘Where things stand’

- maintaining and reporting progress with the Flexibility Plan. This will involve the annual progress report plus a limited update to the steps to reflect the passage of time and progress.
  - This exercise enables FF to produce robust, expert and whole-of-system insights about where things stand and why
- flexibility leadership through deep dives on gnarly topics to develop expert advice for decision-makers. This will involve completing the pricing and physical orchestration mechanisms deep dive.
  - This is the remaining foundational topic the sector must establishing common understanding/facts. The whole-of-system perspective will provide a reference point for assessing the results of the Scaled flexibility pilots, and to assist the Electricity Authority to focus its efforts.
- knowledge sharing. This will involve practitioner focused sharing of experience through webinars, Flex Day and project and thematic updates.
  - EECA has asked FF to facilitate knowledge sharing for the Scaled flexibility pilot project. Collating, testing and sharing insights from experience will provide the basis for building consensus on the practical changes required to develop a smart, flexible power system
- support for learning-by-doing, particularly by supporting the EECA scaled flexibility pilot programme, and Member flex-y activities.
  - EECA has asked FF to collating and testing design options for the Scaled flexibility pilot project, initially focussing on mapping datasets and data flows (*see page 9 for more detail on this task*). The exercise provides the basis for building consensus on the practical changes required to develop a smart, flexible power system

Discussion starters:

- What are your thoughts on how the FF workplan contributes to the sector priorities for 2027?
- What practical things can FF do to maximise the impact of this workplan?

Flex progress: from understanding to implementation

FLEXFORUM

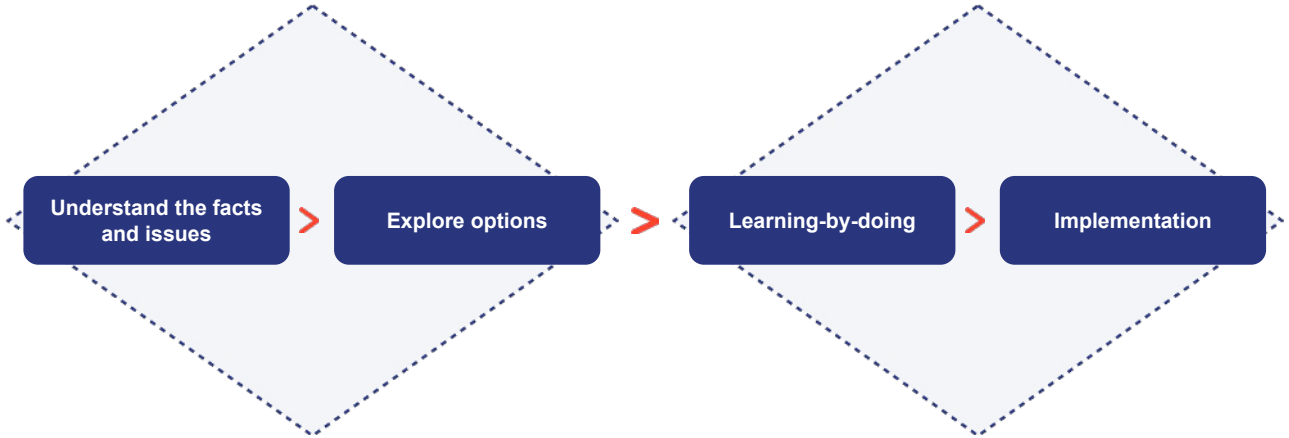
Key focus

We need to prioritise implementing enduring flexibility propositions that customers can see, understand and benefit from.

We must address two coordination gaps:

- allocate effort strategically
- deliberately shepherd action end-to-end.

To do this we must resource the flexibility champions and the shared work programme.



FlexForum Members - via the 2026 Flexibility Plan progress assessment - have identified Where things stand and the resulting Sector priorities for 2027

Stage of the process	Where things stand	Sector priorities for 2027
Understand facts and issues	Incomplete understanding of 3 sets of issues critical to maximising the volume of flexibility that is routinely used to benefit the system and customers: • Market frameworks (**pricing signals**) — not fully understood; siloed exploration underway • System integration (**physical signals**) — not fully understood; siloed exploration underway • Data system (**market & system access**) — framework identified, not yet developed	• Identify pricing and physical signals for a smart system and flexible customer propositions.
Explore options	Options exploration is weighted towards sectoral priorities. No coordinated approach to "what solutions do we test?" • Activity scan: learning focus is sectoral interests and hot-button issues; cross-cutting progress not prioritised.	• Develop options for communications and connectivity requirements • Develop options for an upgraded data system which maximises participation and innovation.
Learning-by-doing	Learning-by-doing is weighted towards testing network and technology solutions. Less focus on customer-focused, cross-cutting learning. • Activity scan: learning focus is technology and back-office issues.	• Continue the network-focused work and share experiences. • Prioritise learning with the customer proposition as the organising objective.
Implementation	Learning is not directly leading to implementation of new practices/processes, ie,"what should the common approach be?" • Activity scan: next steps often lack a clear owner or timing. • Regulatory (rules) and corporate (IT systems, business processes) changes are not responding to learning quickly or consistently	• Measure the stock of flex: build the data and registry foundations. • Take a deliberate adopt and iterate approach to Implementing standards, terms of trade, protocols.

3 Engagement (1)

Actions: For noting. No actions requested.

Purpose of this item:

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

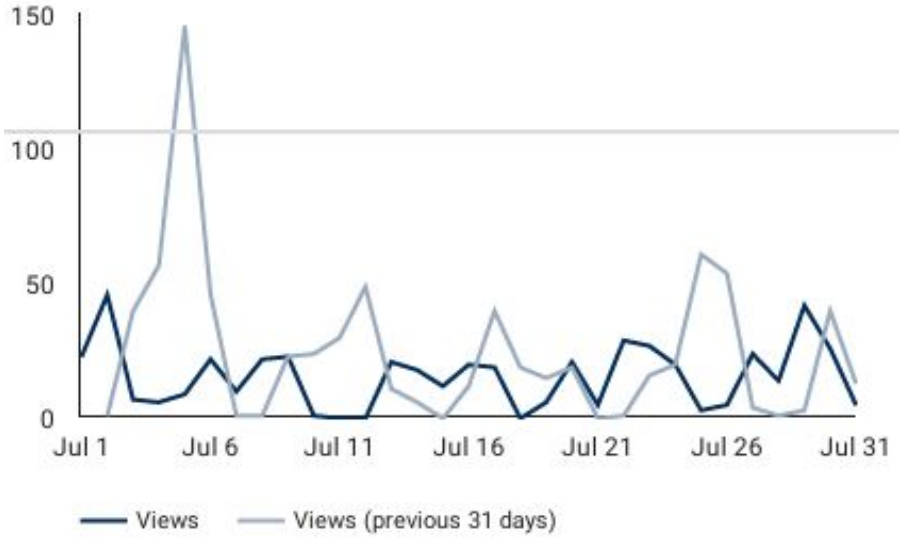
Conversations had and upcoming

- 29 July = Community Energy Network (Gareth Cartwright)

3 Engagement (2)

Website: website traffic fell in July. Appears the July newsletter did not lead to the usual visits.

Total users	Bounce rate	Sessions	Engaged sessions	Views
100 ↓ -61	32.46% ↓ -6.38%	228 ↓ -81	154 ↓ -35	486.0 ↓ -267



Newsletter was published 24 July. Unique open rate was 32.3% (33.9% in June). The advice to ERGANZ saw the most interest.

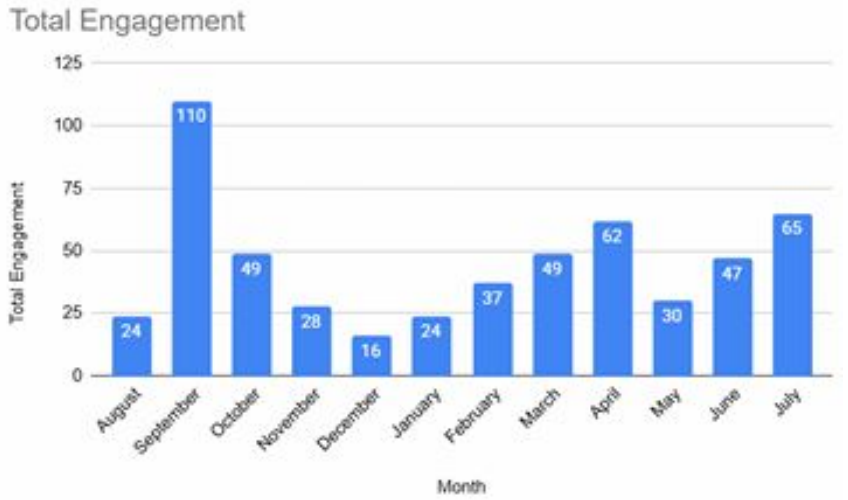
Recipients	Unique Open Rate	Total Opens	Unique Click Rate	Total Clicks
451 ↓ 3	32.3% ↓ 1.6%	269 ↓ 110	2.9% ↓ 1.1%	59 ↑ 6

FF fortnightly flashes to Members went on 3, 17 and 31 July with unique open rates of 38.8%, 33.6% and 33% respectively.

FF posted 7 times on linkedin in July. Engagement was up in part due to reposts/mentions in several Heft posts. Post of the month with 14 likes and 3 reshares was a post on the EECA Flexible electricity use research.

Follower numbers continue to increase = 682.

Total Number of posts	Total Engagements	Reactions/Likes	Comments	Shares
7 ↓ 1	65 ↑ 18	53 ↑ 6	4 ↑ 4	8 ↑ 8



4 Workplan (1)

Actions: None requested

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

1. Flexibility Plan progress assessment
2. Deep dive - pricing and physical orchestration mechanisms
3. Knowledge sharing
4. Support for learning-by-doing

Flexibility plan progress assessment. The 2026 Progress report was published 5 August 2026.

- A 1-page summary of the key progress insights and implications for sector priorities has been shared (see page 5). An accompanying explanatory article is being prepared.

Deep dives. A deep dive on pricing and orchestration mechanisms is underway.

- A record of the 4 June 2026 session focusing on customer propositions has been published.
- Scoping is underway for further sessions… the sequence of topics = wholesale, transmission, distribution, and comms.
- The topic is of increasing interest to key parties: the EA has background work underway on flex- motivating network pricing; and ERGANZ is considering the FF advice on flexible propositions for financially vulnerable customers.

Knowledge sharing.

- the FF role in the scaled flexibility pilot programme was discussed with participating distributors on 24 June
  - factual project updates. These will provide practitioner focused facts.
  - thematic assessments. These will collate experience with common themes to test with FF Members. Initial topic = comms/connectivity. Further topics = pricing, incentives and customer propositions; installation; customer recruitment/participation.
  - Monthly info sharing with all programme participants/interested people. This will start once 2 projects are live.
- monthly lunchtime sessions are underway… next up: the September session is Gridsight.
- we will also offer to produce project updates on other non-eeca flex projects.

4 Workplan (2)

Knowledge sharing (cont).

- Flex Day 2026… the theme is Experience (and the implications)… draft agenda below.
- No advice yet re: space

Session	Agenda	Notes
Afternoon session: 1300-1700 - 4 hours including 30 minute break	Households, businesses and communities… what's on offer, and what they would like to see. - 3 * 15 minutes = 45 minutes + 15 minutes intro and reflections (1 hour)	Perspectives from… - community = Gareth Cartwright, CEN (cover his flights and accom) - business = Karen Boyes, MEUG - household = ???
	Quick project updates to set the scene. - 4 * 10 minutes = 40 minutes + 20 minutes intro and reflections (1 hour)	- 10 minutes each from 4 of … Localflex, Powerco, Orion, Vector, Alpine, Transpower, a retail/customer-focused project.
	Speaking from experience: themes/common aspects enabling flexy customer propositions - topic 1 = (60 minutes)	Candidate topics = Communications and connectivity, Signals, incentives and propositions and Flex mechanics… valuing, procurement, measurement
Evening get-together: 1830-2100	Meal and collegiality	[guest speaker?]
Morning session: 0900-1230 - 3.5 hours including 30 minute break	Speaking from experience: topics 2 and 3 - 2 * 60 minutes - 30 minute break	
	Implications of experience and what should happen next? - 50 minutes	- What experience can be banked as initial practice? - What topics need further work or debate?
	Wrap (10 minutes)	

4 Workplan (3)

Support for learning-by-doing. Activities currently underway:

- FF is supporting EECA with design questions relating to datasets and data flow mapping. An information request is to be tested with Vector, and then put to Powerco and Orion.
  - the task is to document: datasets operate and evaluate each pilot, what datasets move between parties, by what mechanism and how often, who holds each dataset and who looks after it, and gaps.
  - the documentation process will provide FF (and Members) with invaluable insights needed to understand comms/connectivity, pricing and signaling arrangements.

5 Finance update

Purpose of this item:

- note the financial situation
- note the status of membership renewals

Status of membership renewals invoiced and outstanding…

- 4 invoices outstanding
- 4 anniversaries in September
- The membership renewal request letter is being updated to reflect the activity and expected outputs for the year ahead that FF membership supports.

6 Membership requests

Purpose of this item:

- note Membership enquiries, requests and decisions since previous meeting

Actions: none requested

7 Actions

Purpose of this item:

- Note actions

Actions from FlexForum and Steering Group meetings from 1 July 2023 to 31 July 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 10 September 2026.

ACTION: confirm the date for the next SG meeting.

9 Other business

Purpose of this item:

- Other business