

**FINTECH DELIVERY PANEL
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: 17.06.21
Time: 11:00 - 12:30
Location: Zoom

ATTENDEES

- (EB) Eileen Burbidge, Chair, Fintech Delivery Panel & Partner, Passion Capital
- (AB) Ahmed Badr, General Counsel, GoCardless
- (AE) Andrew Elphick, Head of Intrapreneurship and Innovation Mindset, Barclays
- (AT) Arunan Tharmarajah, Head of European Banking, Wise
- (BL) Ben Lockett, Managing Director, Aviva Ventures
- (CP) Chris Pond, Chair, Financial Inclusion Commission & Lending Standards Board
- (CH) Colin Hewitt, CEO, Float
- (ET) Edward Twiddy, Chief Customer Officer, Atom bank
- (GR) Gemma Rogers, Co-founder, Fintrail
- (JH) Janine Hirt, COO and Board Member, Innovate Finance
- (LO) Louise O'Shea, Chair Insurtech Board, CEO, Confused.com
- (MI) Martin Ijaha, Fintech adviser, previous co-founder Neyber
- (MJ) Matt James, Head of Innovation Scouting UK & Europe, NatWest Group
- (MT) Min Teo, Partner, ConsensysLabs
- (NF) Natasha Foster, Co-founder/COO, Paid
- (NL) Nick Lee, Head of Regulatory Affairs, Oak North
- (PG) Philip Garner, Head of Innovation, Lloyds Banking Group
- (SD) Stephen Dury, Director of Innovation, Santander
- (SB) Sujata Bhatia, COO, Monzo
- (VB) Veronique Barbosa, Co-founder/COO, Flux

Guests

- (BT) Bhavini Taylor, Financial Inclusion, HM Treasury
- (KF) Katie Fisher, Deputy Director, Financial Inclusion, HM Treasury
- (ME) Maha El Dimachki, Head of Department - Kalifa Review implementation, FCA
- (NB) Nick Butt, Head of Division, Future of Money, Bank of England
- (SC) Shiv Chowla, Senior Manager for CBDC, Bank of England

Observers

- (BM) Beth McGauley, Fintech Policy Adviser, HM Treasury
- (CN) Carly Nimmo, Head of Fintech Team, HM Treasury
- (LE) Louise Eggett, Head of Fintech Hub, Bank of England
- (RB) Ravi Bhalla, Head of Department - Innovate, Strategy & Competition, FCA

Secretariat

- (JP) Jemima Pitceathly, Programme Executive FDP, Tech Nation
- (RS) Ravi Shukla, Head of FDP, Tech Nation
- (VR) Victoria Roberts, Director of FDP, Tech Nation

Apologies

- Adam Dickinson, Head of Fintech, Innovation and Partnership Procurement, HSBC
 - Adrian Eagleston, Chief Revenue Office, Automated Intelligence
 - Christian Faes, Co-founder, LendInvest
 - Francesco Simoneschi, CEO and Co-founder, True Layer
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Welcome and Objectives (Eileen Burbidge, Chair)

- EB welcomed Panel Members and thanked all those involved in recent FDP activity including the UK Fintech Week Partnerships webinar, latest signatories to the Fintech Pledge, and the Fintech Diversity and Inclusion workshops.
- EB summarised the latest roundtable in the FDP's *Emerging Tech, Future Finance* series. This was co-hosted with the Bank of England to explore the role of Big Tech in the Future of Finance, with guest speakers including Google, Facebook and Microsoft.

Financial Inclusion (Chris Pond, Financial Inclusion Commission & Sujata Bhatia, Monzo)

- EB welcomed KF to the meeting to learn more about FDP plans for the "Finclusion" campaign in November 2021.
- KF introduced her role as Deputy Director of Personal Finance and Funds
 - Acknowledged the importance of convening the right individuals in conversations around financial inclusion to encourage leadership and collaboration
 - Noted the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on personal finances, and recalled prior HM Treasury initiatives such as the Affordable Credit Challenge
- CP updated the Panel on latest developments towards "Finclusion"
 - Provided a brief overview of the launch plans to date and series of industry events being scoped by the fintech community, with strong engagement from civil society organisations
 - Encouraged the ongoing support of FDP members, in the way most appropriate for their organisation
- SB reiterated the invitation to get involved, highlighting the value of connecting innovators with Lived Experience experts to the benefit of end users

Update on Kalifa Review (Maha El Dimachki, FCA)

- EB welcomed ME to the meeting to provide an update on the FCA's next steps following the Kalifa review
- ME highlighted areas of current focus including the regulatory sandbox, AI, and cryptoassets, as well as the establishment of a scalebox / regulatory "nursery" to support newly authorised firms to understand what it means to be regulated
- ME invited views on the definition of a scaling fintech and on what activity is needed to best support those companies
- EB thanked ME for her insights. ET and NL confirmed FDP would continue to feed into this work, where appropriate working in partnership to represent a wide range of views from the sector
- CP encouraged enabling financial inclusion to be seen as an additional objective throughout the FCA's work on innovation
- MJ highlighted synergies between the FDP's Partnerships work and the aims of the scalebox, with successful partnerships being reliant on a fintech's understanding of

- the regulatory obligations required to partner with a large financial organisation
- ME thanked Panel members for the discussion and invited ongoing input

Diversity: research proposal on role and participation of diverse ethnic minorities in UK Fintech (Ahmed Badr, GoCardless & Martin Ijaha)

- AB outlined the need to build a better data foundation around diverse ethnic minorities in the sector in order to best target future diversity initiatives
- AB presented the research proposal developed by the FDP Diversity working group, thanking Panel members and representatives from their organisations for their engagement
 - Noted the emphasis of the research exploring not just founders, but career trajectories, migration and key data points for fintech employees
 - Invited FDP members to form a small consortium to sponsor this research

Partnerships (Matt James, NatWest Group & Veronique Barbosa, Flux)

- MJ and VB provided an update on the Partnerships workstream's latest activity
 - Discussed the development of the Fintech Partnerships Toolkit as a further resource for fintechs looking to prepare to pitch and partner with financial institutions
 - Introduced ideas from the working group to help explore ongoing pain points within partnerships, as well as how to showcase successful collaborations in the UK to date and the progress achieved as a result of the Fintech Pledge

Developing Central Bank Digital Currencies (Nick Butt & Shiv Chowla, Bank of England)

- EB welcomed NB and SC to the meeting to present the Bank of England's latest Discussion Paper on Central Bank Digital Currencies
- NB introduced CBDCs as a new electronic form of central bank money that could be used by household and businesses to make payments, and indicated the increasing developments around CBDC in other jurisdictions
- NB explained the potential opportunities, in terms of their commercial and policy implications:
 - Allowing households and businesses to make faster, more efficient payments
 - More inclusive payments with more access to central bank money
 - Increased resilience within payments / financial systems, as well as lower costs for cross border payments
 - Discussed how setting out clear expectations and regulatory regimes might be able to ensure equivalent levels of resilience
- EB thanked NB for the introduction and invited questions from Panel members
- MT discussed the work Consensus is doing with governments around the world who are at different stages in these developments, and enquired how the Bank of England see the differences between stable coins and CBDC
 - NB acknowledged there are a broad range of ways to deliver CBDC and the underlying technology and ledger required. NB presented the core difference as CBDC possessing a direct claim on a central bank currency, whereas stable coins will centre around private sector institutions
 - SC added that CBDC will be safer due to its relationship to the central bank, whereas stable coins will need an appropriate regulatory framework to manage any associated risks.
- EB observed that education and communication around CBDC will be crucial for

- consumers
- CH and NL enquired about potential privacy concerns associated with CBDC
 - NB explained more work will be undertaken on the regulatory and operability aspects of the CBDC concept
- NL questioned the risk of CBDC for the retail banking market
 - SC replied that CBDC can exist alongside existing institutions, success will be an appropriate balance and how best to manage any impact
- EB thanked NB and SC for their informative presentation, confirming this as a topic at the front of minds with far reaching implications
- NB and SC invited the Panel to feed into the consultation on the Bank’s latest CBDC Discussion Paper.

AOB (Eileen Burbidge, Chair)

- AB and AT presented the Tech Zero Pledge which GoCardless and Wise have committed to, encouraging other Panel members to sign up to demonstrate fintech is leading other sectors on the important issue of climate change
- LO updated the Panel on the work of the Insurtech Board
 - Welcomed the new Fintech Pledge signatories from the insurance sector and the publication of the Insurtech Board’s report “Breaking down barriers to successful partnerships”
 - Shared the success of the recent ‘Insurtech Lookbook’ completed in collaboration with the Department for International Trade, which has already led to more than 40 introductions for UK insurtechs to international investors
- EB welcomed the Panel replicating this approach with a ‘Fintech Lookbook’, asking Panel members to identify any appropriate companies that could be included
- EB invited the Panel to informal “coffee” catch ups over the summer, highlighting the opportunity to discuss future FDP priorities and to identify guest speakers for future meetings
- EB confirmed the next FDP meeting will take place in September (date TBC)

Actions

Action	Owner	Timeline
Minutes and meeting materials circulated	JP	COMPLETED
Members to consider participation in funding consortium for Diversity research	FDP members / RS	ASAP
Members to feedback to secretariat on ideas related to the FCA scalebox/nursery	FDP members / VR	By end July
Members to feedback to secretariat on questions posed by Bank of England on CBDCs (see BoE slide deck)	FDP members / VR	By end August
Members to consider participation in Tech Zero Pledge	FDP members / JP	Ongoing
Members to recommend companies to showcase in international “Fintech Lookbook”	FDP Members / JP	Sept onwards

Members to RSVP to summer 'coffee catch-up' invitations	FDP members / JP	ASAP
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