

A blue-tinted photograph of a suspension bridge over a valley. In the background, a road with cars and a body of water are visible. The bridge has a corrugated metal deck and is supported by cables. A few people are walking on the bridge.

July 2020

Re-imagining the future of .nz

Submission template.

How to use this submission template

Instructions

This template contains a full summary of the questions in the Options Report. You may wish to respond to one, many, or all of them.

For ease of navigation we have included the headings and options from the full Report.

You are welcome to use the template, or make a submission through other means.

We are interested in any views you have. If you are able to support your views with evidence, we are keen to see this too. This might include facts, figures, research, or examples.

For the purposes of your submission on this paper, you should include your name (or your organisation's name) and your contact details.

You can make your submission by:

- Email to dotnzreview@internetnz.net.nz
- Post to PO Box 11-881, Manners Street, Wellington 6142, New Zealand

Submissions are due by **Friday 14 August**.

Participate online

We will be releasing bite-size content on InternetNZ's social media channels and the InternetNZ website. And you will also be able to provide your feedback there.

The Panel will also be hosting webinars where you can come and discuss your thoughts on the Report. To find out more and register your interest, visit <https://internetnz.nz/nz-have-your-say>.

Use of information

The information provided in submissions will be used to inform the Advisory Panel's recommendations to InternetNZ on changes to the .nz policies. The Panel or InternetNZ may contact you directly to clarify anything in your submission.

The Privacy Act 1993 establishes certain principles with respect to our collection, use and disclosure of information about individuals. Any personal information you supply to the Panel and InternetNZ in the course of making a submission will only be used by the Panel or InternetNZ in their consideration of what changes should be made to the .nz policies.

InternetNZ has an open policy making process and typically publishes all submissions to encourage open conversation. Individual names and contact details will not be published. If you would like to include confidential information in your submission, please contact dotnzreview@internetnz.net.nz to discuss what arrangements InternetNZ might implement if we were to agree to receive the confidential information.

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Your details

Name	Richard Bourne, Chief Executive
Email address	
Contact phone number	

I understand and agree that my submission will be made public on the InternetNZ website

I understand that my contact details will be redacted from the public version of this submission

I would like to speak to my submission with the Panel

Guiding Principles

Summary of proposed changes to the guiding principles for .nz

The Panel intends to recommend that the guiding principles for .nz be:

- **.nz should be secure, trusted and safe:** .nz infrastructure should be dependable and secure and .nz be a domain space people trust and feel safe using.
- **.nz should be open and accessible:** The .nz domain should be an inclusive space where everybody can observe, participate, innovate and enjoy online benefits.
- **.nz should be safe-guarded and operated for the benefit of New Zealanders:** The .nz domain space should be safe-guarded and operated for the benefit of New Zealanders, reflecting and being responsive to our diverse social, cultural and ethnic environment.
- **.nz should support te reo Māori and participation in .nz by Māori:** The .nz domain space should contribute to the protection and use of te reo Māori and facilitate participation in the .nz domain space by Māori.
- **.nz should enable New Zealand to grow and develop:** The .nz domain space should help people, businesses and organisations connect, create, innovate and grow.

The Panel intends to recommend that the .nz policies contain the following operational guidelines:

- **First come, first served:** A domain name will be registered on a ‘first come, first served’ basis if it is unregistered and available for registration.
- **Restrictions on use should be minimised:** The ccTLD manager should keep restrictions on the way domain names can be used to the minimum necessary to enable the .nz domain to be trusted and safe.
- **Structural separation:** Regulatory, registry, and registrar functions are structurally separated.
- **Clear chain of relationships:** Registrants have agreements with their registrar, and all registrars with the registry and with DNCL. Where appropriate the DNCL can intervene in these relationships consistent with this policy, the .nz policies and associated agreements and contracts.

1.	Do you consider that the .nz guiding principles should be visionary, holistic, inclusive and instructive rather than operational? Why / why not? What else should they be?
2.	Do you think the .nz policies should be rewritten and simplified? Why / why not? If yes, how?
3.	Do you think there should be a new ‘secure, trusted and safe’ principle? Why / why not? Do you have any comments on the proposed formulation of the new principle?

	Yes, Liverton Security believes InternetNZ and registrars have a responsibility to the New Zealand public to provide a service which is secure, trusted and safe.
4.	What would be the main benefits and disadvantages of moving from a 'no concern for use' approach to a 'secure, trusted and safe' approach?
5.	Do you think there should be a new 'open and accessible' principle? Why / why not? Do you have any comments on the proposed formulation of the new principle?
6.	Do you think there should be a new 'New Zealand benefit' principle? Why / why not? Do you have any comments on the proposed formulation of the new principle?
7.	Do you think there should be a new principle on te reo Māori and Māori participation in .nz? Why / why not? Do you have any comments on the proposed formulation of the new principle?

8.	Do you think there should be a new guiding principle on enabling New Zealand to grow and develop? Why / why not? Do you have any comments on the proposed formulation of the new principle?
9.	Do you think there should be two types of principles (guiding principles and operational guidelines) to help manage the .nz domain? Why / why not?
10.	Do you agree that the 'rule of law' principle should not be retained as an operational guideline? Why / why not?
11.	Do you think the 'first come first served' principle should be modified and retained as an operational guideline? Why / why not?
12.	Do you think the 'first come first served' principle should be modified and retained as an operational guideline? Why / why not?

13.	Do you agree that the 'low barriers to entry' principle should be removed? Why / why not?
14.	Do you agree that the 'no concern for use' principle should be modified and retained as an operational guideline? Why / why not?
15.	Do you agree that the 'structural separation' principle should be retained as an operational guideline? Why / why not?
	Yes Liverton Security believes InternetNZ should not operate as a registrar in competition to current registrars. InternetNZ has a role to require registrars to comply with minimum standards, and if it is also operating as a registrar there is potential for InternetNZ to be compromised or conflicted.
16.	Do you agree that the 'clear chain of relationships' principle should be retained as an operational guideline? Why / why not?
17.	Should the Panel consider any other principles?

18.	Is there anything else the Panel should bear in mind when making recommendations on the principles or operational guidelines for the .nz policies?

Accessibility and openness of .nz domains

The .nz policies are written only in English

- Option A: the current situation
- Option B: Make the policies available in te reo Māori as well as English
- Option C: Make the policies available in te reo Māori and take other accessibility measures like adding other languages over time according to how widely used they are

19.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
20.	Which option do you prefer? Why?

Lack of availability of characters other than English and te reo Māori alphabets in .nz domain names

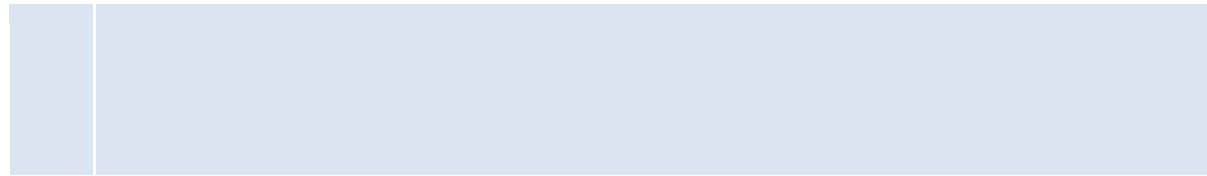
- Option A: the current situation
- Option B: support additional characters as demand arises
- Option C: support all characters for most widely used New Zealand languages

21.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
22.	Which option do you prefer? Why?

No geographical limits on registrants

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: Educate .nz users that .nz domain names can be held from anywhere around the world
- Option C: Impose a local presence requirement

22.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
23.	Which option do you prefer? Why?



Security and trust

Domain and website content abuse

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: 'No concern for use'
- Option C: Suspension of a domain name on advice by a trusted notifier
- Option D: Implement an 'acceptable use' policy

25.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
26.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

The interim emergency circumstances clause

- Option A: Allow the interim policy to lapse
- Option B: Make the interim policy permanent as it is currently phrased
- Option C: Modify the interim policy and make it permanent

27.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not?
28.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

Domain name registration abuse

- Option A: Current situation
- Option B: Introduce data validation for all domain name registrations
- Option C: Introduce data verification for high risk domain name registrations

29.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
30.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

Grace periods and domain tasting

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: Removal of grace periods
- Option C: Adopt different policies towards new registration and renewal grace periods

31.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
32.	Which option do you prefer? Why?
	Liverton Security supports Option A. The removal of the grace period has the potential to create more problems which outweighs the risk of misuse of the grace period.

Misleading, deceptive, and offensive domain names

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: Introduce a 'reserved and restricted names' policy

33.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?

34.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?
	Liverton Security believes InternetNZ has an obligation on behalf of New Zealanders to manage the .nz domain name space, including implementing and applying a reserved and restricted name policy.

Ensuring security best practice across the .nz domain name system

- Option A: The current situation: Registry has no levers to monitor or improve registrar security
- Option B: Require all registrars to adhere to minimum security standards
- Option C: Incentivise or mandate security features or practices

35.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
	Option B and C deal with mandating and incentivizing which are two separate matters. This may affect the interpretation of results.
36.	Which option do you prefer? Why?
	Liverton Security supports Option B. Many industries have requirements on matters such as privacy and security and it is appropriate for domain name providers to comply with security standards. Any such change needs to be managed carefully e.g. communicate requirements clearly and give registrars plenty of time to modify systems. Liverton Security has no opinion on incentives.

Technology specific approach

- Option A: The current situation

- Option B: A ‘technology neutral’ approach to policy drafting replaces the current prescriptive approach

37.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
38.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

Conflicted domain names

Self-conflicted names continue to be unresolved

- Option A: The current situation - the Registry continues to allow self
- Option B: Provide a deadline for the registrant to resolve the conflict themselves to avoid release of domain names.

Other conflicted names continue to be unresolved

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: Provide a deadline for all registrants to come to an agreement
- Option C: InternetNZ develops a criteria for prioritising registrants’ right to a .nz name

39.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
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40.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

Enhancing privacy across the .nz domain name system

Level of registrant data collected and stored

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: Introduce different registrant profiles, requiring different levels of contact data to be collected for each.

41.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
42.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

Registrant data is made public by default

- Option A: Current situation

- Option B: The IRPO is opt out, i.e, individual registrants have the option activated by default
- Option C: All registrant contact details are withheld from query services for all individuals not in trade (no option to opt out or in)

43.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
44.	Which option do you prefer? Why?
45.	Under the IRPO, which contact details do you think should be withheld from WHOIS?

Implementation of the IRPO and access to registrant information when required

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: Streamline the process described in clause 22 of the *Operations and Procedures* policy and make it more user friendly for requests to access 'Withheld Data'
- Option C: The creation of a form that allows people to communicate with a registrant without requiring the registrant's email address

46.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
47.	Which option do you prefer? Why?

The .nz domain space and Māori

Engaging with Māori in the policy-making process

48.	Do you agree that following the Panel’s work, InternetNZ should take reasonable steps to engage with Māori when amending the .nz policies? Why / why not?

Building strong capability within InternetNZ to engage with Māori

49.	Do you agree InternetNZ should ensure it has adequate capability to facilitate engagement with Māori? Why / why not?

Engaging with Māori on the issues that the Panel has identified

50.	Are there any other .nz-related issues affecting Māori that you think should be considered?

Opportunities to enhance .nz growth and improve market operation

The current flat wholesale fee structure limits innovation

- Option A: Flat wholesale fee, no rebates or incentives (Current situation)
- Option B: Enable variable wholesale pricing to Registrars
- Option C: Allow Registry to offer rebates to the registrant via the wholesale fee

51.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
52.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

The scope of incentives to enhance market operation

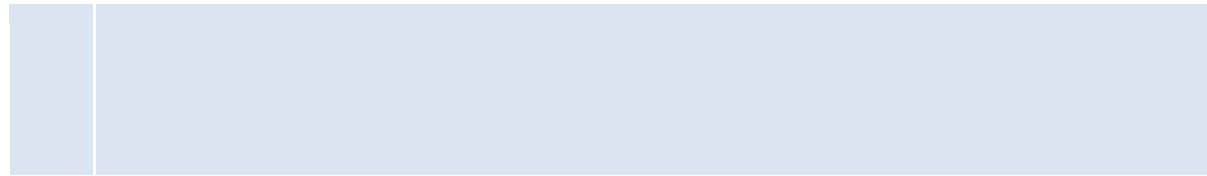
- Option A: Do not incentivise registrars or registrants (the current situation)
- Option B: Allow registrar incentives to drive specific initiatives
- Option C: Require any incentive payment criteria to be designed to promote .nz policy goals

53.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
54.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

Empowering registrants could improve market performance

- Option A: Current situation
- Option B: InternetNZ works with registrars to establish a statement of registrant rights which the DNC monitors and registrars are accountable for by annual monitoring
- Option C: DNCL publishes expanded objective market information to better inform registrant choice eg. market share and renewal rates

55.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
56.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?



Improving the regulation of Resellers could enhance market operation

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: Establish a two-tier registrar system which incorporates resellers
- Option C: Reduce the \$3,000+GST registrar establishment fee for existing resellers as part of the proposed two-tier registrar system

57.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
58.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

The Registry's role in market activity

- Option A: No requirement on scope of registrar offering. Registry may not sell/market directly to customers (The current situation)
- Option B: The Registry defines minimum service/feature set all registrars must provide. The Registry may not sell/market directly to registrants. The Registry incentivises registrars to provide services it provides under agreed rules
- Option C: No requirement on scope of registrar offering. The Registry may sell/market directly to registrants under strict controls.

59.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
	There are two separate matters here: the registry selling/marketing directly to registrants (the scope of the registry's offering) and a minimum service/feature set available to registrants. These need to be dealt with separately.
60.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?
	<p>Liverton Security supports Option B.</p> <p>Liverton Security believes InternetNZ has an obligation to decide on the minimum service/feature set available to registrants e.g. DNSSEC, on behalf of New Zealanders.</p> <p>Liverton Security does not believe InternetNZ should trade directly with registrants as this would conflict with its role as standard setter.</p> <p>Liverton Security holds no opinion on incentivizing registrars.</p>

Improving Registrar monitoring may enhance market operation

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: Establish a Registrar Service Level Agreement System to enhance market operation.

61.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
62.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

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Greater industry data collection and publication could improve growth opportunities

- Option A: The current situation
- Option B: The Registry collects and communicates market information including customer segments, activity/utilisation and product use for industry to better understand and develop the .nz market

63.	Do you agree with our assessment of the options? Why / why not? Are there viable options that we have not mentioned?
64.	Which of these options do you prefer? Why?

Second level (2LD) market opportunities

65.	Do you agree with our assessment of the issue? Why / why not?

66.	Is there a role for additional second level domain names (moderated or not) within the .nz domain? If so, what domains in which area?

Other comments

67.	Any other comments you would like to make.