Communique

Game Changer Design Group – Workshop 5

Thursday, 11 May 2023

9:00 am - 1:00 pm (AEST)

Location: Microsoft Teams

Facilitators: AER Game Changer Secretariat



| Organisation | Representative(s) | Role |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| AGL | Emily Gadeleta | Proxy |
| Alinta | Shaun Ruddy | Proxy |
| Australian Energy Council | Ben Barnes | Member |
| Australian Energy Market Commission | Lisa Shrimpton | Member |
| Australian Energy Regulator | Stephanie Jolly | Member |
| Australian Council of Social Services | Kellie Caught | Member |
| DCCEEW | Adam Pankhurst | Member |
| Australian and New Zealand Energy and Water Ombudsman Network (ANZEWON) | Janine Young | Member |
| Energy Charter (Representatives alternated attendance) | Sabiene Heindl Bec Jolly | Member Proxy |
| Energy Consumers Australia | Kerry Connors | Member |
| Energy Networks Australia | Lucy Moon | Member |
| GEER | Rowan Bedggood | Member |
| Origin | Sean Greenup | Member |
| Red/Lumo | Geoff Hargreaves | Member |
| St Vincent de Paul | Gavin Dufty | Member |
| Thriving Communities | Ciara Sterling | Member |
| Uniting | Sue Fraser | Member |

Apologies

| ACT Government (Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate) | James Priestley | Member |
|--|-----------------|--------|
| Financial Counsellors Australia | Kylie Holford | Member |
| PIAC | Craig Memery | Member |

Summary

1 Workshop process

- The AER Secretariat opened the workshop with a recap of activities since workshop 4 and an outline of the purpose of the workshop. Design Group members were encouraged by the Secretariat to provide critical and constructive feedback on the viability of options set out in the design papers. The decision to include ideas in the Game Changer proposal rests with the Leadership Group, however the Design's Groups assessment on the viability of ideas defined as 'an implementable way to achieve the intended outcome' will be put forward to the Leadership Group as part of the design process.
- The AER Secretariat noted this is the last scheduled Design Group workshop and thanked participants for their support and participation in developing the Game Changer ideas.
- A consultant (EY Port Jackson Partners) presented analysis and options for several ideas:
 - Shared funding pool
 - Central service body
 - Proactive identification and retailer compensation mechanism
 - Increased investment in the Financial Counselling Contribution Scheme
- The Design Group discussed the analysis and draft options presented for these ideas.
- Design paper leads presented on draft options and proposed approaches for the following ideas, and the Design Group discussed these after each presentation:
 - Automated better offer (presented by AER policy staff)
 - Concession upgrades (presented by AER policy staff)
 - Social tariff (presented by AER policy staff)
 - Energy efficiency measures (presented by Design Group members)
 - Priority support register (presented by AER policy staff)
 - Reduced green scheme cross-subsidisation (presented by Design Group members)

Key outcome: The Design Group provided feedback on the viability of options outlined in design papers, proposed design parameters, approaches to progressing ideas, and recommended reprioritisation where relevant. They raised considerations, questions, risks, concerns and benefits for specific ideas. The AER Secretariat recorded feedback on slides during the discussion, to be reflected in the design report which will be shared with the Leadership Group for consideration. A polling mechanism intended to gauge participants' views following discussion of each idea was used initially in the workshop but discontinued.

Due to time constraints, ideas in the 'Support' prioritisation category were not discussed.

Key outcome: It was agreed that feedback on the ideas in this category would be provided out of session by the following afternoon, with reference to discussion questions shared by the Secretariat.

2 Workshop outputs

- Design Group comments on draft design papers, captured in discussion slides.
- Summary of Design Group feedback on viability of options for each prioritised idea.

Actions

| Section | Action | Owner |
|---------|--|--------------|
| 1 | Provide out-of-session feedback on 'Support' ideas by 3 pm on Friday, 12 May 2023 | Design Group |
| 1 | Incorporate all feedback into draft design report to be shared with Leadership Group | AER |