

Registrar Advisory Group - Meeting Minutes

- DATE:** 26 September 2025, 8 AM to 9 AM
- ATTENDEES (DNC):** Barbara Pearse, Commissioner (Chair)
Dylan Connolly, Operations Manager
Ann Ibrahim, Head of Technical and Relationships
- ATTENDEES (INZ):** Josh Simpson, Product Infrastructure Lead
Isobel Egerton, Domain Name Policy Lead
Sonya Trompetter, Product Support Manager
Tim Johnson, General Manager Customer and Product
Maria Skatova, Generate Manager
- ATTENDEES (RAG Members)** Lee Miller - Voyager
Neil Stockbridge - Metaname
Shaun Fisher - Vetta
David Grice - DIA
Melissa Tihiariki - TPP WholeSale
Prudence Malinki - Mark Monitor
- APOLOGIES** Rose Jamieson, General Manager, Public Impact

AGENDA

- Change of registrant - registrar(s) high level process
- Deceased domain name holders.
- DNC website with Advisory Group webpage.
- INZ Updates
 - nz Rules submissions
 - Analysis on price increase

MEETING MINUTES

The Commissioner welcomed the attendees and noted that the meeting agenda differs from the standard format, as the usual standing items will be addressed during the day at the .nz Registrar Summit.

Change of domain name holders and validation processes

- Registrars discussed different methods undertaken for change of domain name holder and high-level processes, which in some cases involves:
 - a physical form signed by both parties
 - the current registrant to authorise the domain name transfer and the new registrant to accept the terms and conditions followed by submission of the completed form.
 - in other cases, it is done via the control panel as the domain name holder logs-in.
- Validations happening at the registrar level in some cases to ensure they are corresponding with the actual domain name holder.
- Outlined the safeguards in place, including but not limited to an email notification triggered by changes to registrant contact details and a designated cool-down period.

Registrars requested guidance from the DNC regarding the change of domain name holder process, in line with the obligations set out under the .nz Rules. On the face of it, the .nz Rules indicate a paper based process. DNC will consider the .nz Rules requirements and come back to registrars with guidance.

Guidance on deceased domain name holders

- Registrars outlined challenges if the domain name holder is deceased and requested guidance from the DNC on the process. Also flagged due to the proposed changes to .nz Rules that would require a domain name holder to be 'living'.
- One registrar noted that if the executors of a deceased domain name holder contact them they have changed the domain name holder name to that of the executors of the estate. DNC agrees this is an appropriate step as the executors take control of the assets for the purpose of dealing with them pursuant to the deceased's Will. However, issues may

arise if executors are not aware of the existence of the domain name and don't notify the registrar.

- Discussion that it may be useful to get more visibility about domain name licences being assets potentially held by a deceased person in front of lawyers who often (but not always) are involved in estate administration.
- DNC/INZ will consider whether publishing an article in a lawyer's magazine - Lawtalk could be a good idea to get exposure on this and other options.

DNC website with Advisory group webpage

- Requested the re-establishment of the Advisory Group webpage on the DNC website, featuring member names and email contact details, to enable other .nz registrars to engage directly with Advisory Group members and contribute to topics and discussion items. Meeting minutes can also be made available in the same section.
- DNC agrees and will put it on the workplan.

INZ Updates

- An extension was requested by registrars to allow additional time for submitting feedback on the .nz Rules consultation which was underway. INZ agreed to extend the deadline to COB Wednesday, 1 October.
- The analysis of the .nz domain name price increase will be shared once it has been completed.

Action Items - 26 September 2025

Item	Owner	Due date
<i>From 03 July Meeting</i> Consider an NDA for the advisory group	Tim to discuss with INZ In-house Legal	December
Circulate meeting minutes to participants for feedback	Ann	20 October

Circulate to Registrars with feedback (if any) incorporated		27 October
Guidance from the DNC regarding the change of registrant process, in line with the obligations set out under the .nz Rules.	DNC	30 November
Guidance from DNC on the process in case of deceased domain name holders And Consider comms to lawyers (& trustee coys) about dealing with domain names as part of estate administration	DNC	30 November
Re-establish the advisory group webpage on DNC's website	DNC	30 November (or earlier if possible)