

- A few thoughts. The background to my quick comments below is an RFI for 52 schools in Otago (December 2007) over connectivity together with 2 years of research around educational services and transit costs for those outside the main city areas.
- The uncertainty around the future government means investing in the BIF process is awkward. Clarity from Maurice Williamson's party is needed and required by MED. How does the BIF fit with National's stance?
- Criteria for what is urban is unclear - It seems that only a very few areas eg the Chathams and the remote areas of Southland and Northland are rural. Kurow, Riverton are therefore urban.
- The BIF seems to be targeting dark fibre and ducting in cities. This will not apply or be workable in the majority urban areas as well as city areas for education.
- The criteria is vague. Will an application from a trust in site(s) outside the city be given the same emphasis as an urban fibre network or MUSH - the H is silent? Education seems to be the focus but no mention of 10mbps. No mention is made of the ongoing running costs required after a subsidised commercial install. This is presenting the image that BIF is all about dark fibre - without mentioning transit/transport costs
- Where is the National Education Network fitting in to this? What is the architecture we are trying to collectively build?
- Who defines acceptable service 1Mbps?
- Who pays for demand aggregation points? Where will they be? what is the \$150 million for KAREN network for - vagueness doesn't help build a picture
- Bearer services / KAREN - who will deal with identity management? IP4 and IP6 translation issues? security?
- Rural (but not the definition in BIF) need the same speed as urban ie Wanaka needs 100Mbps at the school.

Such a decentralised approach has merits - for the cities - where it should happen anyway. 75% of all schools rural? ....equity seems missing in favour of spicing up the competition in cities ...

thanks for the opportunity

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