

**Digital Advisory Group Meeting Minutes**  
Version 1.0

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 18 February 2025
<b>Time:</b>	2.00pm - 4.00pm NZDT
<b>Attachments:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving Business Tax Programme Pack</li> </ul>
<b>Co-Chairs:</b>	Anil Srinivasa (Inland Revenue) & Tim Kirkpatrick (Tax Traders)
<b>Secretariat:</b>	Maggie Leese (DSPANZ)
<b>Members:</b>	Andy Dingfelder (iPayroll) Catherine Watson (Xero) Chris Mar (Datacom) Don Hounsell (MYOB) Edwin McLean (The Access Group) Eric Troebner (Tax Management NZ) Katherine Truman (SAP) Katie Leitch (MYOB) Mike Behling (Taxlab) Paul Orford (ReadyTech)
<b>Inland Revenue Participants:</b>	Glenn Richards James Barker Mark Tapara Richard Braae Vicki Cronin
<b>Guests:</b>	Adwin Singh (Inland Revenue) Clyde Rolston (Inland Revenue) Dan Blank (Inland Revenue) Sharyn Rea (Inland Revenue)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Nick Wilkins (Inland Revenue) Steve Johnson (Inland Revenue)

Item	Description	Lead
1	<p><b>Welcome</b> Anil Srinivasa welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Mark Tapara to provide an opening karakia.</p>	Anil Srinivasa (Inland Revenue), Mark Tapara (Inland Revenue)
2	<p><b>Acceptance of previous minutes</b> Tim Kirkpatrick moved to accept the minutes from the meeting on <a href="#">10 October 2024</a>. The minutes were taken as read and accepted.</p>	Tim Kirkpatrick (Tax Traders)
3	<p><b>Action item review</b> <b>23.05.2024-1:</b> DSPANZ is meeting with the Australian Digital ID team and will report back to Inland Revenue.  <b>22.02.2024-1:</b> Anil Srinivasa shared that, with Inland Revenue welcoming a new Chief Data Officer, changes are happening within the data analytics team. Once work has started internally in March, Anil will bring this topic to the DAG.</p>	Anil Srinivasa (Inland Revenue)
4	<p><b>Introductions</b> Tim Kirkpatrick kicked off introductions from DAG members. Tim acknowledged new faces Andy Dingfelder from iPayroll and Jame Barker from Inland Revenue.</p>	Tim Kirkpatrick (Tax Traders)
5	<p><b>DAG Charter &amp; Expectations of Attendees</b> Maggie Leese covered the DAG charter, recognising that it was last reviewed in January 2024 and has been recently updated to include the 2025 membership list. Maggie reminded members about the expectations of attendees.</p>	Maggie Leese (DSPANZ)
6	<p><b>Forward Agenda</b> Tim Kirkpatrick thanked members for their contributions to the forward agenda items and acknowledged the intention to have more conversations that support Inland Revenue's (IR) digital ecosystem strategies. Tim shared that the DAG will have two online meetings focused on providing updates and two in-person meetings, offering the opportunity to run workshops and host in-depth conversations.  Tim encouraged members to share agenda item requests with the Co-Chairs or Secretariat.</p>	Tim Kirkpatrick (Tax Traders)
7	<p><b>Improving Business Tax Programme Overview</b> Sharyn Rea provided an introduction to the Improving Business Tax Programme and team. Sharyn acknowledged the impact of Business Transformation on income tax experiences and recognised the opportunities to improve business tax experiences. Sharyn shared that the programme will focus on reducing compliance costs and improving revenue certainty. The programme includes the following work streams:</p>	Sharyn Rea (Inland Revenue), Dan Blank (Inland Revenue), Clyde Rolston (Inland Revenue)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Simplifying small business tax</li> <li>● Digital ecosystem model</li> <li>● Payments enhancements (including leveraging Open Banking)</li> <li>● Enhancements to Gateway Services</li> </ul> <p>Dan Blank provided more information on the simplifying small business tax work stream and its opportunity to align tax experiences to support small businesses and ultimately scale up benefits for larger businesses, creating a more capable digital ecosystem. Dan shared that the programme aligns with the capabilities raised by the DAG and the broader community.</p> <p>Dan walked through the current programme roadmap, highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● IR is in the emerge phase of the programme and is developing a business case to present to executives in April</li> <li>● There are high-level ideas about IR's future role in the ecosystem, but there are no commitments to changes yet</li> <li>● IR anticipates that (pending business case approval) they will be in the discovery phase starting in April.</li> </ul> <p>Members discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The role of the AIM method in the future</li> <li>● Whether IR could share more information about the business case - it was noted that it needs to be approved before IR can share further details, but they will consider how much they can share once approved by the steering committee.</li> <li>● The business case will fit within Inland Revenue's current funding</li> <li>● The discovery phase and when IR will begin to consult externally - it was noted that they anticipate starting external engagements in June and recognise that any policy changes will require adequate consultation and timeframes.</li> </ul> <p>Anil Srinivasa thanked the team for their update and suggested that members contact him or Glenn with further questions. Anil acknowledged that the programme lead, Steve Johnson, could not join the meeting.</p>	
8	<p><b>Security Working Group Update</b></p> <p>Adwin Singh from IR's CISO team provided an update on the DAG Security Working Group and the progress on the security framework for DSPs. Adwin shared that the working group met on 13 February, during which IR shared an overview of their Digital Threats and Vulnerabilities work. Adwin acknowledged that IR has taken on feedback from the meeting about notifying IR about security incidents and</p>	Adwin Singh (Inland Revenue)

	<p>information sharing between IR and DSPs.</p> <p>The working group is hosting a workshop to review the API risk ratings and draft security framework before meeting again in April. Adwin shared that the security framework will take a tiered approach. The working group will report back to the DAG as this work progresses.</p>	
9	<p><b>Annual Changes Update</b> Vicki Cronin shared that the build packs and guides for the Annual Changes 25 have been emailed out. Mark Tapara shared that everything is tracking according to plan. Mark highlighted the changes surrounding beneficiary income and the feedback on information currently contained in the guidance.</p> <p>Members raised the challenges that DSPs will face in accommodating these trust changes in a short time and the questions they will receive from customers. Members requested a retrospective on the trust changes to help build the case for IR to work closely with DSPs and subject matter experts on policy changes.</p> <p><b>Action</b> Inland Revenue will hold a retrospective session on the trust changes with the Annual Changes working group.</p> <p>Members provided feedback on the delay in releasing the final payroll specifications and how this timing impacts payroll developers. Mark will follow up with Ange Pearson.</p> <p><b>Action</b> Follow up on the progress of final payroll specifications with Ange Pearson.</p>	Vicki Cronin (Inland Revenue), Mark Tapara (Inland Revenue)
10	<p><b>Tax and Social Policy Work Programme</b> Richard Braae shared that the Tax and Social Policy Work Programme has been released and provided an overview. Richard noted some budget-sensitive projects in the programme have not been made public and shared that IR is advocating for consultation and engagement with DSPs after items are announced in the budget.</p> <p>Richard shared that the work programme will be periodically updated as projects are completed or government priorities change. The Minister of Revenue has committed to updating the programme later this year. Richard will provide updates to the DAG as required.</p> <p>Richard encouraged members to contact him if they would like more information on items included in the work programme, particularly if there have been no updates.</p>	Richard Braae (Inland Revenue)
11	<b>Any other business</b>	Tim Kirkpatrick

	Members discussed the June meeting location. Anil Srinivasa shared that IR is securing a venue in the Auckland CBD. Members will be notified once the location has been confirmed, and an updated calendar invite will be issued.	(Tax Traders)
12	<b>Meeting close</b> Anil Srinivasa thanked members for their attendance and recognised the new members joining the DAG. Anil called on Mark Tapara for a closing karakia.	Anil Srinivasa (Inland Revenue), Mark Tapara (Inland Revenue)

### Actions

Date Raised	Description	Responsible
18.02.2025-1	Inland Revenue will hold a retrospective session on trust changes with the Annual Changes working group.	Mark Tapara, Vicki Cronin
18.02.2025-2	Follow up on the progress of final payroll specifications with Ange Pearson.	Mark Tapara
23.05.2024-1	Provide Tracey Turner with an introduction to John Shepherd from the Australian Department of Finance to discuss Digital ID in the tax ecosystem.  <b>Update 22.08.2024:</b> DSPANZ will make this introduction shortly.  <b>Update 10.10.2024:</b> Key contacts have been on leave.  <b>Update 18.02.2025:</b> DSPANZ is meeting with the Australian Digital ID team and will report back to Inland Revenue.	Maggie Leese, Matthew Prouse
22.02.2024-1	Anil Srinivasa and DSPANZ will discuss data minimisation and retention further and report back to the group.  <b>Update 23.05.2024:</b> Anil will report back to the group post Budget on whether Inland Revenue can progress this work.  <b>Update 22.08.2024:</b> Inland Revenue will not pick up new initiatives until the end of the year. This item will remain open.  <b>Update 10.10.2024:</b> Anil acknowledged the information collection framework has been shared with members and will be published in November. Anil will reconnect with the team to understand the resourcing requirements to undertake this work.  <b>Update 18.02.2025:</b> Anil Srinivasa shared that, with Inland Revenue welcoming a new Chief Data Officer, changes are happening within the data analytics team. Once work has started internally in March, Anil will bring this topic to the DAG.	Anil Srinivasa, Maggie Leese