How can we address the digital divide?

New Zealand Productivity Commission and New Zealand Work Research Institute workshop
Thursday 15 August, 1.00pm to 4.30pm
Room WF414, AUT Business School, City Campus, Auckland
Nau mai, haere mai, welcome!

THANK YOU!
About the Productivity Commission

Murray Sherwin, Chair

Sally Davenport

Gail Pacheco

Andrew Sweet
Technological change and the future of work

How can the Government better position New Zealand and New Zealanders to take advantage of innovation and technological change in terms of productivity, labour-market participation and the nature of work?

• How can New Zealand’s education and training system be more effective in enabling adaptation to technological disruption?

• How can we address the digital divide in New Zealand?
Workshop scope
Workshop aims

The inquiry team comes away **confident in our understanding** of the digital divide and potential solutions.

Participants have **had their say** and are optimistic about the ability of the inquiry to make a difference.

The workshop achieves a result that is **more than the sum of its parts** – that is, we achieved a better outcome than if the team had met individually with participants.
Today’s workshop

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<td>1.00 – 1.30pm</td>
<td>Participants arrive, lunch (foyer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.30 – 1.45pm</td>
<td>Welcome, introduction to the workshop</td>
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<td>1.45 – 2.30pm</td>
<td>Session 1 – What is the nature of the digital divide that New Zealand should be concerned about?</td>
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<td>2.30 – 3.15pm</td>
<td>Session 2 – If you were the Minister of Education, would you spend money on digital access as a priority?</td>
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<td>3.15 – 3.30pm</td>
<td>Afternoon tea (foyer)</td>
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<td>3.30 – 4.15pm</td>
<td>Session 3 – If the access problem was solved, would we solve the digital divide?</td>
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<td>4.15 – 4.30pm</td>
<td>Wrap-up and workshop close</td>
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Session 1: What is the nature of the digital divide that New Zealand should be concerned about?

We should be concerned about...

...getting all tamariki access to the internet at home

...increasing overall standards of digital literacy

...enhancing levels of motivation and trust to get entire whanau online

...teaching more kids to become creators of digital technology

...ensuring all kaiako are properly equipped to implement the digital curriculum

...empowering whanau to use/limit screen-time effectively for learning
Session 2: If you were the Minister of Education, would you spend money on digital access as a priority?

• **Ministry of Education presentation:** Equitable digital access

• **Context:** New Zealand spends about $13 billion on education a year
  – 6.3% of GDP, compared to an average of 5% across the OECD
  – 13.6% of government expenditure, compared to an average of 8% across the OECD

• If you were the Minister of Education, and you had ~$150 million to add to the education budget, would you spend it on digital access?
  – If yes, why?
  – If no, what else would you spend it on and why?
Afternoon tea

We’ll start back again at 3.30pm
Session 3: If the access problem was solved, would we solve the digital divide?

Imagine a world where...
Kia ora rawa atu – What happens now?

- Workshop write-up

- We will publish a draft report on education and skills in November 2019

- Three other draft reports will also be published as part of the inquiry, eg, on employment and income

- We will be inviting further submissions on these draft reports, before a final report is delivered to Government in March 2020

Visit our website to find out more and to subscribe to updates:

www.productivity.govt.nz