

Meeting minutes 18 December 2018

Digital Economy and Digital Inclusion Advisory Group Zoom meeting

Date and time of meeting	18 December 2018, 8.00 – 8.30am
Location	Virtual meeting via Zoom
Attendees - members	Victoria MacLennan, Kaila Colbin, Michael Taitoko, Potaua Biasiny-Tule, Cathy Hardinge, Gregory Morgan, Jordan Carter, Chris O’Connell, Rohan MacMahon, David Moskovitz, Brenda Leeuwenberg.
Attendees - other	Secretariat (MBIE) – Francis Powley and Sara Barham (MBIE), and Gill Palmer and Nicola Ryan (DIA) Ministers – Hon Dr Megan Woods and Hon Kris Faafoi Ministers’ offices – Kate MacDonald and Penny Arrowsmith (GDS), and Bruce Donaldson and Esther Robinson (BCDM)
Apologies	None.
Chair	Victoria MacLennan

Introduction

Ministers welcomed the Digital Economy and Digital Inclusion Ministerial Advisory Group (the Group); acknowledged the letter the Group sent to Ministers on 11 December;¹ and congratulated Victoria MacLennan on her election by the Group as interim Chair and endorsed her in her new role.

The Group’s short-term work programme

Hon Dr Woods noted that the Digital Economy Domain Plan work is now moving into implementation, and that no further advice would be required from the Group on this topic.

This means that the Group’s short-term work programme is: procuring innovation; uptake of ICT by small and medium enterprises; and digital inclusion.

Ms MacLennan noted that the Group had been working on advice relating to procuring innovation and SME uptake of ICT and would submit this before Christmas.

¹ The letter from the DEDIMAG (the Group) on 11 December: noted the Group’s intention to work on the Ministers’ four priority areas (Domain Plan, SMEs, Procurement, and Digital Inclusion – including that the Group would provide advice on quick wins for SMEs and Procurement), and to provide a framework for progressing the 11 questions in the TOR. The letter also noted that the Group had elected Victoria MacLennan as interim Chair, following the resignation of Frances Valintine. The letter included profiles of all current members.

Work programme: Procuring innovation

The Group noted that it will submit written advice on procuring innovation. The Group advised that government's current procurement processes create costs for government and vendors. The Group's written advice focuses initially on 'procuring innovation', e.g. bringing procurement innovation into government. The Group noted that this advice has been tested with DIA and others, and the Group believes it is aligned with government's direction.

Ministers noted this advice is relevant to Hon David Parker's Economic Development portfolio.

Action: Officials to connect the Group with relevant MBIE officials working on enhancing the effectiveness of government procurement.

SME uptake of ICT project

The Group noted that it will provide written advice on how to strengthen engagement between government and SMEs to support their uptake of ICT.

The Group noted that some government initiatives in this space were well targeted but only running on a small scale, e.g. MBIE's business uptake of ICT pilot programme, which focuses on particular sectors in specific regions. Other initiatives were very wide reaching but not targeted at supporting uptake of ICT, e.g. the Regional Business Partner Network.

Suggested item for next meeting

Ms MacLennan requested a discussion regarding links between the Group's advice and the work of Callaghan Innovation and the Government Chief Digital Officer.

Actions
Officials will connect Group members to relevant officials in MBIE on Enhancing the effectiveness of government procurement'.
Officials will schedule a DEDIMAG/Ministers meeting in the New Year, including the suggested agenda item above.
The Group to provide written advice to Ministers on procuring innovation, and SME uptake of ICT, by the end of 2018.