



Expert Advisory Panel and Officials Group

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 22 July 2020, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Level 10, The Reserve Bank Building

Expert Advisory Panel attendees	Rachel Roberts, Suzanne Snively, Farib Sos, Sean Audain, Simon Wright, Jacqueline Paul
Officials Group	Office of the Clerk, Ministry of Education, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of Internal Affairs, Stats NZ, Archives NZ
Apologies	Parliamentary Counsel Office, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
State Services Commission Officials	Phil Newman, Larry Fergusson, Stephen Moore, Victoria Hume

Agenda #	Topic
Expert Advisory Committee	
<p>The Reports to the end of the first half of 2020 were pre-circulated. EAP were asked to identify particular issues they wished to discuss with officials.</p> <p>EAP were generally concerned about the impacts of COVID-19 on delivery and Agency Plans for responding to those impacts. They were also concerned to capture agency experience in responding to the pandemic and lessons that could be built into the delivery of the current Plan or in the building of the next Plan.</p> <p>Stephen talked about the possibility of promoting Open Government champions in agencies across the sector, building on the experience in the OIA space as a way of getting more involvement by a wider group of agencies.</p> <p>The proposed Kawa was discussed and agreed with Jackie agreeing to do some work refining the presentation.</p>	
Expert Advisory Committee and Officials Group	
<p>Following a meet and greet session the meeting broke into three groups for small Group discussions led by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 1: Participation in democracy – Ministry of Education (Tommy McLoughlin) Group 2: Public participation in policy development – Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet (Diane Owenga) Group 3: Transparency & Accountability – Department of Statistics (Dale Elvy). <p>The small groups heard from and discussed the approaches and experience of the agencies in engaging with the public during implementation of the Commitments.</p>	

In plenary the overall messages were about the value of engagement during implementation and the lessons that had been learnt that should be cemented into future Plan implementation. A Summary of observations noted during the Plenary follows.

DPMC invited the EAP to review the resources they are preparing.

All attendees thought using small groups focused on the experience of a commitment leader followed by reflections in a plenary session was an excellent innovation that should be adopted in the future, enabling a more detailed discussion about the Commitments.

Summary of Observations

Commitment Development

- It would be good to have time in the process to scope commitments appropriately and to consider and scope together as a group.
- On one hand less prescriptive milestones are helpful but then external advocates need something to follow. What can be agreed is the need for meaningful commitments.
- Need for adequate resourcing, often work gets finished by the grace and favour of people
- The how is just as important as the what for commitments.
- Look at how engagement can continue to happen.
- Open to longer timeframes being discussed with OGP International

Commitment Implementation

- Trying to build in a culture of measurement, reflection etc.
- Multiple teams found their internal capability for Māori guidance, tikanga guidance, te reo etc under resourced.
Things are often process driven not kaupapa driven.
- Excellent capability building example at DPMC.
- Stats algorithm work is a great example of agency engagement (14 agencies) and will hopefully be launched very soon.
- Education has been extremely busy creating civics resources including Māori medium videos to empower Māori youth and convey how they can have their say/influence issue that matter to them and their whānau.
- EAP encourages people to be courageous and keep going.

Open Government and OGP

- You need to build up trust and relationships so others can see the purpose – open Government is a vague term.
- Better communication needed about how valuable this public facing work can be.
- Open Government is one of the principles in the Public Service Bill which we will help bring to life.
- Need to work on the Partnership aspect of OGP.
- OGP can be a place for some innovation and experimentation, a basis for positive transformation.

Other

- Amazing to see the passion everyone has and there has been great work done that we want to acknowledge.