



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY  
**NETWORK AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE CHARTER**

Revised, May 5, 2021

**Origin**

The FirstNet Board established the Network and Technology Committee to leverage its member's expertise to inform the FirstNet Board with respect to network and technology as needed, and to review and recommend actions for FirstNet's priorities (as described below) and associated efforts to engage and collaborate with industry to ensure that technical and industry perspectives are appropriately considered and the resiliency and operational needs of public safety are met.

**Committee Membership**

The Network and Technology Committee shall consist of at least three members. Network and Technology Committee members shall be recommended by the Network and Technology Committee Chair and appointed by the FirstNet Board Chair for such term or terms as the FirstNet Board Chair may determine. Network and Technology Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of and may be replaced at any time by the FirstNet Board Chair. Only members of the FirstNet Board may serve as a member of the Network and Technology Committee.

**Committee Structure and Operations**

The FirstNet Board Chair shall designate one member as the Network and Technology Committee Chair. The Network and Technology Committee shall meet publicly in person or telephonically at least twice a year, with additional meetings to occur, or actions to be taken by unanimous written consent, when deemed desirable or appropriate by the Network and Technology Committee Chair or a majority of the Network and Technology Committee members. The Network and Technology Committee Chair will determine the time and place of each meeting.

The Network and Technology Committee may, in its discretion, form and delegate authority to one or more subcommittees. The Network and Technology Committee Chair may invite such members of management to attend the meetings or portions thereof as the Network and Technology Committee Chair may deem desirable or appropriate. Any member of the FirstNet Board may attend any Network and

## ATTACHMENT A

Technology Committee meeting and may participate as the Network and Technology Committee Chair deems appropriate.

### **Committee Duties and Responsibilities**

In addition to the principal duties and responsibilities described below, the Network and Technology Committee will undertake such other duties and responsibilities as the FirstNet Board may delegate or direct and will report to the FirstNet Board periodically and as may be deemed necessary by the Network and Technology Committee. The primary duties and responsibilities of the Network and Technology Committee are as follows:

1. Provide technical expertise and input to the FirstNet Board and management, as needed, with respect to understanding the evolution of broadband networks and technology in general.
2. Review technical recommendations from management and provide recommendations to the FirstNet Board on the FirstNet Roadmap and Priorities with respect to their feasibility and appropriateness, including any material inputs to the Roadmap on technology trends and drivers.
3. Review and provide recommendations to management regarding management's approach (*i.e.*, Ecosystem Strategy) for informing and collaborating with industry, academia, and other entities.
4. In collaboration with management, participate in external engagement activities within the technology Ecosystem community, as defined in FirstNet's Strategic Plan.
5. In collaboration with management, promote efforts to foster, recognize, and identify opportunities that differentiate the FirstNet experience and align with the FirstNet Roadmap.
6. Review and provide strategic guidance towards the ongoing progress of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) deployment.

### **Annual Summary of Accomplishments and Charter Review**

The Network and Technology Committee shall review and reassess the adequacy of this Charter annually and recommend any proposed changes to the FirstNet Board for approval. The Network and Technology Committee shall provide to the FirstNet Board an annual summary of accomplishments. The FirstNet Board shall compare the Network and Technology Committee's accomplishments with the requirements of this Charter. The summary to the FirstNet Board may take the form of an oral report by the Network and Technology Committee Chair, or by any other Network and Technology Committee member.

## ATTACHMENT A

### **Resources and Authority**

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Network and Technology Committee shall have the necessary resources and authority, consistent with the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, to discharge its duties and responsibilities, including the authority to obtain advice or assistance from internal or external public safety, wireless technology, engineering, deployment, operations, legal or other experts, advisors or consultants, as appropriate, all in coordination with management and the FirstNet Board.

Nothing contained in this Charter shall be construed as circumscribing the authority of the Inspector General under the Inspector General Act, and nothing contained under this Charter is intended to restrict the authority of the Inspector General to conduct, supervise, and coordinate audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of FirstNet.

Nothing contained in this Charter is intended, and it should be interpreted to exclude, any expansion of the responsibility of the FirstNet Board or its members beyond, or violation of, applicable statutory or regulatory requirements and authorities.