
Chief Executive's Report

Author:	Jordan Carter, Chief Executive
Purpose of paper:	To update Council on progress in the two months to 30 November 2015, and to set out goals and priorities for the coming quarter.

Introduction

This report sets out critical risks or other risks Council should be aware of, my priorities in the period since the August Council meeting, planned priorities for the three months from now until the end of December 2015, longer range priorities, and a brief update on staffing and contractor issues.

It should be read in conjunction with the management reports.

1: Critical / Other / Potential Risks

There are no critical risks to advise the Council of at the reporting date.

2: Recent Priorities

Chief Executive

Since the October meeting of the Council, I have been focused on the following issues, generally in descending priority order:

- Celebrating InternetNZ's 20th anniversary, and associated stakeholder events (including the Christmas season's beginning)
- Staffing issues in resolving next steps for the Operations Team
- Participating at the ICANN meeting in Dublin and in ICANN accountability matters
- Membership committee work
- Preparing our planning process for the 2016/17 year
- Ongoing Business Development Strategy development
- APRICOT 2016 project ownership/oversight

Of the priorities identified in my October 2015 report, most have been advanced in the past two months.

Less progress than hoped for has been made on two identified priorities:

- Stakeholder management - it has taken us longer to get the system working as planned than expected and so more progress is due here early in 2016.

- Communications – while we continue to make step by step improvements, we will do a more thorough general look at this next year.

Operating team

The separate reports on the Internet Issues, Community and International programmes, along with Operations, set out the detail. In this report I will no longer summarise those (already summarised) reports.

The team has been working well and has been producing a good deal of work. They can look forward to the holiday season with a record of achievement.

I will note with thanks to Megan's work that sponsorship commitments for APRICOT exceed the budget target.

3: Priorities for the next three months

Chief Executive

Here are my key priorities for my work to the end of March. These are in my intended priority order:

1. **Team Building:** the particular focus in the next few months is in working with Maria, Mary and Andrew in developing the Operations team, based in part on the work our Temporary Office Manager completed.
2. **2016 Planning:** Preparing next year's Activity Plan and Budget, and the various discussions and meet ups with members and stakeholders, will be an important focus for me through to March.
3. **Stakeholder & Member Engagement:** we will continue to make reference to celebrating 20 years, and using the "A Voice for the Open Internet" tagline. As noted above, more to be done in 2016 on the systems side of this.
4. **APRICOT 2016:** we host this event in Auckland in the second half of February, and there are a range of responsibilities associated with my role as Project Owner in the lead up, and then during the event.
5. **Internal Policies / Strategies etc:** whatever next steps are agreed with Business Development strategy, I will be ready to implement.
6. **Communications:** the core story will be refreshed early in the year.
7. **International:** ICANN accountability should be resolved in the coming few months, with a hopefully final proposal out for consultation at the time of writing. Changes should be signed off at or before the next ICANN meeting in early March.
8. **Subsidiary and .nz stewardship:** public consultation on the ".nz Framework policy" arising from the .nz Framework review; and, still hopefully, finalisation for debate and approval of an MOU between MBIE and InternetNZ regarding .nz.

I particularly welcome Council feedback on this set of priorities.

Operating Team

The following priorities are set out in the separate reports. I will highlight:

- **Team wide:** a decent holiday break, and a positive return to work for everyone in 2016.
- **Community:** assessing the Research Grants Round; holding the New Zealand Internet Research Forum early February 2016.
- **Internet Issues:** assessing the updated Government Cyber-Security Strategy, dealing with final copper broadband pricing decisions from the Commerce Commission, getting the State of the Internet report out the door for review, among other things.
- **International:** closing out the ICANN accountability work and participation in the next meeting.
- **Operations:** making the new team structure work well (Maria as lead here, reporting to Jordan, with Andrew developing leadership of this area from March 2016), and building on the current Quality Plan.
- **Communications and Events:** as noted above, reviewing the current “core story”, and working out whether we have the right level of resource in place. APRICOT 2016 is the main events focus, with the event being held in the coming period.

4: Longer Range Priorities

The big picture issues on my mind, in no particular priority order at this stage, are as follows – and are the same as last report with the removal of planning:

- **Team and Group culture and dynamics:** getting the best bang-for-buck across the group is important, and restoring common premises will see more interaction between various parts of the group.
- **Identity:** living up to the new brand identity and “spreading the word” on this, so that our public profile becomes clearer.
- **Role of and relationship with Members:** there is a good deal to do to better understand our members and develop a stronger culture of respect and inclusion among them.

Across all of these, “delivery” is a key theme – being crisper, sometimes faster, to get our view out.

5: Staffing and Contractor matters

Since the last meeting, Clare Denny has completed her role as Temporary Office Manager. She completed some important projects while with InternetNZ, including making the move of our premises happen, and some important foundational work on improvements to operations which will be seen in 2016.

Maria is stepping up into a new role of Administration Coordinator, taking on management of the Meetings Coordinator. Over the next few months, Andrew will develop responsibility for operations as well as issues, as a broadening of his areas of responsibility and development of his role as my deputy.

Megan is away from work for most of December for her wedding and honeymoon, and so while we have limited comms support in place, some social media activity may be less than it has been recently.

6: Other matters

- None to report.

The whole team was proud to celebrate 20 years of InternetNZ last month, and I know that we are feeling excited about a positive and productive 2016.

Best wishes for the holiday season!

Jordan Carter
Chief Executive

3 December 2015