



MARKET RELEASE – WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL 2023

## Spark New Zealand releases three-year strategy

Spark today released details of its next three-year strategy to FY26, which will focus investment on data centres and new technologies to fuel growth in Spark's core markets and across its growing high-tech portfolio.

Spark Chair Justine Smyth said "Over the last almost three years Spark has built competitive advantage through a strategic focus on simplification, data, new technology investment, and building a high-performance culture, which is delivering better customer experiences and fueling market growth. This focussed execution has seen Spark's total shareholder returns outperform most international peers<sup>1</sup>.

"When combined with effective portfolio management that has delivered substantial proceeds from the TowerCo transaction, Spark is now in a strong position to invest for future growth."

Spark CEO Jolie Hodson said the new strategy positions Spark for success in an increasingly uncertain environment, with a focus on empowering the people and businesses creating Aotearoa's tomorrow.

"If there is one thing the last three years have taught us, it is that the businesses that will thrive are the ones that can adapt the most quickly to change. We see a number of supportive tailwinds ahead of us, including the continued exponential growth in data, acceleration of technology convergence, the return of international travel, and rising levels of immigration. At the same time, we expect economic uncertainty to be a hallmark of the years ahead, and as Aotearoa gets bigger, older, and more diverse, we must ensure Spark is changing alongside it.

"In this kind of environment adaptability is key, so we have set a dual focus on resilience and growth – ensuring our investments strengthen our core today, while also building new opportunities for tomorrow. Over the next three years, we will invest \$250-\$300 million in the high-growth data centre market and \$40-\$60 million in 5G Standalone, which will open up new commercialisation opportunities across our core markets of mobile and broadband, while underpinning growth into new high-tech solutions."

In mobile and broadband, Spark will leverage its data capability and 5G investment to deliver the latest digital experiences, personalised for its customers.

"We have really strong momentum in mobile and have stabilised our broadband base in a highly competitive market," continued Jolie. "Our dual brands of Spark and Skinny serve different ends of the price spectrum, we have a unique ability to target the right product to the right customer at the right time through data, and our 5G coverage is densifying. This sets us up to continue to grow value in mobile and to move wireless broadband towards 35% of our base by the end of FY26."

In the business market, Spark will grow the small-medium and enterprise segments by enabling its customers to become more productive and sustainable through technology. Jolie said "We are an enabling business, which means we grow when others grow. We know the inflationary environment is hitting small businesses hard, and we are in a strong position to support our customers to unlock revenue generation and efficiency improvements.

"In enterprise, we have seen changing competitive dynamics in cloud, with the ongoing move from private cloud to public creating sustained margin pressure. In this environment, we will upweight our focus on hybrid cloud, where our deep expertise, local knowledge and service differentiates us, and capital investment is lower. We will then invest to further expand our data centre capacity."

Spark's high-tech portfolio – which extends beyond traditional connectivity and ICT into areas such as IoT, 5G Standalone, data and AI, and digital identity – is a focus for growth over the next three years. Spark will leverage these capabilities to continue growing Spark Health, which delivered a 2.5-year CAGR of around 17%<sup>2</sup> since the start of FY21, a new focus on converged technologies, and continued investment in subsidiary MATTR.

<sup>1</sup> 3-year TSR CAGR of 11.7% for the period FY20-22. TSR calculated as share price and dividend per share (reinvested at the ex-dividend date). Peer group is not exhaustive but is a selected group of primarily integrated telco operators that are deemed the closest peers to Spark in terms of market exposure.

<sup>2</sup> FY21-H1 FY23 CAGR based on overall Health revenues including telco and procurement.

“We have rapidly matured our high-tech capabilities over the last three years, but at this stage these technologies are operating largely independently of each other,” Jolie continued. “We are now seeing the rapid acceleration of convergence – which is about bringing these different technologies together to solve business problems where it was not possible, or cost effective, to do so in the past.

“When you consider the challenges businesses are facing – from inflation and labour shortages, to climate change and increasing regulation – there is a big role for technology to play in helping us do things differently. We have grown Spark IoT from under a quarter of a million connections to 1.2 million today, with 2.5-year revenue CAGR<sup>3</sup> of around 21%, and this provides a solid platform for growth into converged solutions.

“We will also continue to invest in our digital identity business MATTR, which is now working across several international markets and recently secured a significant contract with the New South Wales (NSW) Government in Australia. MATTR has been appointed the technology partner on the NSW Digital ID and Verifiable Credentials programme that will be providing products that enable digital credentials to be issued via the NSW Government’s apps, and independently verified by third parties.”

The strategy includes three enablers that underpin Spark’s success in the market: building a simple, data-driven organisation, investing in next evolution technology, and creating an innovation culture, with sustained investment into skills and capabilities that drive growth for both Spark and its people.

“We know our greatest asset is our people, and we will continue to invest in their development while building innovation capability across our business and delivering sustainable high performance through a focus on wellbeing and inclusive progression.”

Jolie reiterated that *how* Spark does business will remain just as important as *what* it will do. “Our commitment to sustainability and weaving te ao Māori perspectives into our business is enduring and integrated throughout our strategy. We remain focussed on supporting Aotearoa’s economic transformation, championing digital equity, and improving our own sustainability performance.”

The strategy sets an FY26 aspiration for Spark to be digital and data-driven everywhere, the home of high-tech solutions with digital infrastructure investments fuelling growth, and a more innovative, diverse, and sustainable business. Jolie finished “Achieving this will lead to more highly engaged customers and people, deliver top-line revenue growth, and sustainable EBITDAI and free cash flow growth that supports a rising dividend for our shareholders over time.”

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### About Spark

Spark is New Zealand's largest telecommunications and digital services company, with a purpose to help all of New Zealand win big in a digital world. Spark provides mobile, broadband, and digital services to millions of New Zealanders and thousands of New Zealand businesses.

[www.sparknz.co.nz](http://www.sparknz.co.nz)

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<sup>3</sup> FY21-H1 FY23

Spark New Zealand Limited

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**SPARK** **FY24-26**

# STRATEGY

**Empowering the people and businesses  
creating Aotearoa's tomorrow.**

5 April 2023



NAU MAI

HAERE MAI

WELCOME



**SPARK** **FY24-26**

# STRATEGY

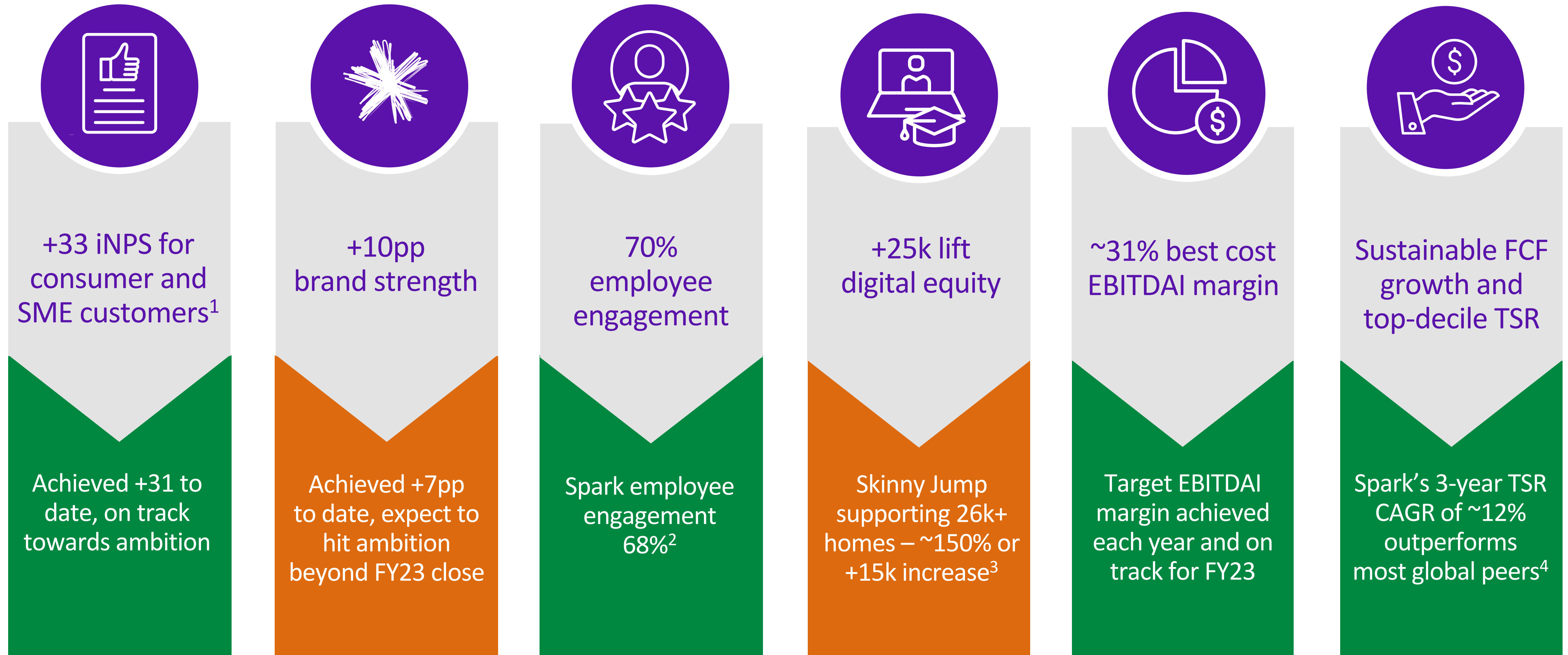
Strategy Overview

Spark CEO Jolie Hodson, 5 April 2023



# We are focused on delivery as we close out the FY21-23 strategy

With one quarter to go, we are making strong progress towards our goals

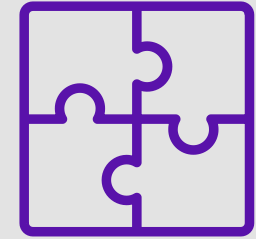


On track for FY23 delivery Delivery expected post FY23 close Off track

1. NPS metric was re-baselined in FY21 due to a change in methodology 2. Based on March 2023 survey 3. Jump base at 30 June 2020 ~10k. 4. See page 6.

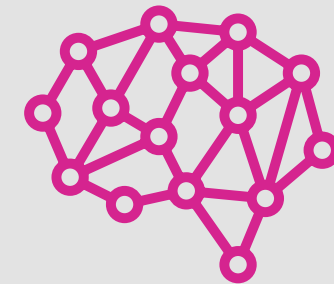
# We have built competitive advantage through a capability-focused strategy

Delivering in-year growth while laying strong foundations for future success and growing customer engagement by +9



## Simple, intuitive customer experiences

- ~350 legacy plans removed and 420,000 customers migrated
- 1.2 million SparkApp users
- 50% increase in digital journeys
- 20% reduction in call volumes



## Deep customer insights

- From 20,000 NZ households in our models to 1.4 million today
- 70% marketing campaigns automated – up from 10%
- ~17% YoY increase in conversion every year
- ~17% improvement in marketing efficiency over the period



## Smart, automated network

- 5G in 66 locations
- 95% of voice traffic now migrated off the PSTN
- OTN 2.0 built
- 416 RCG<sup>1</sup> sites now live
- Data centre expansion on track
- Realised value of passive mobile infrastructure assets

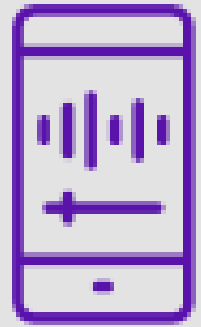


## Growth mindsets

- 68% employee engagement score
- 40:40:20 gender diversity target achieved at Board, LS, wider leadership group
- Gender pay gap down from 28% to 22%
- Mahi Tahī wellbeing strategy launched

# These capabilities have supported our marketplace success

Driving growth in both established and future markets



## Mobile

- #1 market share for connections and service revenue<sup>1</sup>
- ~5.5% Spark mobile service revenue CAGR<sup>2</sup>
- Roaming revenues back to ~75% of pre-Covid levels



## Broadband

- #1 market share for connections and revenue<sup>1</sup>
- Held base at ~700,000
- WBB now ~29% of base, on track for 30% by FY23



## Cloud

- Leading cloud provider<sup>3</sup>
- End-to-end service offering across Spark Business Group
- Shifting consumption to cloud-based services e.g. collaboration



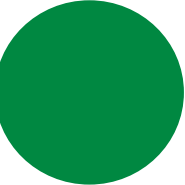
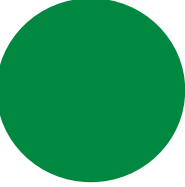
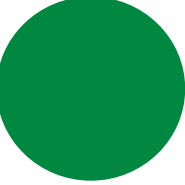
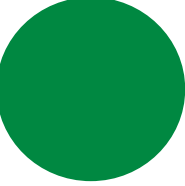
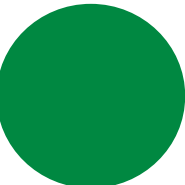
## Future markets

- Spark IoT connections from ~250k to 1.2m and revenue CAGR<sup>2</sup> of ~21.5%
- Spark Health revenue CAGR<sup>3</sup> of ~17%
- Decision made to exit Spark Sport



# With three months to go we are on track to achieve our financial aspirations

Delivering targeted revenue growth and cost efficiencies

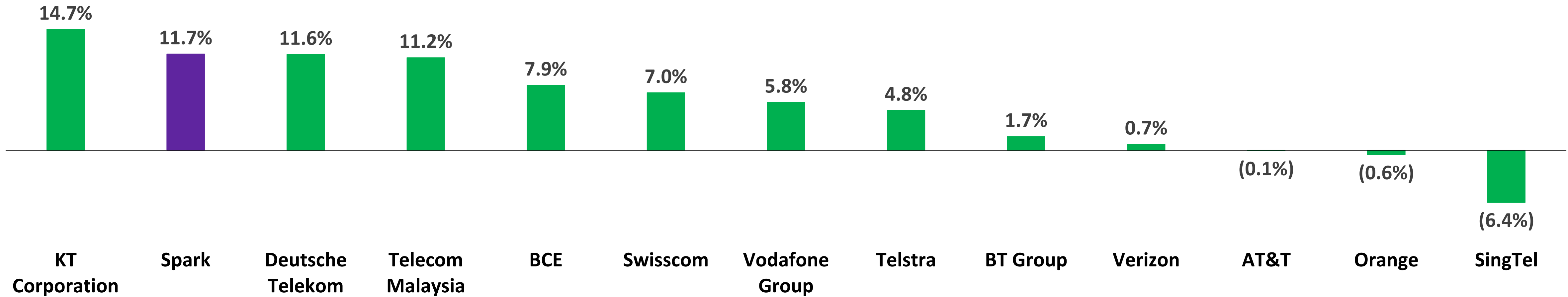
	FY23 aspiration Revenue <sup>1</sup>	FY23 aspiration Cost efficiencies <sup>1</sup>	Status
Simple intuitive customer experiences		~\$40m-\$50m	
Deep customer insights	~\$30m-\$40m		
Smart automated network		~\$55m-\$65m	
Grow established markets <sup>2</sup>	~\$140m-\$160m		
Accelerate future markets	~\$80m-\$90m		

1. Aspiration represents FY23 in year revenues and cost efficiencies 2. Excludes procurement and partners

# Focused execution has resulted in strong returns for shareholders

Total shareholder returns of ~12% over the last 3 years, outperforming most international peers

## 3-year TSR CAGR<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup>TSR calculated as share price and dividend per share (reinvested at the ex-dividend date). Three-year TSR over Spark's FY20-FY22 period (1 July 2019 to 30 June 2022). Peer group is not exhaustive but is a selected group of primarily integrated telco operators that are deemed the closest peers to Spark in terms of market exposure

# These strong foundations provide a platform for growth

Spark is well positioned to capitalise on this momentum and take advantage of supportive tailwinds

**Competitively positioned** – simpler, data-driven, high-performing culture

Continued **momentum in largest market of mobile** with high demand for data

**New opportunities to solve business problems** as technologies mature and converge

Ability to **invest for growth** through TowerCo proceeds

Strong track record of **disciplined execution and delivery**



# Looking ahead, our country is changing – and we need to change with it

Population growth provides tailwinds, while changing demographics bring longer term pressures and opportunities



## In the next 3 years:

We expect immigration to return<sup>1</sup>

supporting mobile and broadband connection growth

## In the next 10-15 years Aotearoa will become<sup>2</sup>:

Bigger

by 2030 there could be 6 million of us

Older

with more people 65+ than 0-14

More diverse

by 2038 Māori will make up ~18% of the population, Pasifika ~10%, and Asian 21%

With a smaller available workforce

large numbers will be exiting the workforce, with fewer entering

# We see five key trends shaping our operating environment

In this environment adaptability is key – leveraging positive tailwinds for growth, while insulating Spark from risk



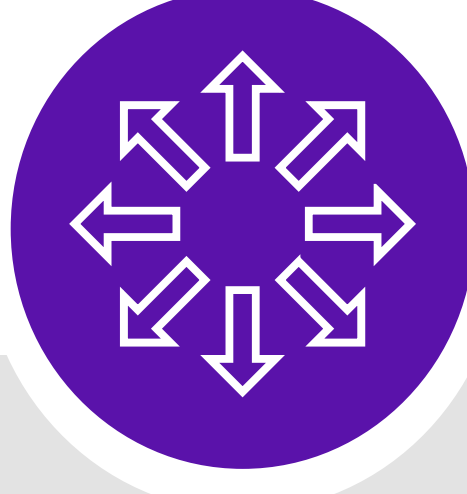
Exponential growth in data continues

Supports investments in digital infrastructure and growth in key markets



Technology convergence accelerating

Solving business problems through new solutions is a commercialisation opportunity



Network virtualisation broadening competition

Network is our foundation, and data the new strategic moat – differentiation through customer personalisation



Political volatility and economic uncertainty

Resilient products and services, opportunity to leverage multi-brands and productivity benefits of tech



Rising bar on sustainability

Technology is a key enabler of decarbonisation and broader sustainability benefits

This drives a dual focus on

resilience

and

growth

# Our strategy aims to position Spark for success in an uncertain future

Ensuring investment for future growth also reinforces the core and enables optionality

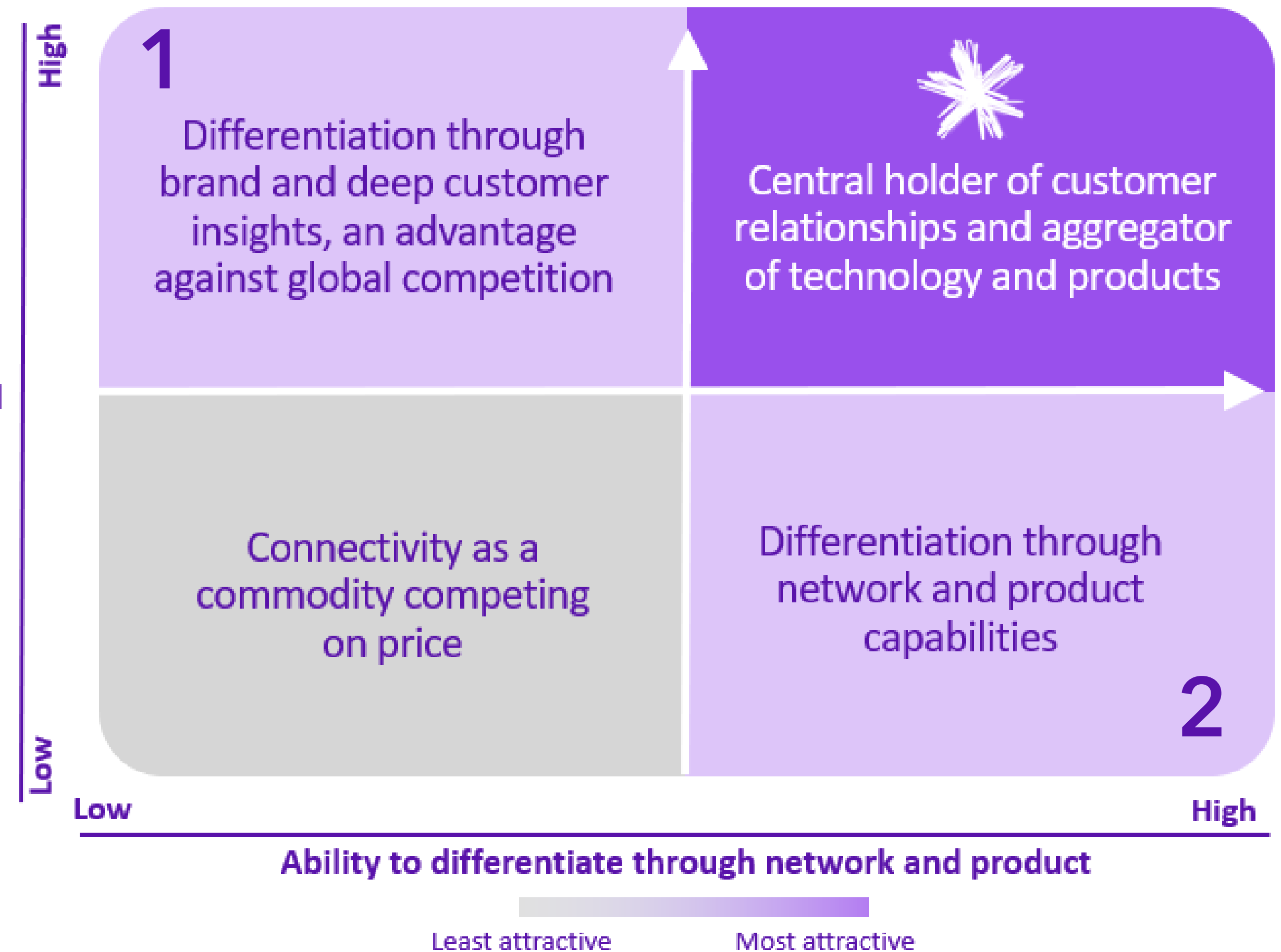
- Without differentiation the market will move towards connectivity as a commodity
- We see two key avenues to differentiate:

**1** Holding customer relationships through brand and deep customer insights

**2** Network and product capabilities

- Through our brand strength, deep customer insights, customer relationships breadth, and sustained network and product investment, we believe we can maintain our leadership position

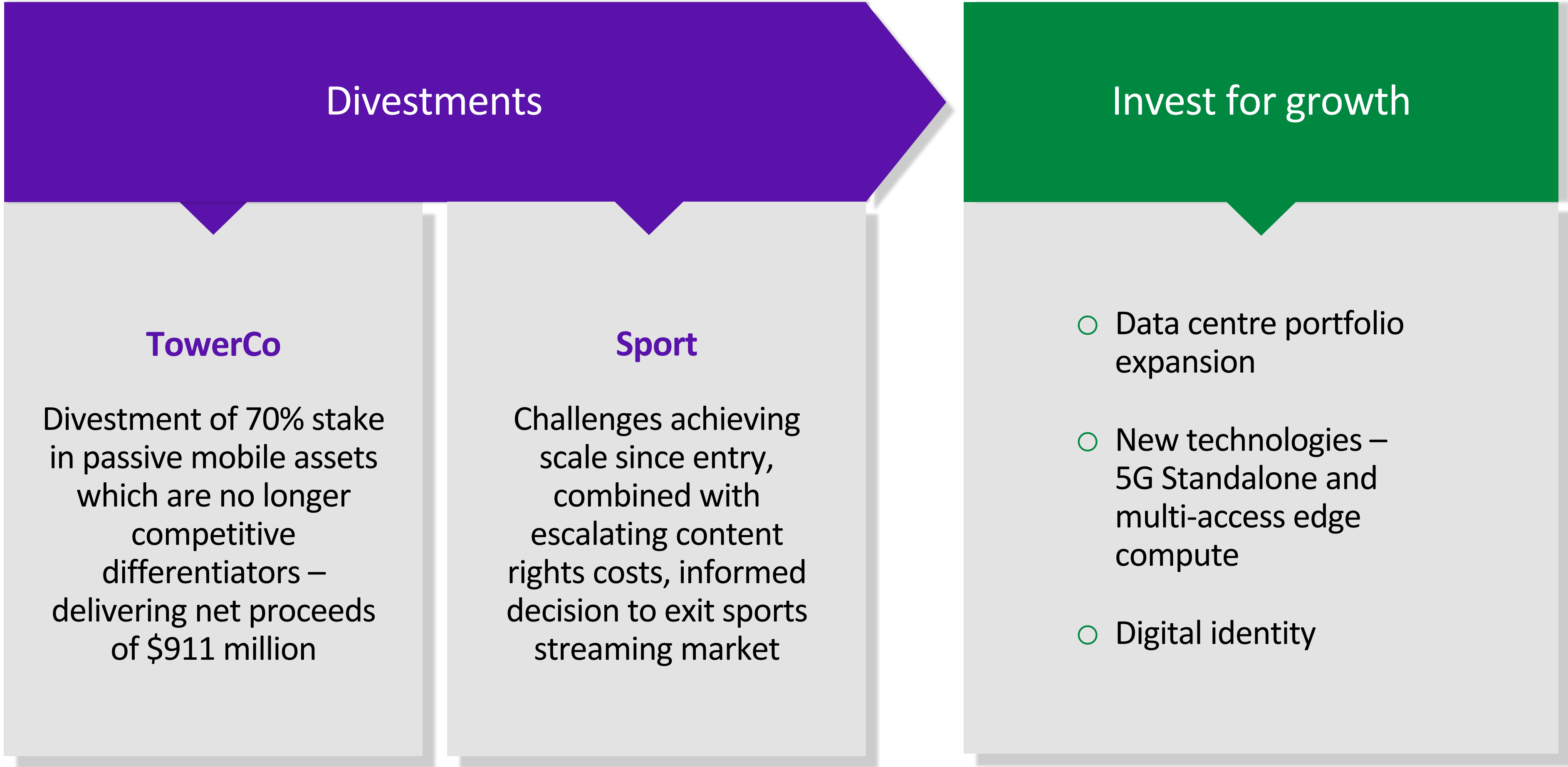
Ability to differentiate through brand and deep customer insights



# This guides a series of 'no regrets' investments for future growth

We will invest in the capabilities we need to protect and promote differentiation, and grow in higher value segments

Through effective **portfolio management** over the last three years, we can invest to support our strategy:





## Our purpose

TO HELP

ALL OF

**NEW ZEALAND**

WIN BIG

IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Āwhinatia ngā tāngata katoa o Aotearoa kia matomato te tipu i te ao matihiko

## Our values

**TŪHONO:** we connect

**WHAKAMANA:** we empower

**MATOMATO:** we succeed together

**MĀIA:** we are bold



## Our FY24-26 focus

We will empower the people and businesses creating Aotearoa's tomorrow by:

Bringing New Zealanders the best digital-first experiences, curated to their needs



**LEAD**  
Mobile



**OPTIMISE**  
Broadband

Enabling New Zealand Businesses to grow and become more productive and sustainable through technology



**LEAD**  
SME and Business



**GROW**  
High-tech Solutions

## Our enablers

Next evolution technology

Simple, data-driven organisation

Innovation culture

**Our commitment:**  
to stand together for generations to come



Economic Transformation

Toitū Sustainability at Spark



Digital Equity



Sustainable Spark

Te Korowai Tupu



Our Māori Strategy

## Our FY26 outcomes

Low / mid single digit CAGR EBITDAI growth

>10% Free cash flow growth

+10 lift Customer engagement

Top decile People engagement

Top quartile Sustainability benchmarking

# We will empower the people and businesses creating Aotearoa's tomorrow

Investing in data-driven personalisation and tomorrow's technology to drive growth in the core, while opening up new commercialisation opportunities

## Consumer

- Deepening data-driven personalisation by individuals and households, while leveraging our technology investments to deliver the latest digital experiences to New Zealanders

## SME and business

- Delivering scalable, standardised technology solutions that meet the needs of our SME customers, accelerating simplification and portfolio focus in business to deliver growth and efficiency for our customers and Spark, and investing in the high-growth data centre market

## High-tech

- Leveraging new capabilities and technology convergence to create innovative solutions to customer problems that unlock new value pools

# We will continue to invest in the enablers of our marketplace success

Further building our differentiation and supporting growth across mature and growing markets

## Next evolution technology

- Continuing to deliver a highly secure, automated, and resilient network, while investing in the digital infrastructure our customers need to grow
- Deploying 5G Standalone gives us the opportunity to enable ‘fibre-like’ experiences, accelerating our competitiveness and fuelling new growth areas

## Simple data-driven organisation

- Extending the competitive advantage we have built through simplicity and data in consumer to SME, business, and the Spark enterprise – using data-driven insights to improve customer experiences and efficiency

## Innovation culture

- Fuelling our future growth ambitions and differentiating Spark through top decile people engagement

# How we do business remains just as important as *what* we will do

Our commitment to sustainability and supporting Māori aspirations is enduring and integrated throughout our strategy

## Toitū Sustainability at Spark

- We will continue to pursue growth that supports Aotearoa New Zealand's economic transformation, protects our natural environments, and helps to close the digital divide

## Te Korowai Tupu

- Our Māori Strategy finds the shared space between te ao Māori and the corporate world, with a particular focus on meaningful partnerships that increase Māori participation and progression in our sector and support the revitalisation of te reo

# With this focus we will deliver sustainable growth for our shareholders

Growing our business by enabling others – our customers, our people, and Aotearoa



1. Relative to international telco peer group

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**GROW**  
High-tech Solutions

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Innovation culture

**Our commitment:**  
to stand together  
for generations  
to come



Economic  
Transformation



Digital  
Equity



Sustainable  
Spark

## Toitū Sustainability at Spark

## Te Korowai Tupu



Our  
Māori Strategy

## Our FY26 outcomes

Low / mid single digit  
**CAGR**  
EBITDAI growth

**>10%**  
Free cash  
flow growth

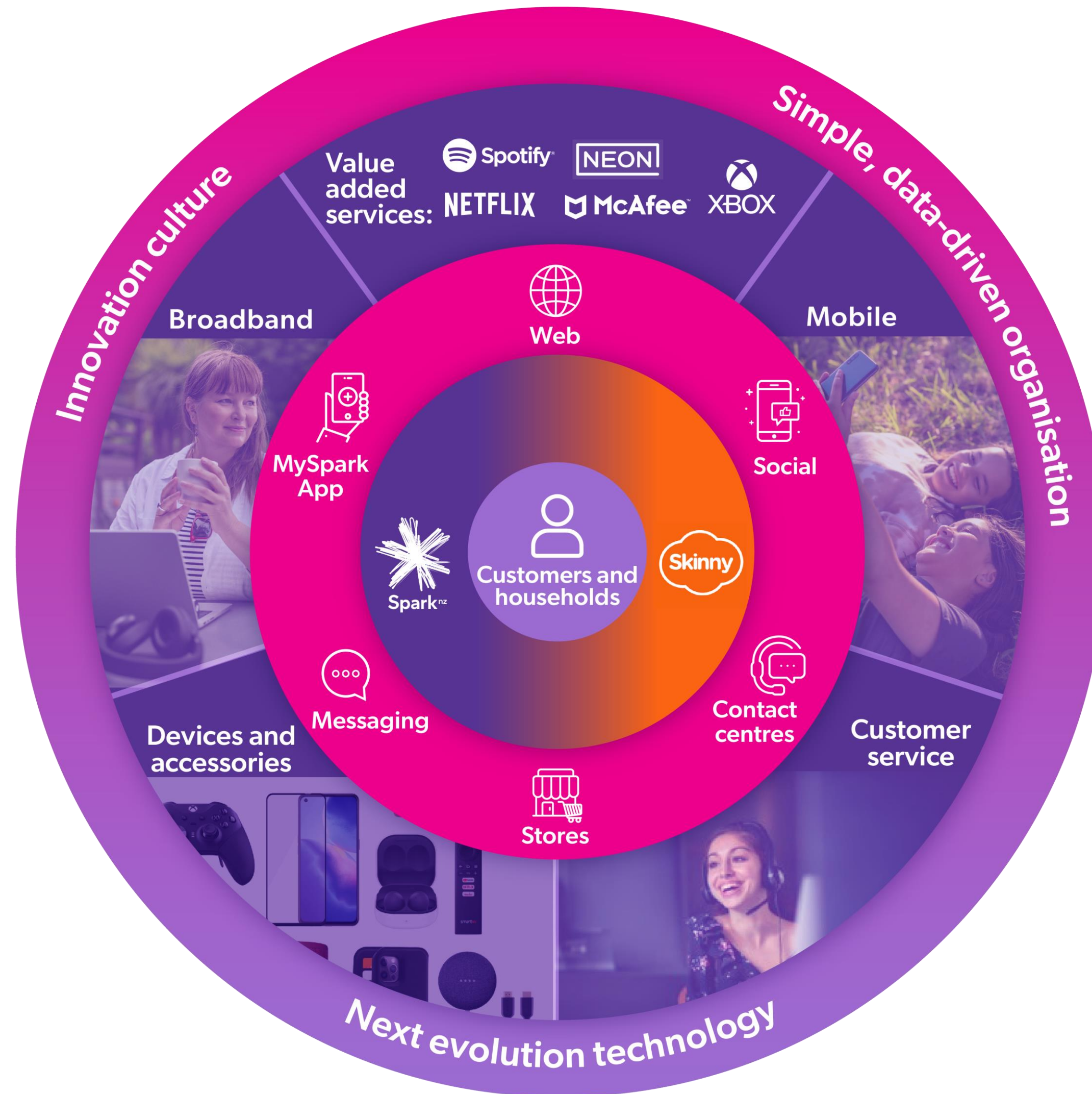
**+10 lift**  
Customer  
engagement

**Top decile**  
People  
engagement

**Top quartile**  
Sustainability  
benchmarking

# Bringing New Zealanders the best digital-first experiences, curated to their needs

Leveraging our competitive advantages in brand, data, and technology investment



**1** Multi-brand market approach through Spark and Skinny

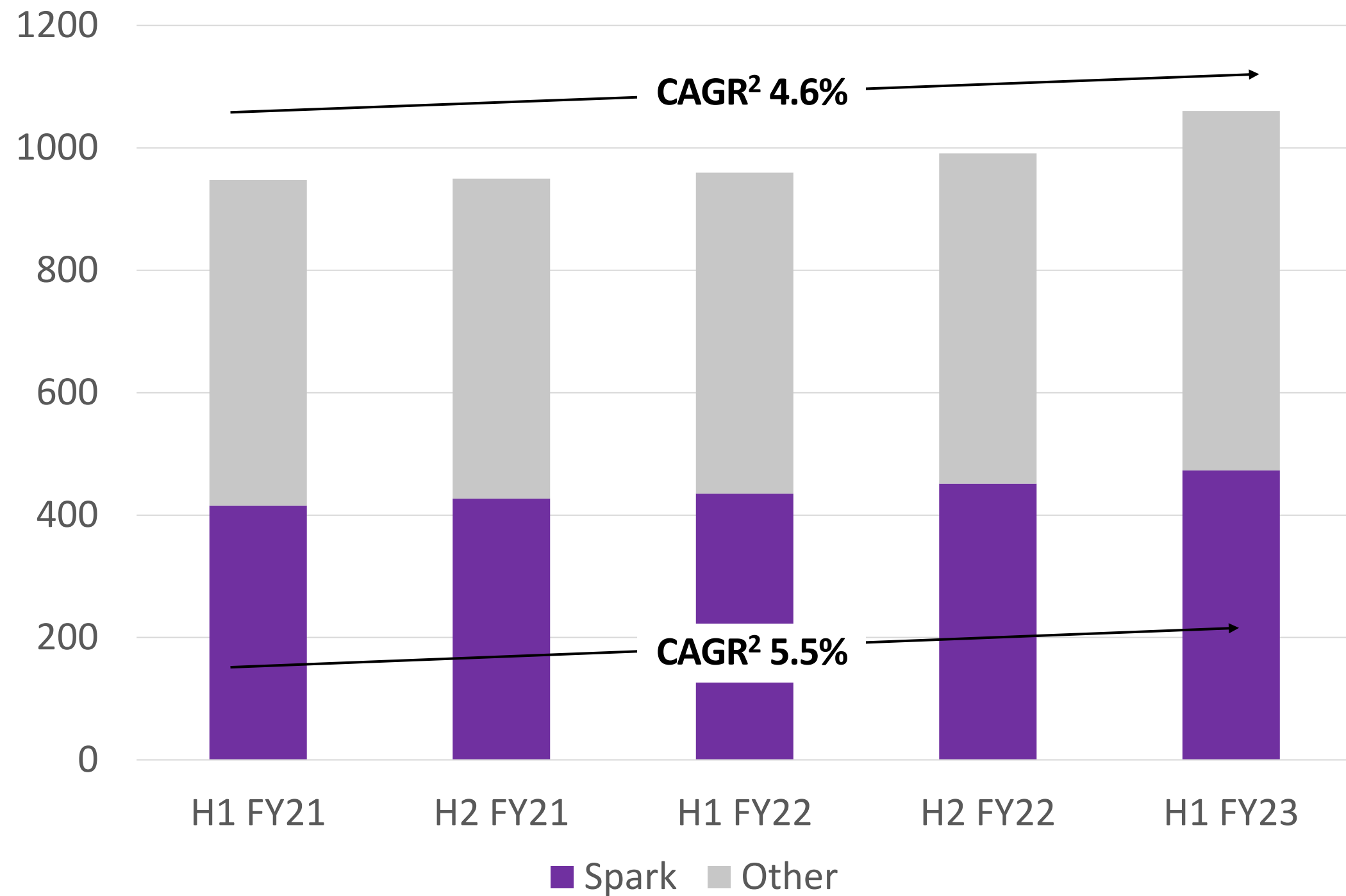
**2** Unique ability to target the right product to the right person through data and AI capability

**3** Technology investment enabling product innovation and meeting customer data needs

# We have strong momentum in the growing mobile market

Spark is well positioned to serve increasing customer demand for data and richer entertainment experiences

**Spark Mobile Service Revenue Growth vs Total Market<sup>1</sup>**



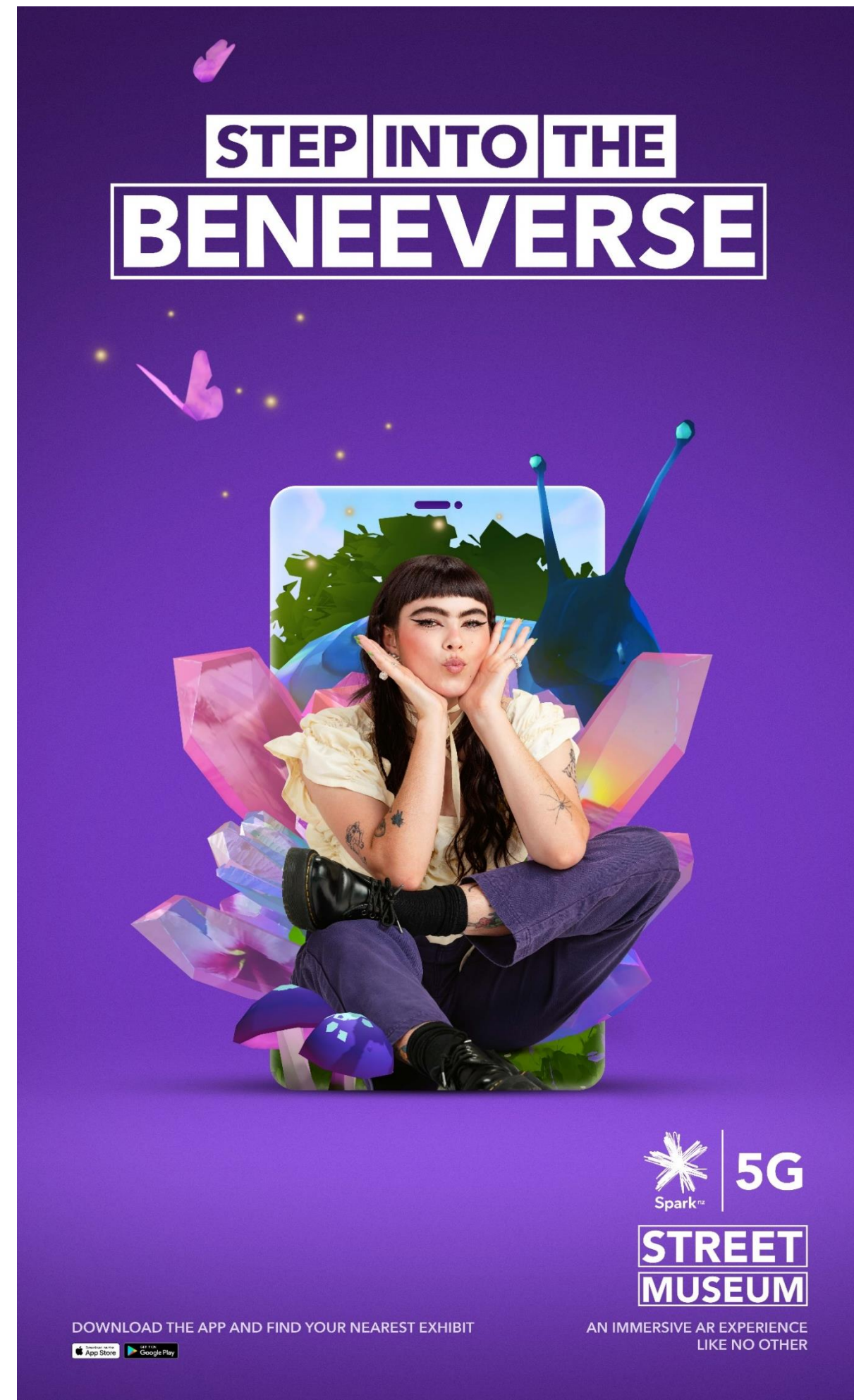
- Spark #1 connections and mobile service revenue in a growing market<sup>3</sup>
- Customer demand for data continues to increase and will grow further as 5G applications drive higher usage (i.e., gaming)
- Return of high-value mobile roaming revenues continuing as New Zealanders embrace international travel once again
- Supportive tailwinds from immigration

1. IDC 2. Spark calculation based on 2.5 years performance H2 FY20-H1 FY23 3. IDC Q4 2022



# We will grow value by focussing on three core customer benefits

Deepening personalisation by individual and household, while delivering the latest digital experiences to Aotearoa



	Just what / need	Just what my <i>household</i> needs	The latest digital experiences
What we will do	<p><b>Leverage multi-brand positioning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Customers can choose a plan that meets their needs, regardless of usage or budget</li> <li>○ In-demand services (e.g. Netflix, Spotify) maintain Spark's value-added position</li> <li>○ Lead on value with Skinny</li> </ul>	<p><b>Increase product household density</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Leverage data capability to serve more household needs</li> <li>○ 'Mix and match' modular product offerings, enabling personalised household offers</li> </ul>	<p><b>Monetise 5G latency and capacity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Accelerate local and global partnerships to offer richer customer experiences, leveraging latency, speed, and capacity</li> <li>○ Annual price reviews and 'experience' based consumption plans</li> </ul>
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Insulate against recessionary impacts</li> <li>○ Maintain mobile momentum in a highly competitive market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Grow share of wallet through adjacent products</li> <li>○ Grow mobile ARPU</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Grow mobile ARPU through higher data use cases and plan monetisation</li> </ul>

# The broadband market will remain highly competitive

The role of wireless broadband remains critical to our competitiveness, allowing Spark to offer more value and choice

## Current broadband market performance

- High levels of competition, increasing access costs squeezing margins, and limited ability to differentiate
- Despite this, Spark maintained its base and #1 revenue and connection share<sup>1</sup> and has grown its wireless broadband (WBB) base to ~29%<sup>2</sup> – on track to hit 30% target by end FY23
- While it is a challenging market, broadband enables deeper household relationships than mobile alone, and supports cross-sell and up-sell

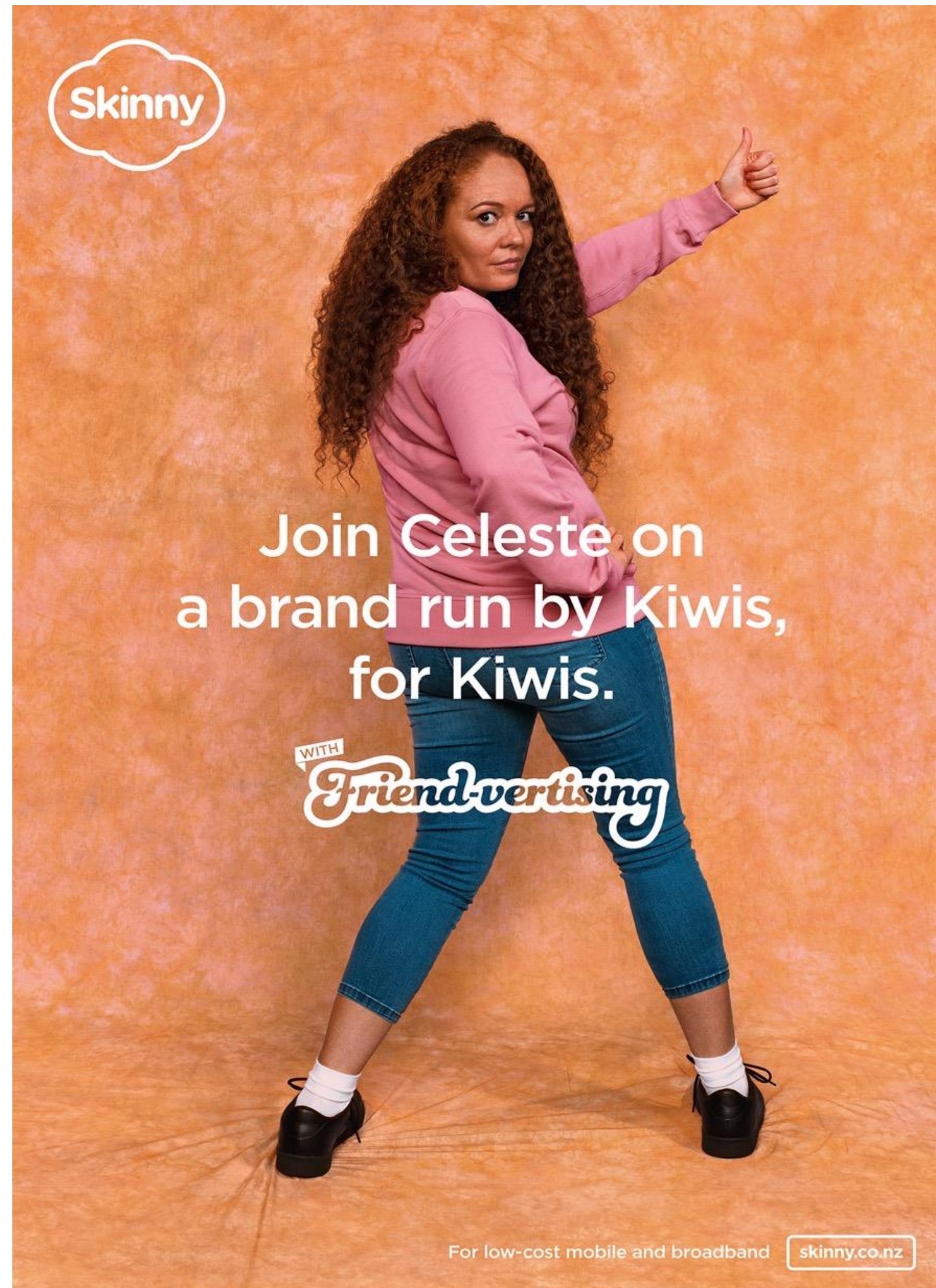
## FY24-26 tailwinds

- Spark's data capability has matured and enables highly targeted and efficient acquisition and retention – a competitive advantage in our market
- 5G WBB growth will accelerate through densification and 5G Standalone – with early Standalone trials delivering download speeds of up to 700Mbps and single-digit millisecond latency

1. IDC tracker Q4 2022 2. Based on position at end Feb 2023

# We will grow broadband value by focussing on two core customer benefits

Leveraging maturing 5G capabilities to grow WBB and leading the market in optimising connectivity value



What we will do

Benefits

## Just what my household needs

- Leverage data capability to identify suitable WBB households
- Expand addressable market as 5G matures and can compete against some fibre products

- WBB supports improved broadband economics
- Anticipate WBB to grow from ~30% of base in FY23 towards 35% by end FY26

## The best value for my money

- Leverage data capability to target personalised offers for highest return
- Lead on value with Skinny
- Product simplification

- Maintaining broadband leadership with improved economics

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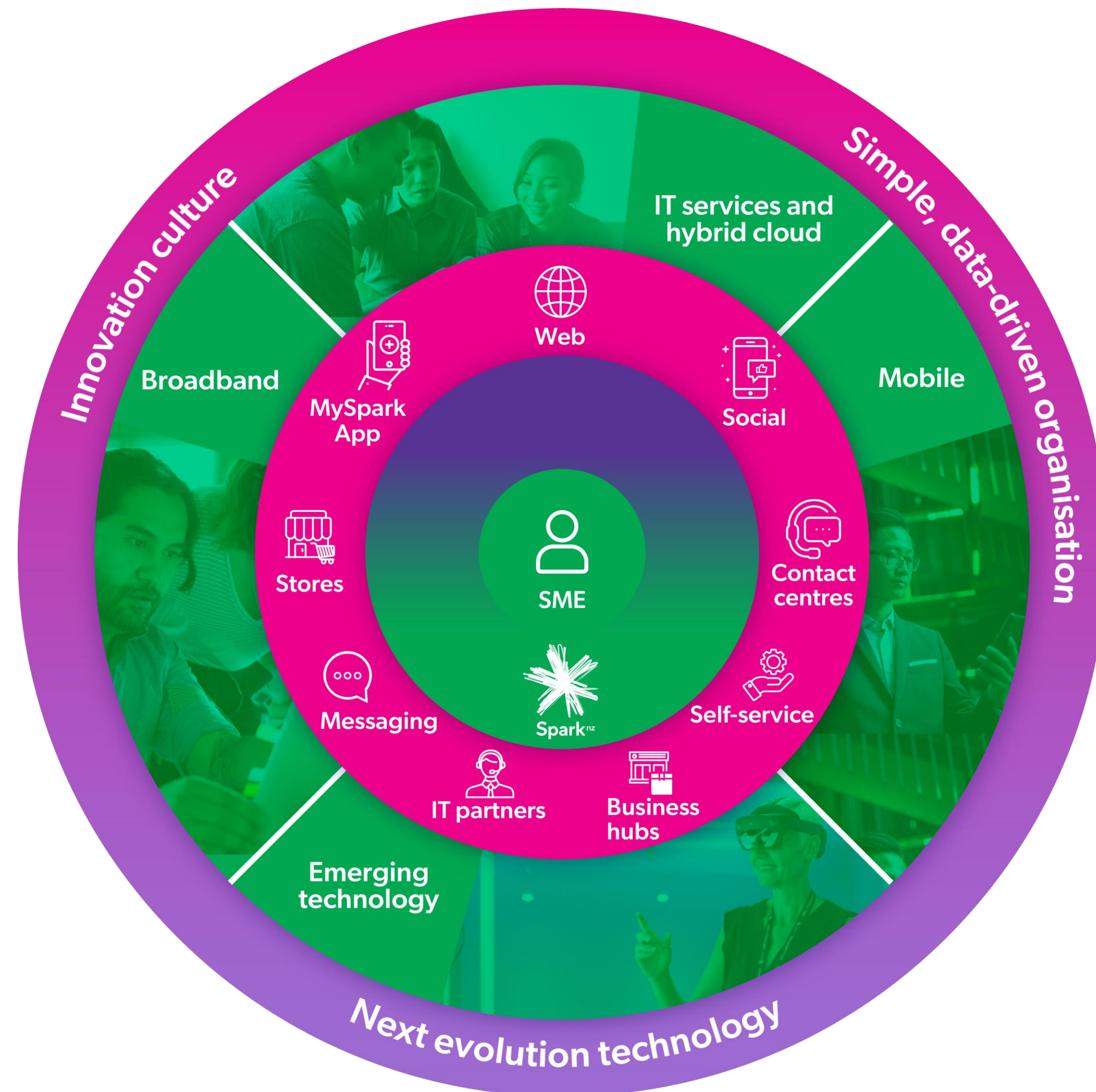
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# Enabling SMEs to grow and become more productive and sustainable

Leveraging our competitive advantages in brand, national and local reach, data capability, and strategic partnerships



- 1** Strong position in market with ~120k customers and effective *'Local like you'* brand positioning

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- 2** Data and AI capability supporting SME growth

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- 3** 24 locally owned and operated Business Hubs coupled with national IT partner channel and global partnerships

# In SME challenging economic conditions are driving a focus on productivity

This is supporting a predicted ~\$90 million increase in the addressable IT market by 2026, in addition to telco growth

99%

of New Zealand businesses are small-medium enterprises<sup>1</sup>

#1

concern for SMEs is rising costs<sup>2</sup>

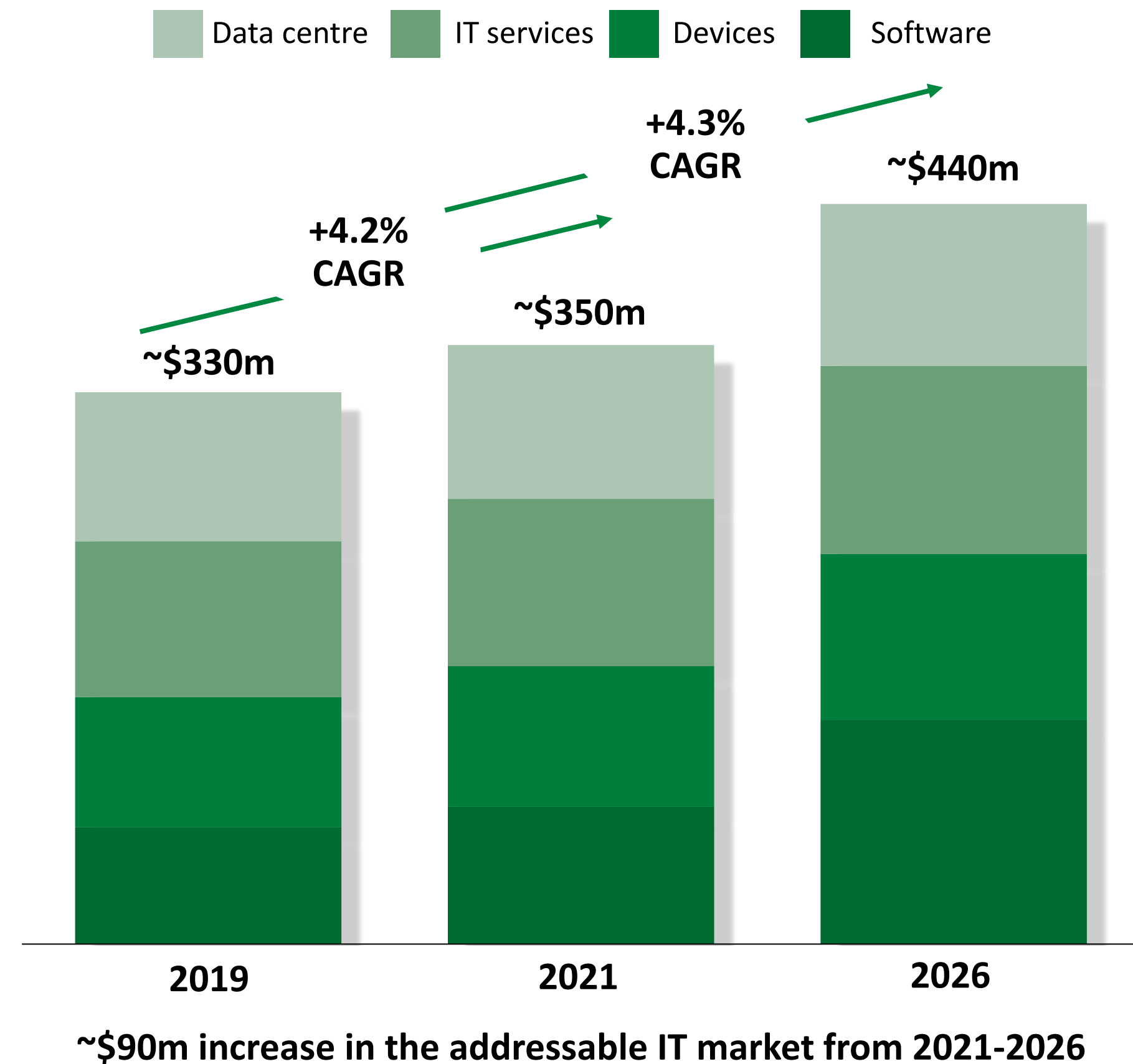
\$8.5bn

value to the NZ economy from SME digitisation<sup>3</sup>

4.3%

CAGR in addressable IT revenue to 2026<sup>4</sup> – highest growing segment

Estimated addressable IT revenue, \$m, SME<sup>4</sup>



1. Statistics New Zealand – SME defined as a company with 0-99 employees 2. Spark business survey 2022 3. MYOB

4. Spark estimate based on external research and analysis (supported by McKinsey) including independent market growth data. SME market defined as 0-99 employees

# We will support SMEs to improve revenue generation and efficiency

Growing value beyond mobile and broadband and positioning Spark as the 'go to' telco and ICT provider

**BUSINESS**  
**BROADBAND WITH A**  
**HELPING HAND**

Plans from  
**\$65**  
Modem costs  
may apply

## SMEs 3-20 employees

Standardised, digital-first

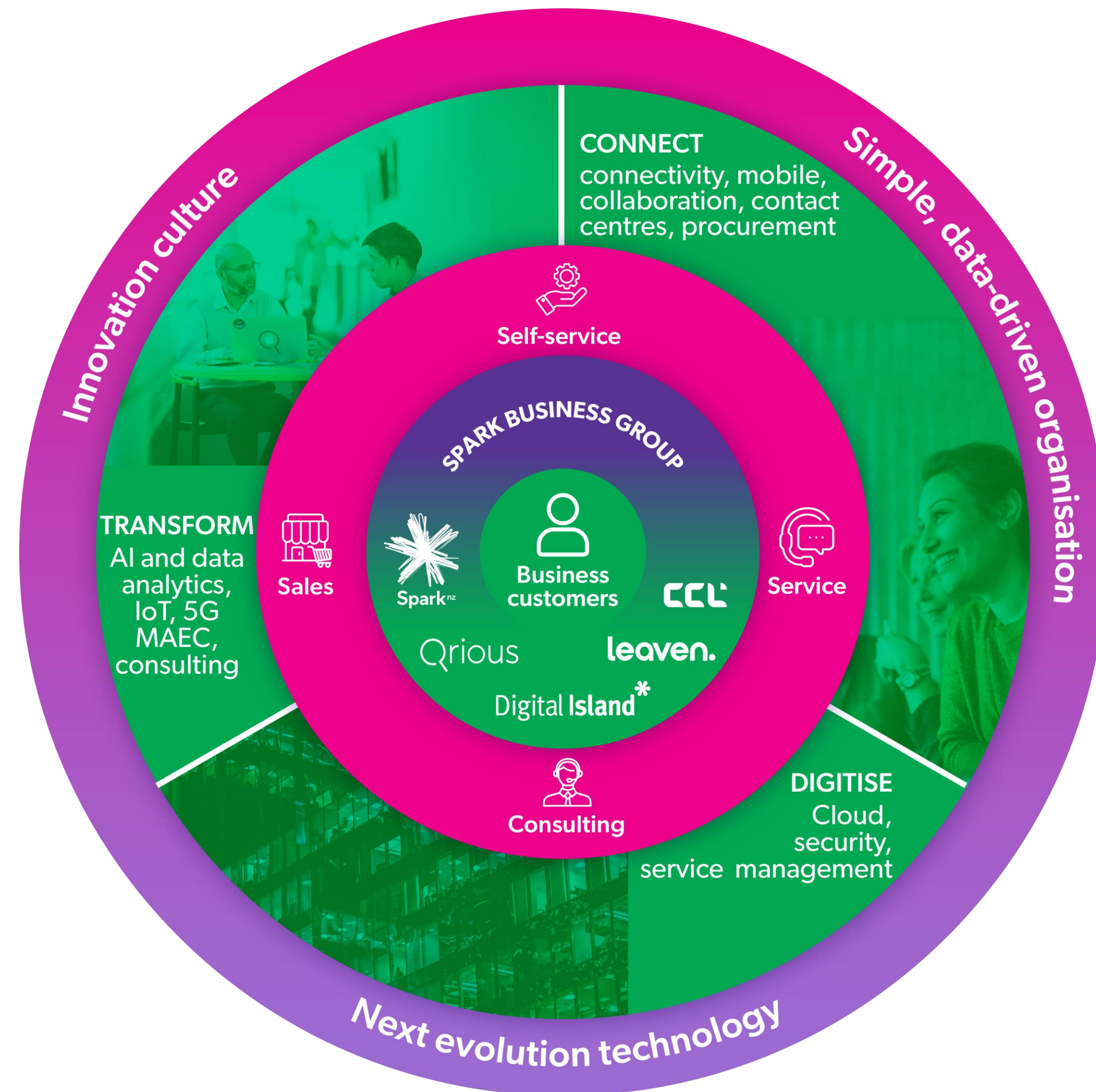
## SMEs 20+ employees

Higher value solutions

- Productised, scalable IT services delivering consistency across NZ
- Curated IT solutions underpinned by partnerships
- Digital-first, omnichannel experience with self-serve customer journeys for core products
- Bundled solutions combining IT hardware, software and professional services

# Enabling NZ businesses to grow and become more productive and sustainable

Leveraging our competitive advantages in end-to-end capabilities, specialist skills, scale, and strategic partnerships



**1** End-to-end capability, from connectivity to transformation – a one-stop-shop for customers

**2** Highly trusted partner with local knowledge, deep expertise, and robust cyber security capability

**3** Scale, technology investment, and global partnerships support customer innovation

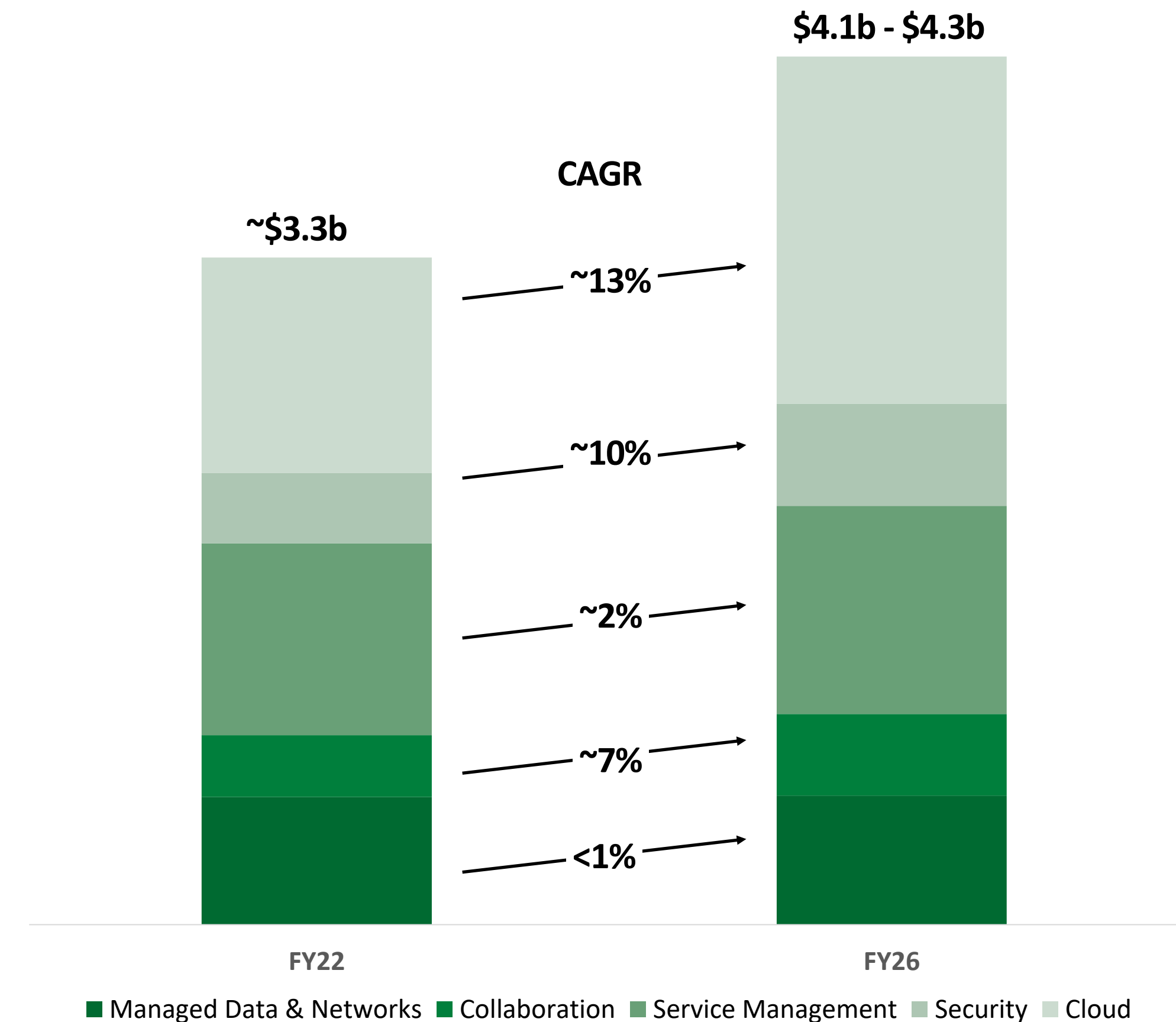


# The B2B market remains attractive with strong growth predicted

As businesses continue to harness the power of technology for productivity and efficiency gains

- Continued strong market growth expected across Spark's key segments
- Competitive dynamics changing, particularly in cloud, creating sustained margin pressure
- Reassessed our role across the B2B value chain to target future investment for maximum returns and align our cost base to changing segment growth profiles

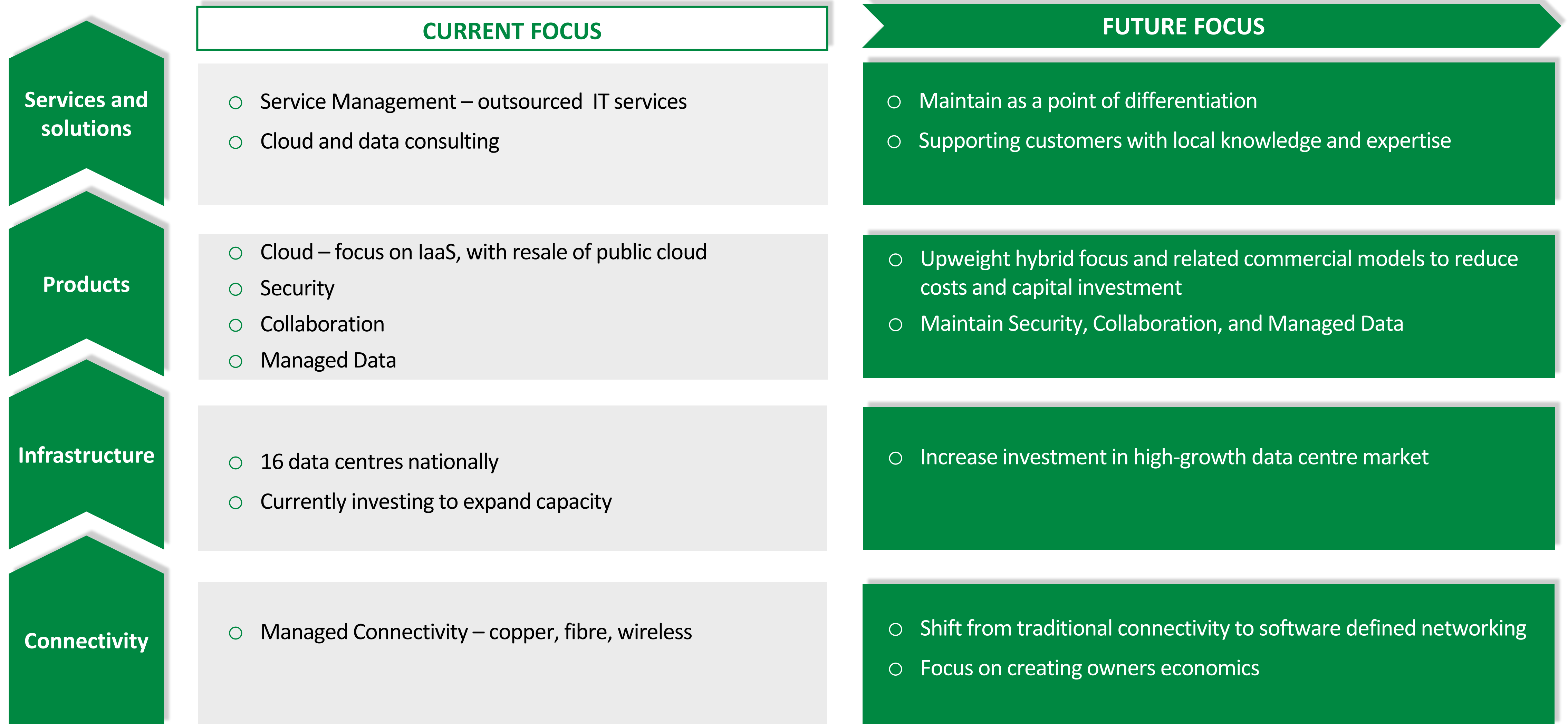
IT & Managed Services market revenue growth projected at ~7% CAGR to FY26<sup>1</sup>



1. Spark's estimates based on IDC market share data. Excludes procurement and partners

# We will right size investment in products and upweight infrastructure

While maintaining our position as an end-to-end service provider with local knowledge and service



# We will optimise our cost base through accelerated simplification

We see four key drivers of simplification that will improve returns while delivering enhanced customer experiences

## Consolidation

- Removing back-office and service delivery duplication
- Accelerating legacy retirement and transitioning customers to modern solutions

## Standardisation

- Transitioning from bespoke products to more standardised and modular products

## Efficiency

- Simplified operating model enhanced by data insights
- Common tools across all parts of the group ensuring consistent service delivery

## Digitisation

- Increasing the number of customer interactions performed on more cost-effective digital channels

# We will continue to invest in the high growth data centre market

Exploring opportunities for further infrastructure investment with incremental returns

## GROWTH OPPORTUNITY

- Data centre built capacity is expected to grow from ~50MW today to >200MW by 2026 (>40% CAGR)<sup>1</sup>
- Delivers long-term, high-margin revenues
- Additional revenue opportunities from selling services over the top and creating strategically important sites – i.e. Mayoral Drive now New Zealand's most connected site
- Leverages Spark's existing property, exchange, and connectivity assets and capabilities



Spark Takanini data centre expansion, completion due mid 2023

## OUR STRATEGY

- Reinvest TowerCo proceeds into expanded data centre portfolio
- We will be investing further at our Takanini site, while also investigating other locations
- Explore partnership opportunities with hyperscalers as they rapidly scale in local markets



1. Spark analysis based on public commitments and market information on future intentions in the wider Auckland region

## Our purpose

TO HELP

ALL OF

**NEW ZEALAND**

WIN BIG

IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Āwhinatia ngā tāngata katoa o Aotearoa kia matomato te tipu i te ao matihiko

## Our values

**TŪHONO:** we connect

**WHAKAMANA:** we empower

**MATOMATO:** we succeed together

**MĀIA:** we are bold



## Our FY24-26 focus

We will empower the people and businesses creating Aotearoa's tomorrow by:

Bringing New Zealanders the best digital-first experiences, curated to their needs



**LEAD**  
Mobile



**OPTIMISE**  
Broadband

Enabling New Zealand Businesses to grow and become more productive and sustainable through technology



**LEAD**  
SME and business



**GROW**  
High-tech Solutions

## Our enablers

Next evolution technology

Simple, data-driven organisation

Innovation culture

**Our commitment:**  
to stand together  
for generations  
to come



Economic  
Transformation



Digital  
Equity



Sustainable  
Spark

## Toitū Sustainability at Spark

## Te Korowai Tupu



Our  
Māori Strategy

## Our FY26 outcomes

Low / mid single digit  
**CAGR**  
EBITDAI growth

**>10%**  
Free cash  
flow growth

**+10 lift**  
Customer  
engagement

**Top decile**  
People  
engagement

**Top quartile**  
Sustainability  
benchmarking

# We will leverage growing demand for high-tech solutions in three key areas

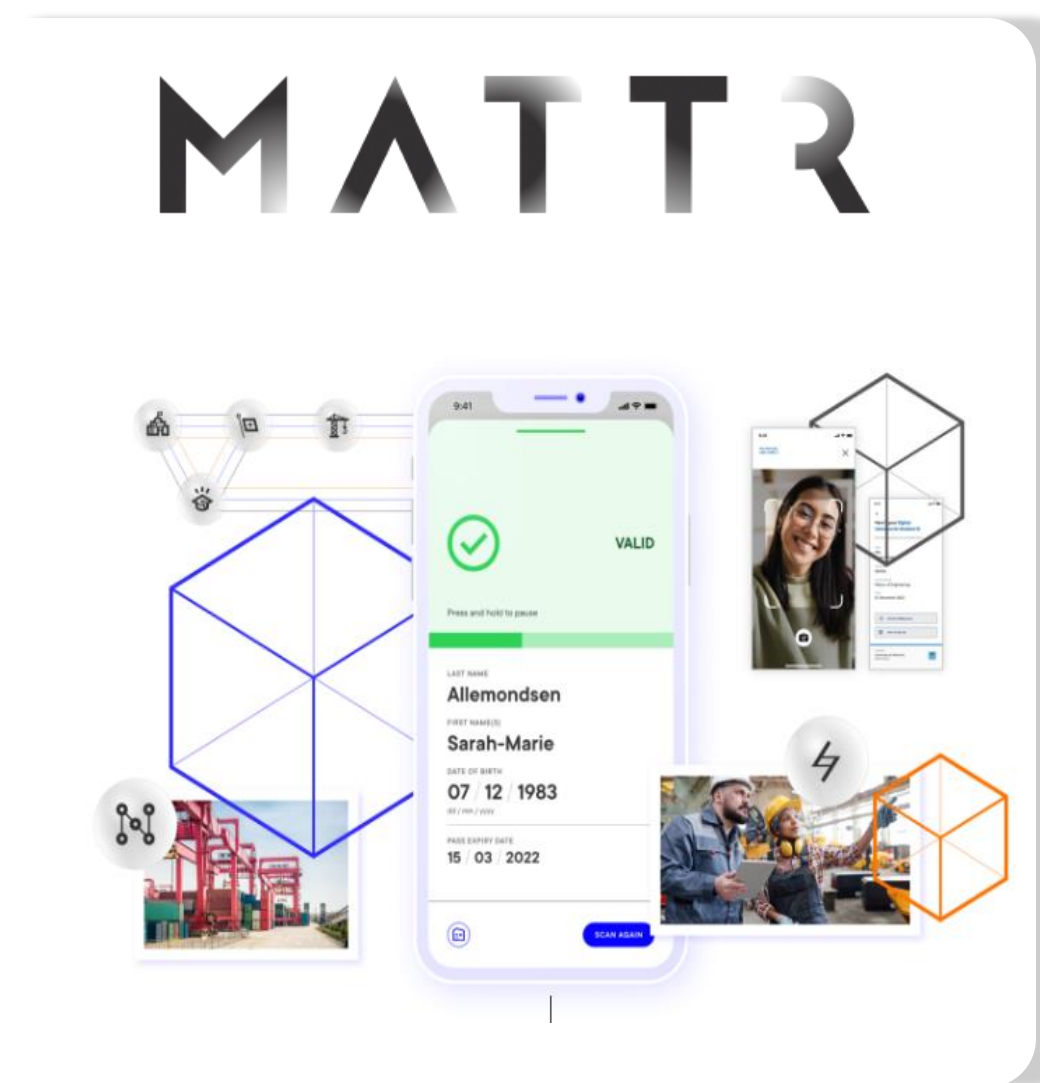
Delivering better outcomes for people and businesses from new technology adoption

1.



Supporting the digitisation of the healthcare sector and **growing digital health**

2.



Offshore growth in **digital identity** and verifiable credentials

3.



Solving business problems through **converged technology solutions**

# The healthcare sector is under significant strain, as patient needs grow

Now more than ever technology is a critical enabler of making patient care more efficient, personalised, and accessible



- 94% of doctors surveyed believe healthcare is in a 'workforce crisis'<sup>1</sup>



- In 2022, 1 in 6 New Zealanders were aged 65+, in 2028 this will increase to 1 in 5, and by 2050 1 in 4<sup>4</sup>



- Healthcare professionals burnt-out – 80% of doctors globally at capacity or over-extended<sup>2</sup>



- Nearly 50% of consumers surveyed use wearables or smart devices and of that, over 80% would be willing to share their personal health data with a physician<sup>5</sup>



- Increasing number of people with non-communicable diseases and comorbidities increasing patient complexity<sup>3</sup>



- Technology debt and lack of data interoperability a critical barrier to digital health transformation<sup>6</sup>

1. Workforce Crisis Survey 2022, New Zealand Women in Medicine

2. Deloitte, Shaping the Physician of the Future, 2019

3. Ministry of Health, Global Burden of Disease Study provides important insights into the health of New Zealanders

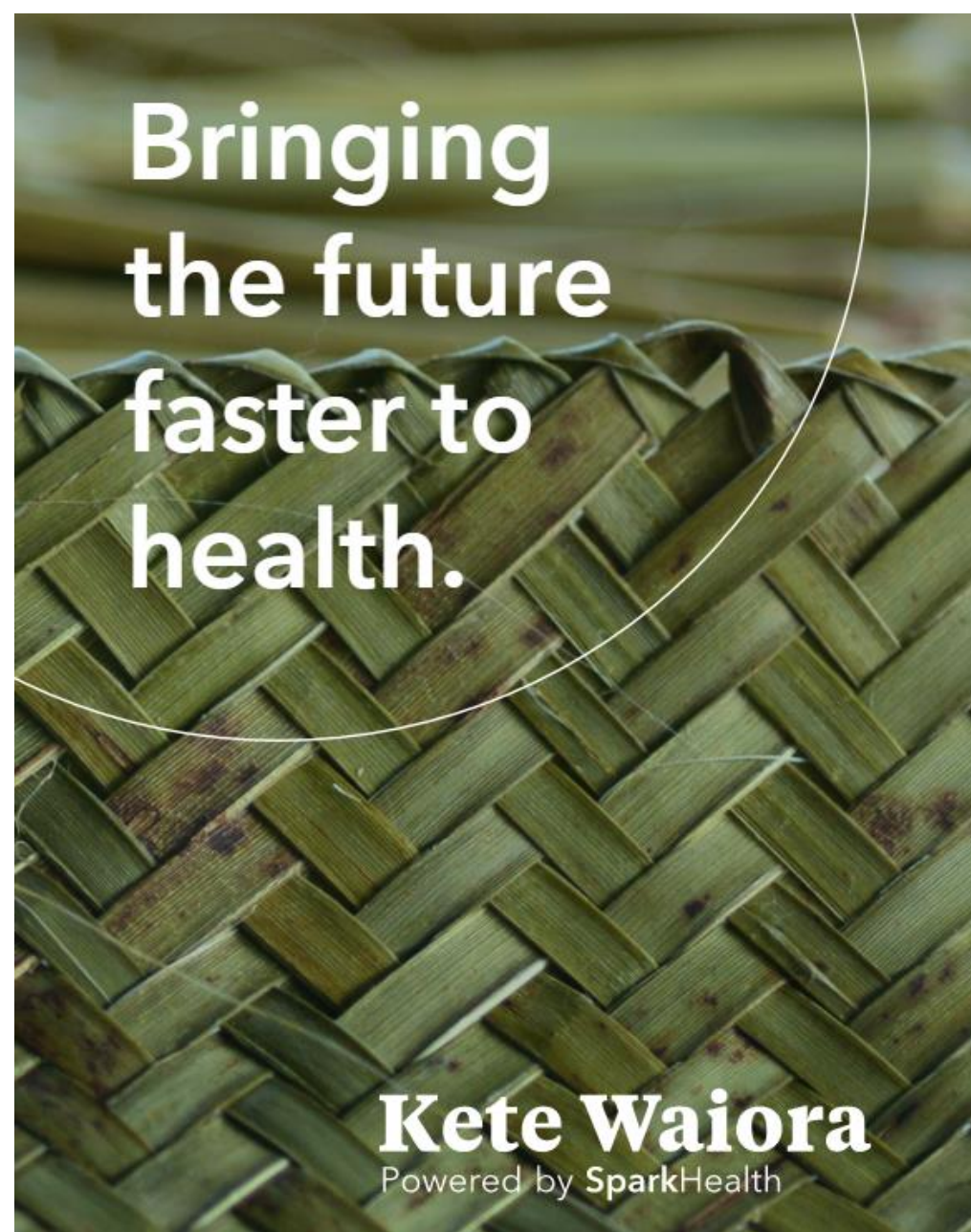
4. Statistics New Zealand, One million people aged 65+ by 2028, July 2022

5. Deloitte, Tapping virtual health's full potential, September 2022

6. Insight generated through customer interviews

# We will support sector transformation with core services and high-tech solutions

Helping patients live healthier lives through the power of technology



## Ongoing growth in core: connect, digitise, transform

- Modernise digital infrastructure and cloud services to enable digital transformation
- Create health specific bundles to solve industry problems

## Digital health platform expansion

- Standardise care delivery through digital health platforms
- Grow and expand existing platforms – HealthTxt<sup>1</sup>, Kete Waiora<sup>2</sup> and Tahī<sup>3</sup> – integrating broader financial and workforce management services

## Digital hospital and IoMT solutions

- Establish new health solutions for Digital Hospitals and the Internet of Medical Things (IoMT)



# Introducing MATTR

A Spark subsidiary, operating as a standalone business

# MATTR

**A new type of freedom  
through digital trust**

Solving the historically difficult challenges of  
security, privacy, and data verification

# MATTR is creating a new world of digital trust

Providing real world solutions to human impacting problems

## NEWS

06/03/2023

Nearly 1 billion emails were exposed in a single year, affecting 1 in 5 internet users

AAG

23/02/2023

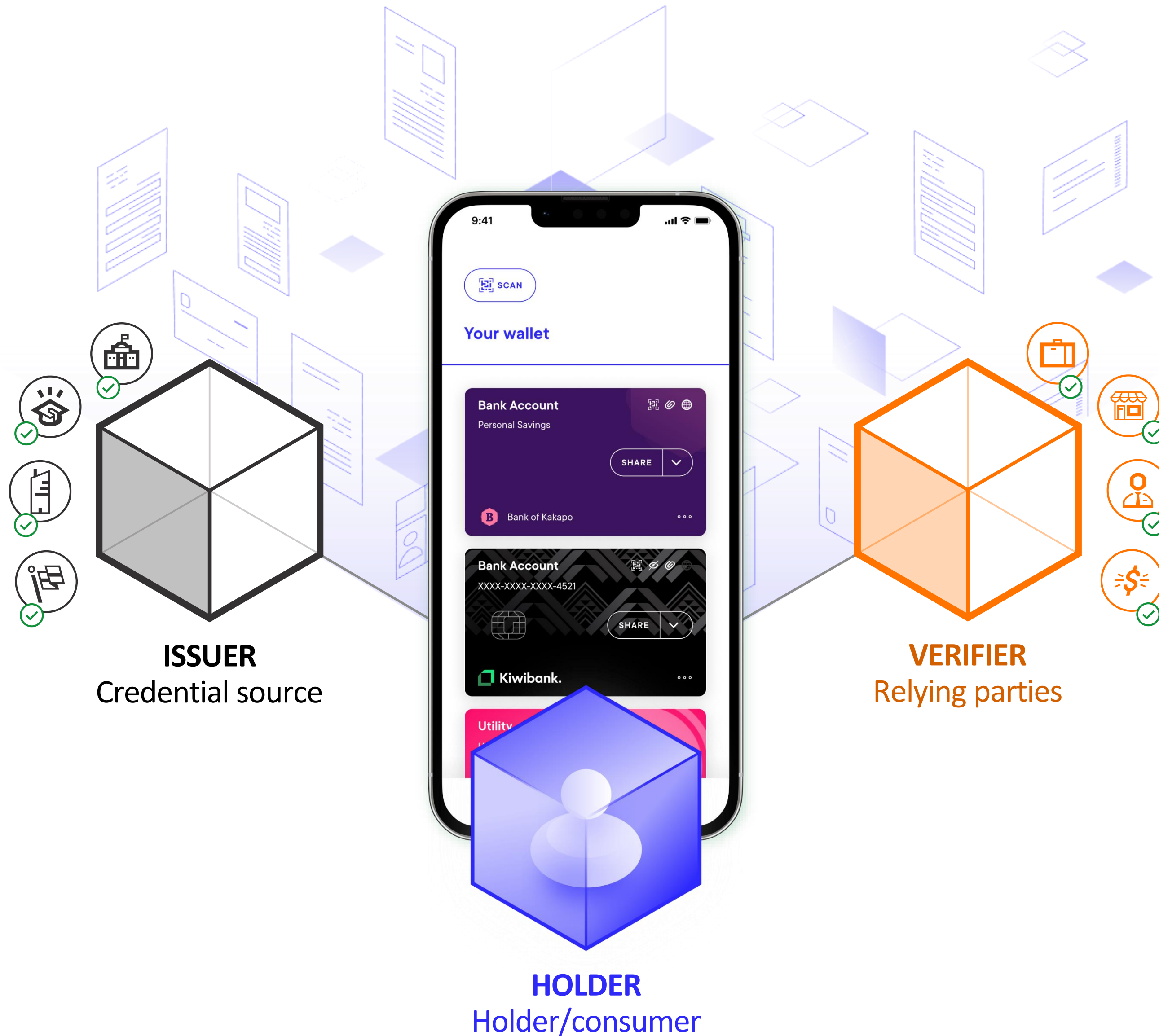
Investors Lost \$3.8 Billion to Scams Last Year

Investopedia

02/09/2022

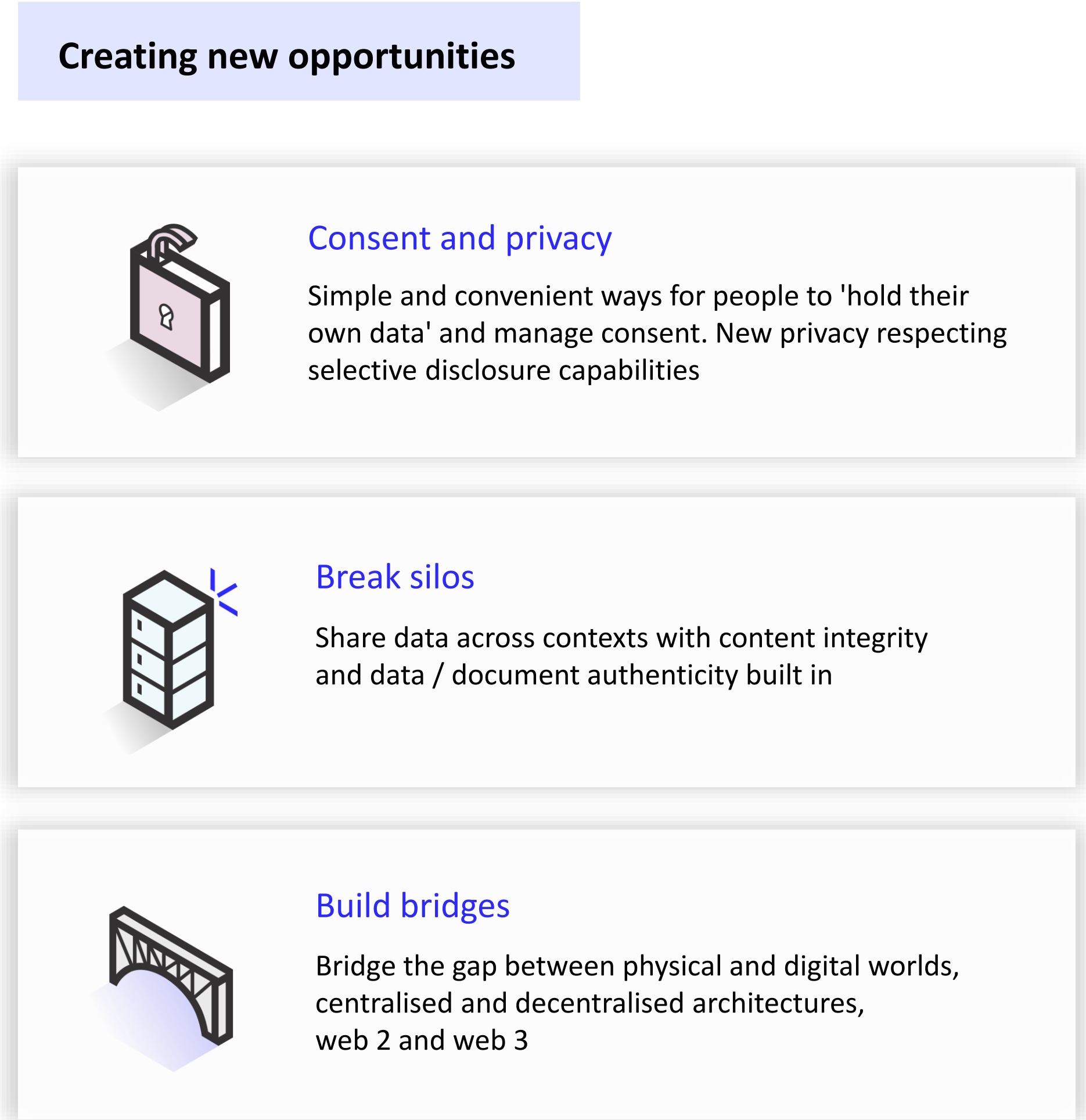
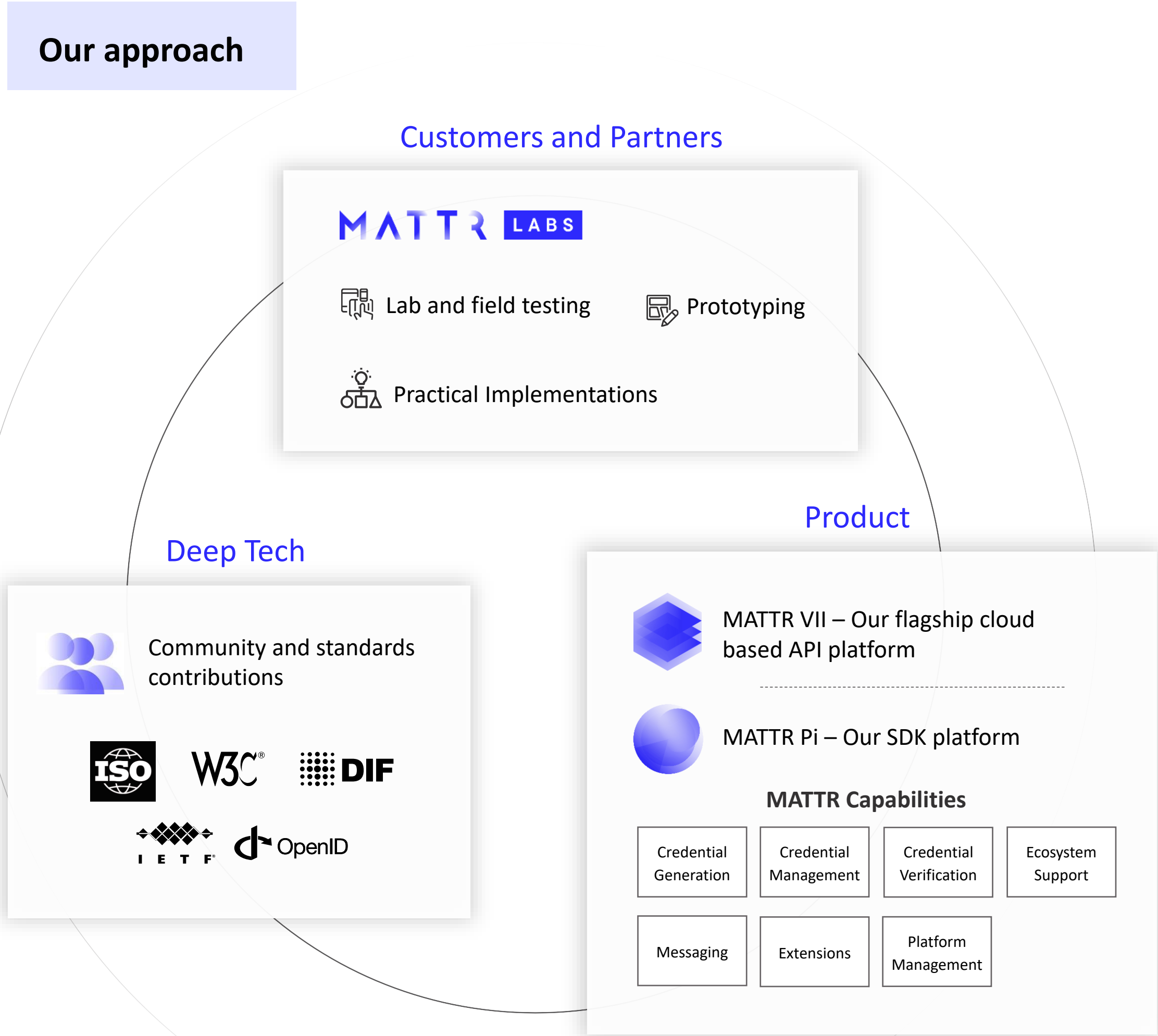
Over 1.2 million credit card numbers leaked on hacking forum

CYBER SECURITY HUB



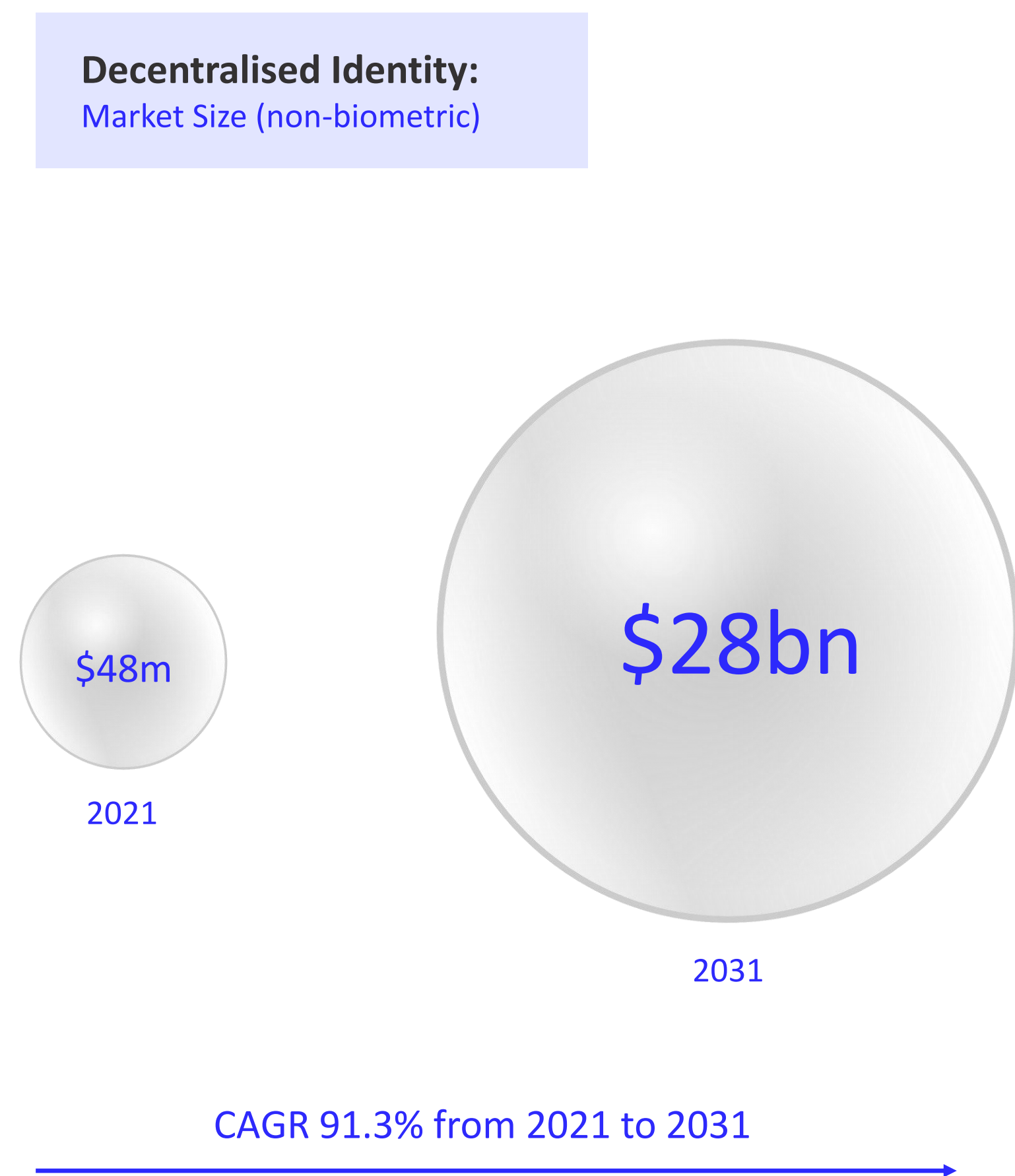
# Spark's investment in MATTR reached commercialisation in FY22

MATTR is a SaaS company providing platform products for Enterprise, Governments and OEMs

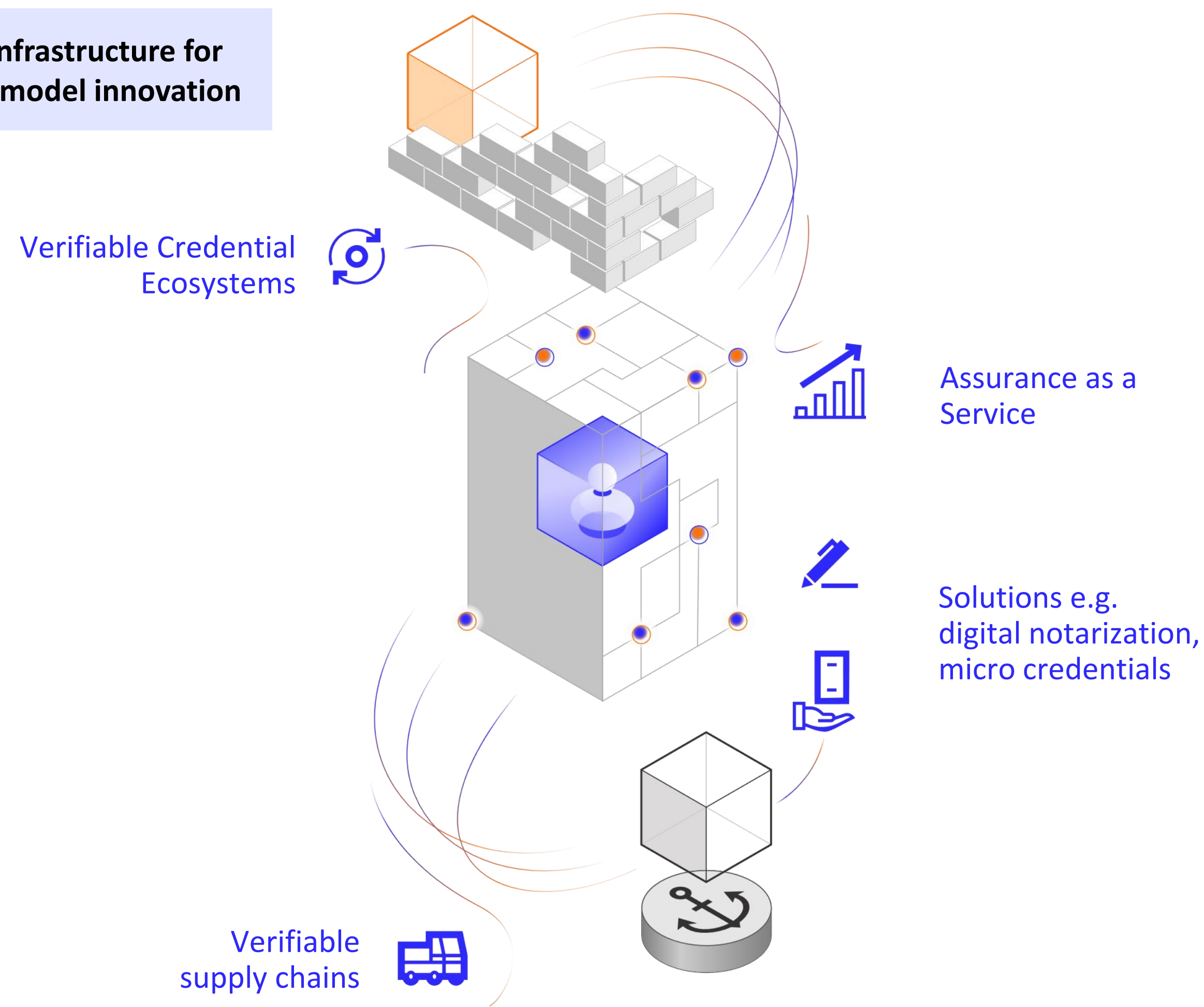


# The global digital identity market is significant

With a predicted CAGR of 91.3%<sup>1</sup> over the decade from 2021 to 2031



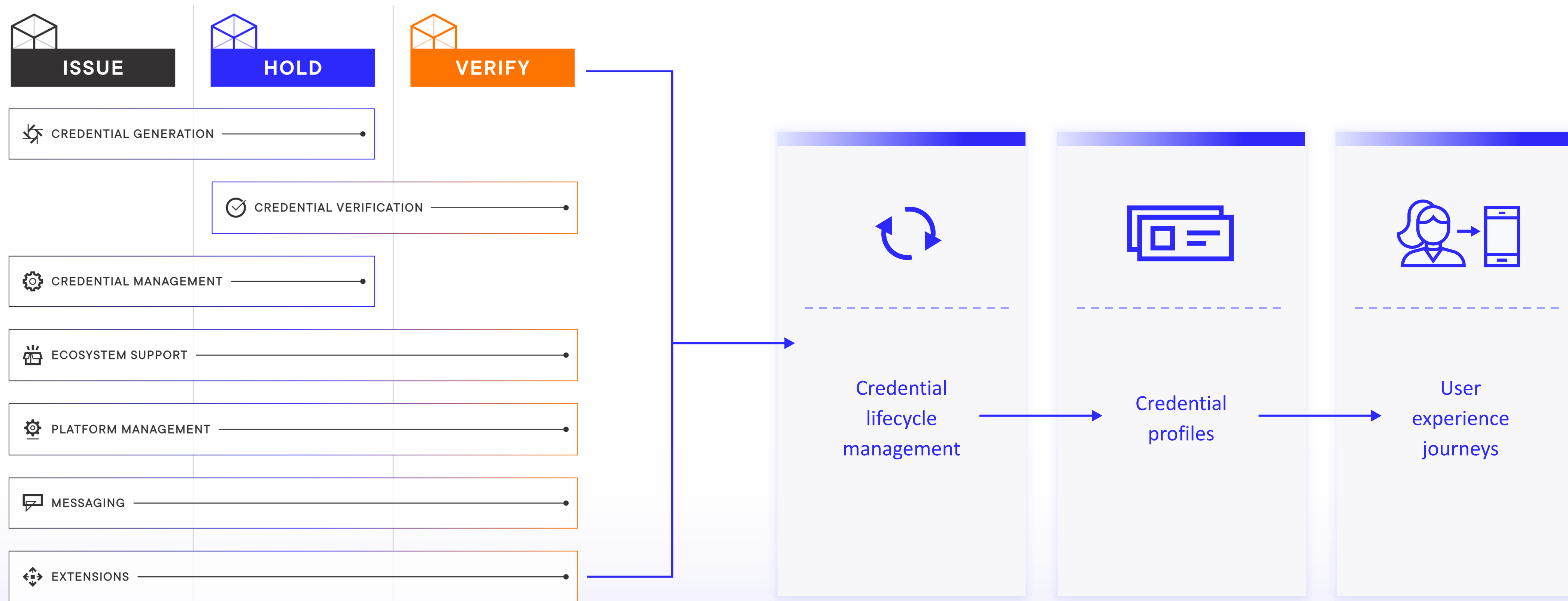
## Flexible Infrastructure for business model innovation



1. Allied Market Research, 2022

# MATTR provides end-to-end credential lifecycle management

Flexible product capabilities for customers across journeys, profiles, and roles



# MATTR has secured several overseas clients in public and private sectors

Over the next three years MATTR will scale further as the market forms and growth accelerates

The [market is starting to form](#) and MATTR is working with businesses and governments across the globe to develop scalable solutions.

## MATTR has secured a significant contract with the NSW Government in Australia.

MATTR is the **technology partner** on the NSW Digital ID and Verifiable Credentials program that will be providing products that enable verifiable credentials to be issued via the NSW Government's apps, and independently verified by third parties.

MATTR's **long-term product investment roadmap** is prioritised by market maturity and product vision



# Spark's high-tech capabilities are rapidly maturing

Each capability is enabling new business solutions – but at this stage, largely independently of each other

## Data analytics and AI

- Increasing demand
- Growing position in Qrious
- AI Principles guide ethical use



- A project with Qrious and KiwiRail is underway using weather data, machine learning, and data-driven sailing to reduce fuel costs and emissions

## 5G

- Nationwide 5G coverage
- 5G Standalone network trials
- First MAEC<sup>1</sup> pilot
- Exploring 5G mmWave



- Spark, Nokia, and MBIE established a 5G mmWave test site in North Canterbury for PGG Wrightson to run its rural operations over 5G connectivity

## Internet of Things (IoT)<sup>2</sup>

- IoT connections hit 1.2 million
- IoT networks reaching up to 99% of population
- Stake in environmental IoT business Adroit



- Spark IoT, Christchurch City Council, and Fire and Emergency NZ using IoT to predict and prevent forest fires

## Digital identity

- MATTR commercialisation
- Digital trust, security, and privacy in demand due to cyber risks
- Offshore growth opportunity

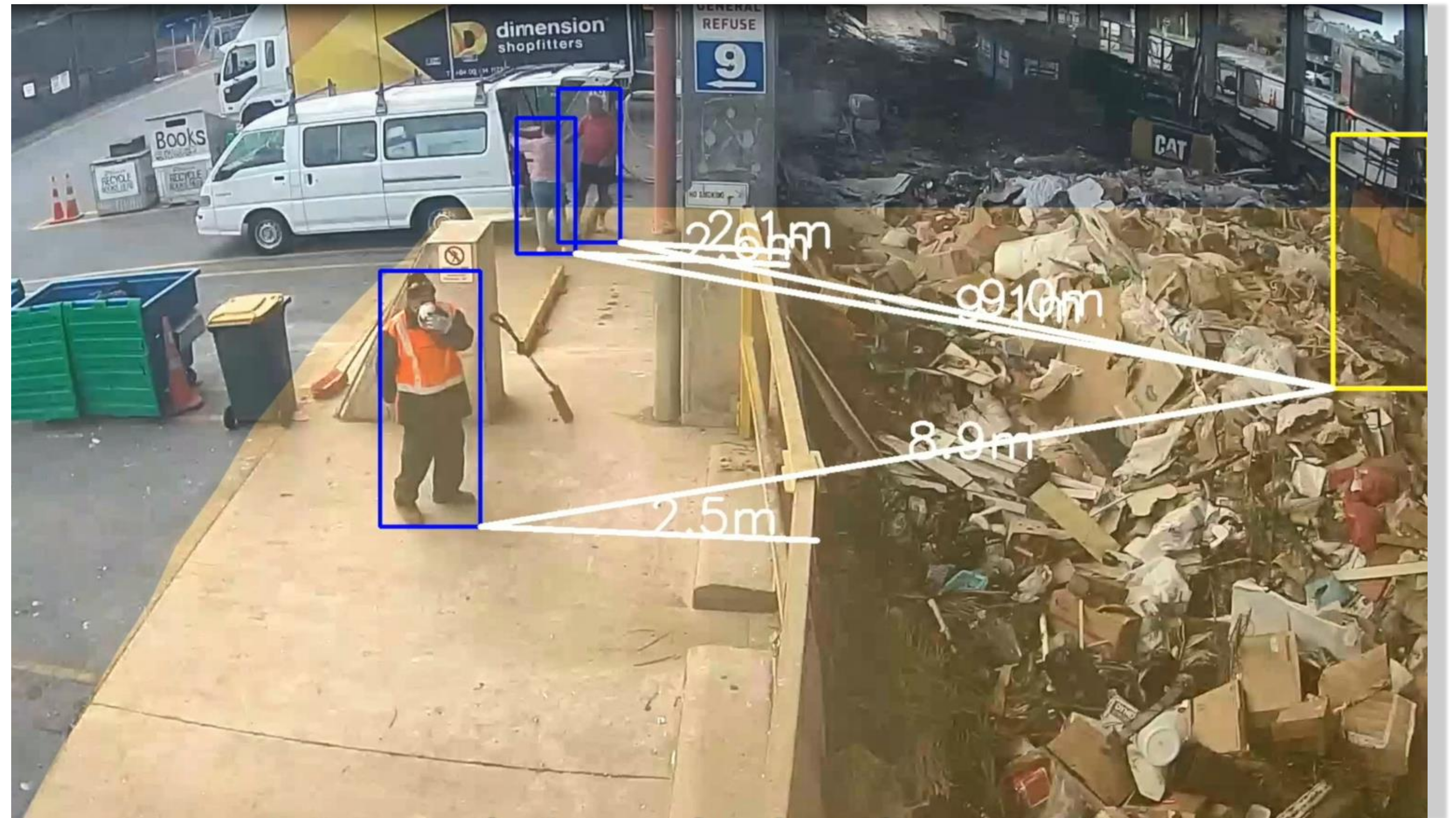


- MATTR secured a significant contract with the NSW Government as a key technology partner on the NSW Digital ID and Verifiable Credential program

# Spark is starting to trial converged solutions that unite these capabilities

Successful deployments will identify use cases that can be productionised and applied across multiple sectors

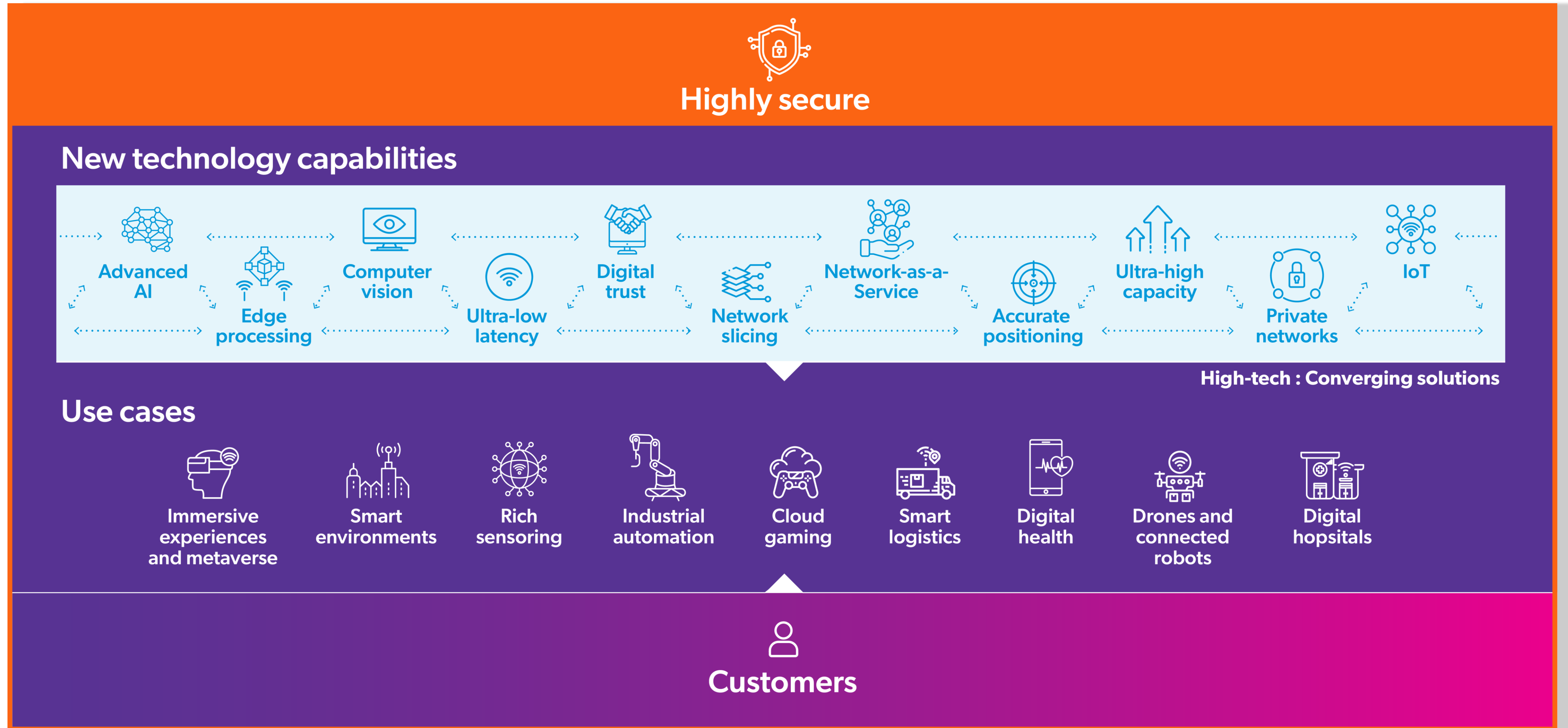
- Spark and Qrious pilot for EnviroNZ
- Hazard detection system using AI, machine learning, computer vision, IoT video cameras, 5G connectivity and local edge computing
- Can detect if people are too close to excavators working in the waste disposal area at a busy resource recovery centre
- Helps solve a health and safety challenge applicable to a wide range of businesses





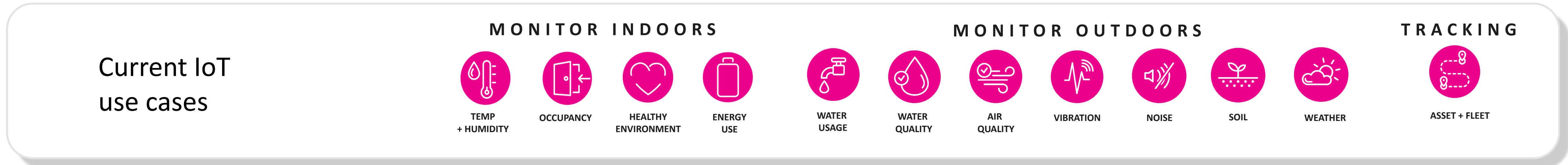
# In the next three years we will leverage convergence for growth

Unlocking new value through solutions that solve business problems – from cost inflation and labour shortages to emissions reductions, efficiency, and regulatory compliance



# We are not starting from scratch – with presence across multiple sectors

Providing a strong connectivity-based foundation for future growth into higher-value converged solutions



**Applied across multiple sectors**

		Agriculture	Commercial Facilities	Construction	Health	Public Sector	Transport and logistics
Applied across multiple sectors	Tracking solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Asset tracking</li> <li>○ Fleet tracking</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Water solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Water usage</li> <li>○ Water quality</li> </ul>	✓	✓		✓	
	Productivity, safety and indoor monitoring solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Temperature</li> <li>○ Occupancy</li> <li>○ Healthy environments</li> <li>○ Energy use</li> <li>○ Parking</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Outdoor environmental monitoring solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Air quality</li> <li>○ Vibration</li> <li>○ Noise</li> <li>○ Soil</li> <li>○ Fire detection</li> </ul>	✓		✓		✓

## Our purpose

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**LEAD**  
Mobile



**OPTIMISE**  
Broadband

Enabling New Zealand Businesses to grow and become more productive and sustainable through technology



**LEAD**  
SME and business



**GROW**  
High-tech Solutions

## Our enablers

Next evolution technology

Simple, data-driven organisation

Innovation culture

**Our commitment:**  
to stand together  
for generations  
to come

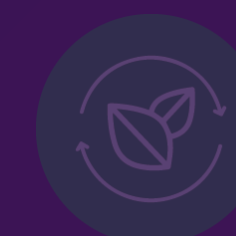


Economic  
Transformation

Toitū Sustainability at Spark



Digital  
Equity



Sustainable  
Spark

Te Korowai Tupu



Our  
Māori Strategy

## Our FY26 outcomes

Low / mid single digit  
**CAGR**  
EBITDAI growth

**>10%**  
Free cash  
flow growth

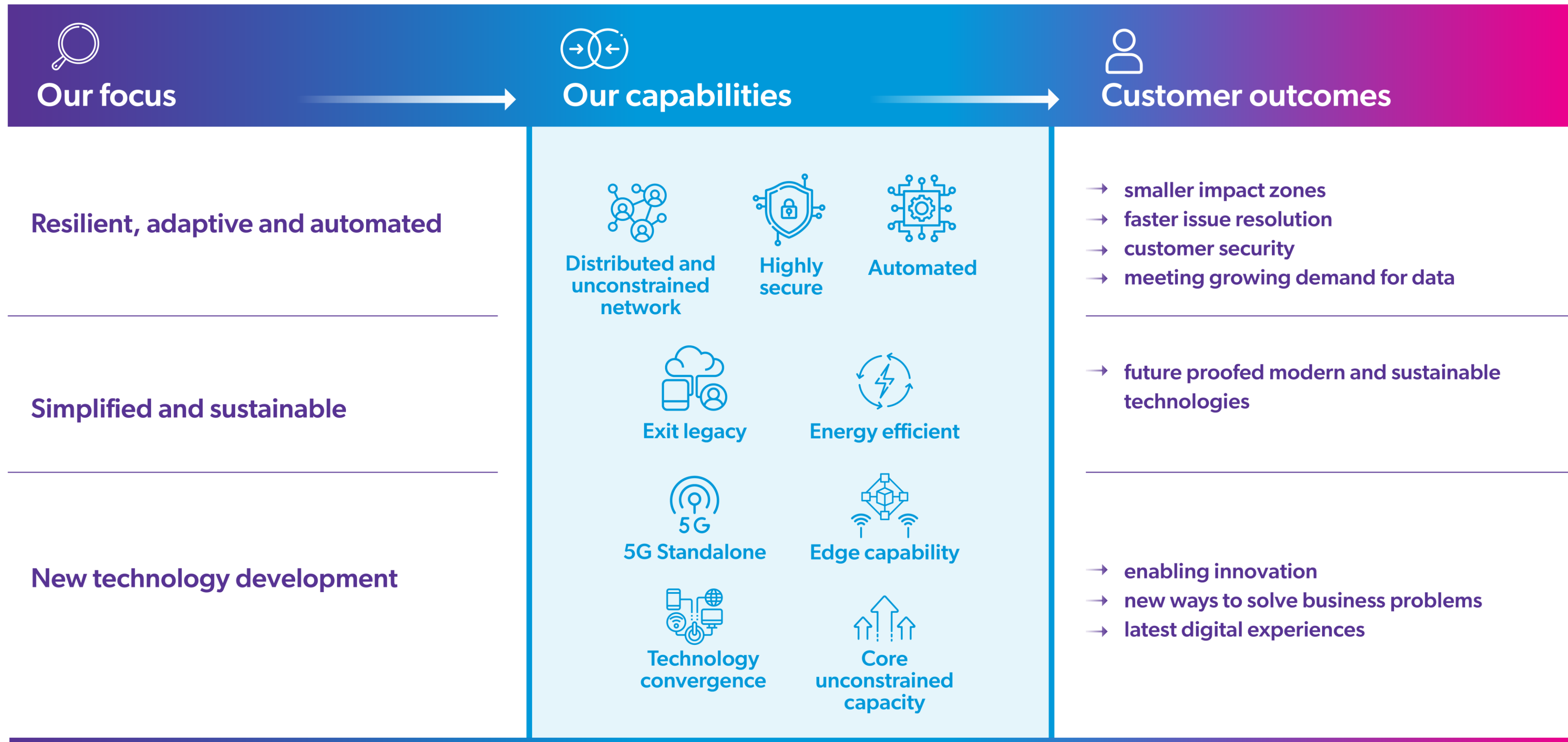
**+10 lift**  
Customer  
engagement

**Top decile**  
People  
engagement

**Top quartile**  
Sustainability  
benchmarking

# We will focus on a core set of technology capabilities that enable differentiation

Our investment will deliver a leading network for New Zealand and the technologies that enable innovation



# We will deliver next evolution technology that enables a more digital tomorrow

Our technology investment will continue to underpin growth in our consumer and business segments

Resilient,  
adaptive,  
and automated

## What we will do

- Greater diversification – smaller impact zones and orchestrated failover
- Network automation to enable responsiveness and fixing faults remotely, in real time
- 7x network capacity

## What it delivers

- Meeting exponential growth in data
- Restoring customer services quickly
- Supporting NZ's digital economy growth

Simplified and  
sustainable

- PSTN exited
- 3G exited
- Customers migrated off legacy to modern technologies

- Faster, more efficient, future-proof services for our customers
- 3G refarming supporting 5G rollout

New  
technology  
development

- 5G densification and extension into rural
- Productionised Standalone and Edge capability
- Strategic partnerships supporting development
- Preparation for 6G + productionised use of mm-wave

- New growth in converged tech
- Mobile ARPU growth
- WBB addressable market growth

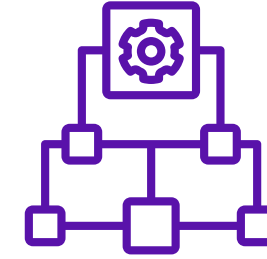
# Sustained investment in cyber security capability

Spark's technology investment is underpinned by robust cyber security capability, operations, and governance



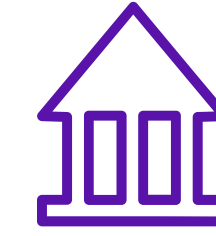
## CAPABILITY

- Large security operations, with over 180 security subject matter experts
- People play a critical role in helping to detect and defend against potential cyber security threats
- All Spark people undertake cyber security training, to equip them in identifying and preventing attacks



## OPERATIONS

- Spark Cyber Security Incident Response Plan guides response to threats
- All Spark services and networks go through multiple security checks during the 'design', 'build', and 'operate' phases
- Invested heavily in threat intelligence platform which curates the latest threat indicators that we correlate across our environments.
- Adopted industry best practice frameworks such as MITRE ATT&CK<sup>1</sup>
- Invested in security automation, orchestration, and machine learning, to stay ahead of always evolving security threats



## GOVERNANCE

- Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) has security operations responsibility
- Audit and Risk Management Committee of Board has governance responsibility
- Utilise industry best practice frameworks, including ISO27001 and NIST CSF<sup>2</sup>
- Processes independently assured by internal risk and audit function and externally validated by qualified cyber security consultants or auditors

1. A curated knowledge base and model for cyber adversary behaviour 2. National Institute of Standards and Technology Cyber Security Framework

# A simple, data-driven organisation

Making it easier and faster for customers to find and purchase products or services that meet their individual needs

## What we will do

### Personalised omni-channel experiences

- Customer *and* household data-driven marketing
- Precision targeting expanded to non-Spark customers
- Greater personalisation across physical and digital channels
- Proactive customer issue resolution

### B2B simplified and data-driven

- Single view of the customer, proactive churn management
- Simplified portfolios, modern solutions bundled
- A digital service offering and modernised sales model

### Spark data-driven op model and future business systems

- Data and AI capability extended enterprise-wide
- Automated, modular systems leveraging common technologies
- CRM replaced with modern service orientated architecture

## What it delivers

- Personalised content and relevant offers for customers
- Consistent and leading experiences across physical and digital channels
- Faster and easier issues resolution

- Modern, standardised, future-proof products aligned to business needs
- Spark is easier to do business with
- Issues are resolved quickly

- Better customer and people experiences
- Risk and spend management
- Consistent channel experience

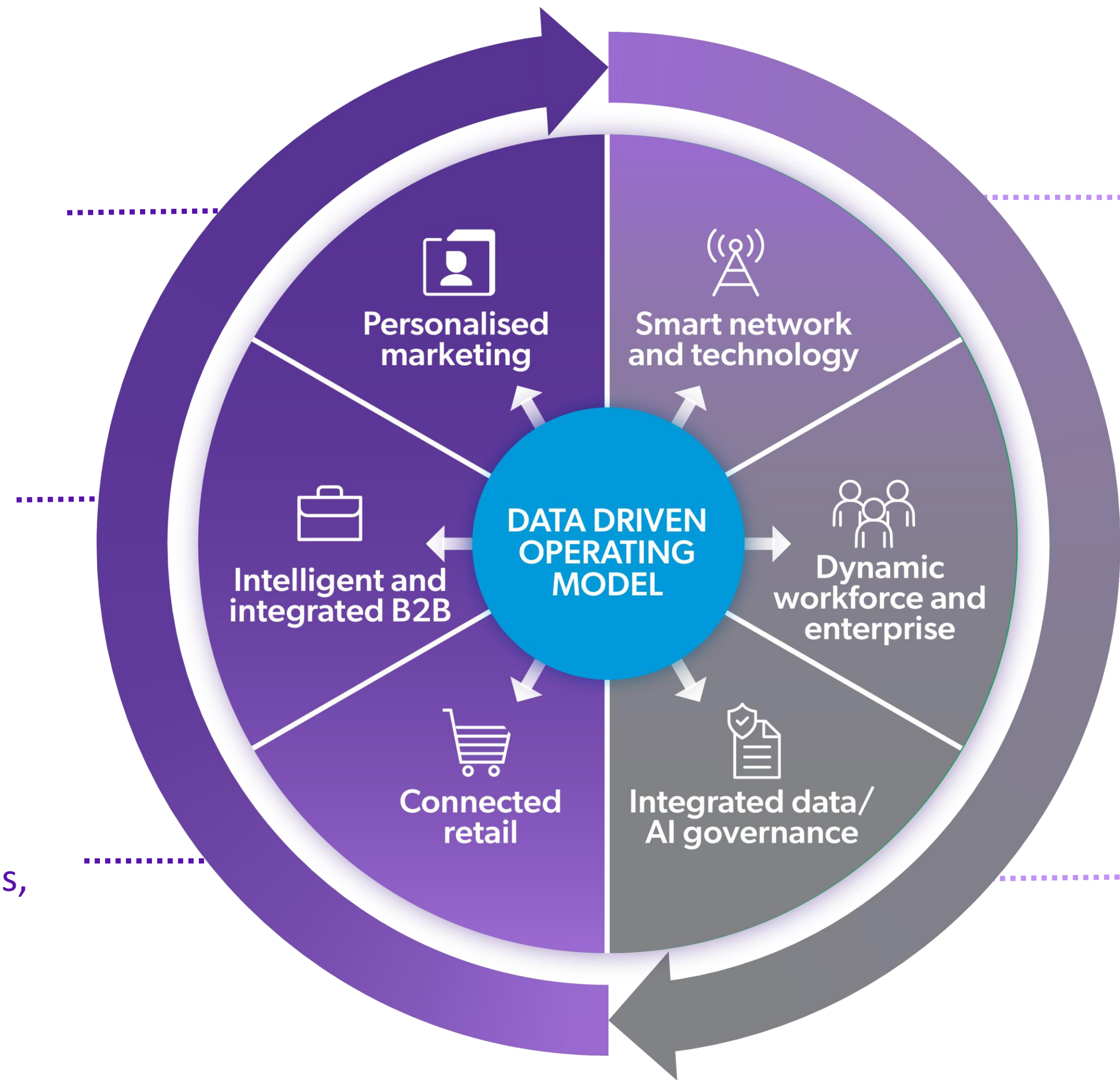
# To deliver our aspirations, our data capability will be extended enterprise-wide

Delivering revenue generation and efficiency benefits across all markets and Spark-wide

- Targeting acquisition and retention at highest value households, delivering personalised offers to boost conversion

- Single view of business customers enabling targeted offers, and ease of doing business with Spark

- Enhanced product availability, personalised customer experiences, and improved store efficiency



- Understanding customer level network experiences, directing investment to highest returns

- Advanced workforce planning, improved productivity across the enterprise through automation

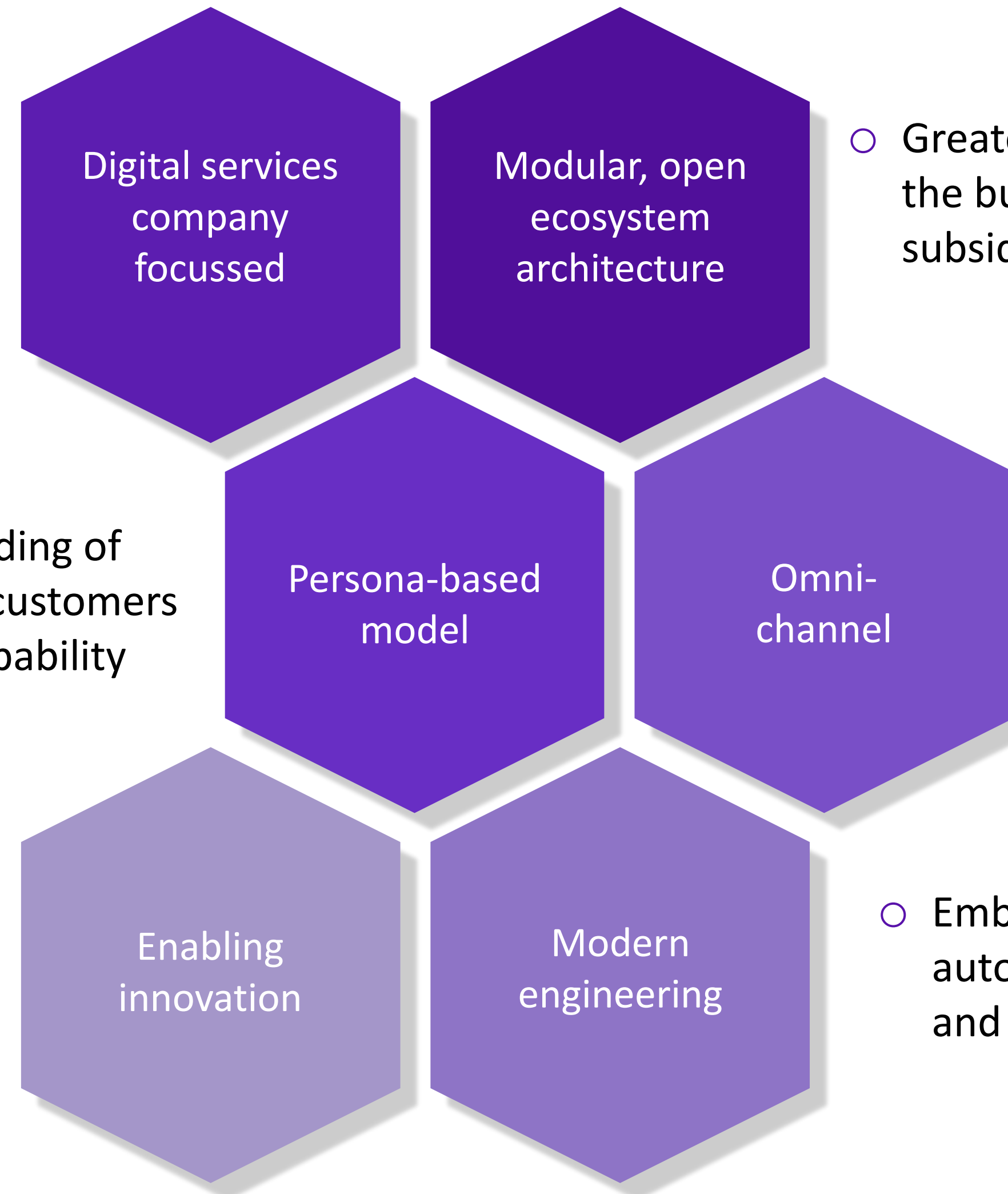
- Continued robust governance and best-practice AI and privacy policies and practices



# We will invest in future business systems that support our success in market

Adding further value to our re-engineered systems, with CRM that supports innovation and future growth

- A platform that supports digital product and services with ICT offerings as a single vertical, vs. telco-centric



- Greater interoperability across the business and between subsidiaries and partners

- Deep understanding of individuals and customers through data capability

- Shared journeys across channels and 'unbundled' CRM enabling best of breed capabilities

- Systems that encourage and enable innovation and automated capability release to market

- Embedded security, automation first principles, and fast work flows

# What will Spark look like in the future?

## B2C CUSTOMER

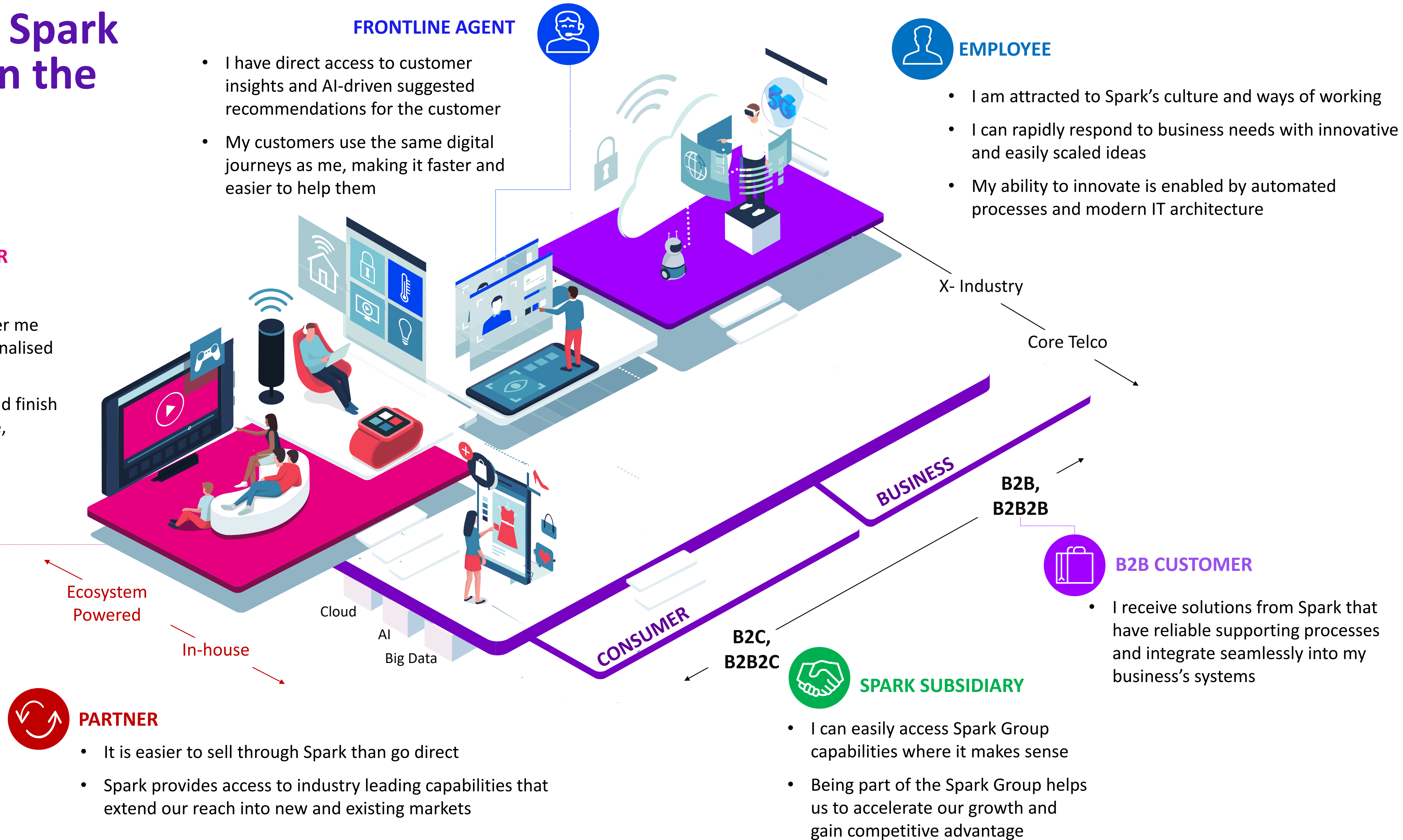
- I trust Spark to offer me relevant and personalised digital experiences
- I can easily start and finish journeys anywhere, anytime, any place

## FRONTLINE AGENT

- I have direct access to customer insights and AI-driven suggested recommendations for the customer
- My customers use the same digital journeys as me, making it faster and easier to help them

## EMPLOYEE

- I am attracted to Spark's culture and ways of working
- I can rapidly respond to business needs with innovative and easily scaled ideas
- My ability to innovate is enabled by automated processes and modern IT architecture



## PARTNER

- It is easier to sell through Spark than go direct
- Spark provides access to industry leading capabilities that extend our reach into new and existing markets

## B2C, B2B2C

## SPARK SUBSIDIARY

- I can easily access Spark Group capabilities where it makes sense
- Being part of the Spark Group helps us to accelerate our growth and gain competitive advantage

## B2B, B2B2B

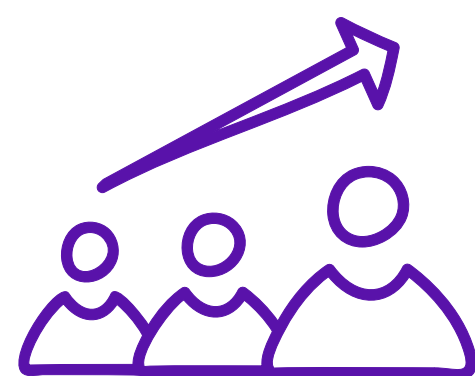
## B2B CUSTOMER

- I receive solutions from Spark that have reliable supporting processes and integrate seamlessly into my business's systems

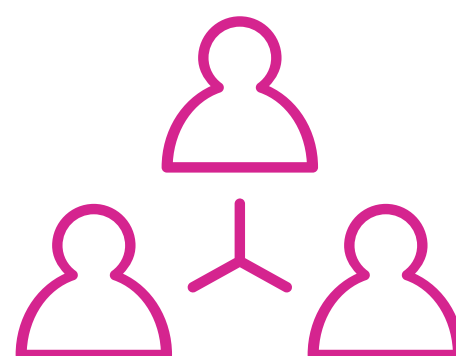
# Innovation culture will support growth for our people and Spark

Responding to our operating environment with four key focus areas critical to our success

We will provide world-leading people experiences and market success for Spark as Aotearoa changes – with an increasingly older and more diverse population, significant need for upskilling and reskilling, and a tight labour market:



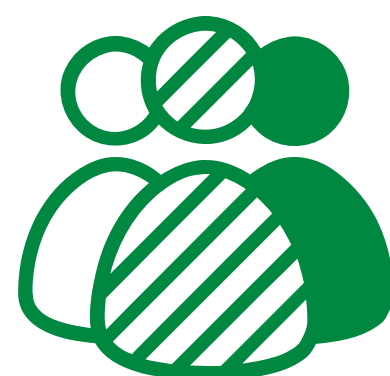
Advanced talent,  
skill development,  
and inclusive progression



Future ways of working  
and insight-led  
people experiences



Healthy lives and  
safe environments



Diverse and  
inclusive culture

# We will create a top decile innovation culture

Fueling Spark's growth through highly skilled people and unrivalled people experiences

	What we will do	What it delivers
Advanced talent, skill development, and inclusive progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attracting, developing and retaining critical roles</li> <li>○ L&amp;D for growth – innovation, performance, adaptivity</li> <li>○ Ownership of reskilling, progression pathways and pipeline development – Spark Development Incubator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Adapting to changing talent needs</li> <li>○ Growing future leaders</li> <li>○ Equipping talent to deliver growth</li> </ul>
Future ways of working and insight-led people experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Continue to evolve ways of working</li> <li>○ Using data and insights to co-create differentiated people experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Group-wide agility</li> <li>○ Flexibility for our people</li> <li>○ Enhanced ability to attract and retain in a competitive market</li> </ul>
Healthy lives and safe environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Maintain comprehensive 'gold standard' of health, safety and wellbeing management</li> <li>○ Integrated into people experiences, leadership, and ways of working</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sustainable and safe work practices for high performance</li> <li>○ High levels of wellbeing</li> </ul>
Diverse and inclusive culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Data-led goal setting, modelling, and tracking</li> <li>○ Diversity, equity, and inclusion fully integrated across innovation culture focus areas and initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A workforce reflective of our diverse country and customer base</li> <li>○ Better outcomes through diversity</li> </ul>

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Mobile



**OPTIMISE**  
Broadband

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**LEAD**  
SME and business



**GROW**  
High-tech Solutions

## Our enablers

Next evolution technology

Simple, data-driven organisation

Innovation culture

**Our commitment: to stand together for generations to come**



**Economic Transformation**

## Toitū Sustainability at Spark



**Digital Equity**



**Sustainable Spark**

## Te Korowai Tupu



**Our Māori Strategy**

## Our FY26 outcomes

**Low / mid single digit CAGR**  
EBITDAI growth

**>10%**  
Free cash flow growth

**+10 lift**  
Customer engagement

**Top decile**  
People engagement

**Top quartile**  
Sustainability benchmarking

# We want our culture to reflect and uplift New Zealand’s unique heritage

Through Te Korowai Tupu we aim to weave a te ao Māori perspective throughout Kora Aotearoa (Spark NZ)

Te Korowai Tupu is inspired, driven, and led by kawa (protocol), tikanga (process), and kaupapa Māori. It takes the threads of a tangata whenua (indigenous people) world view that can be woven across Kora Aotearoa – into strategies, actions, and values.

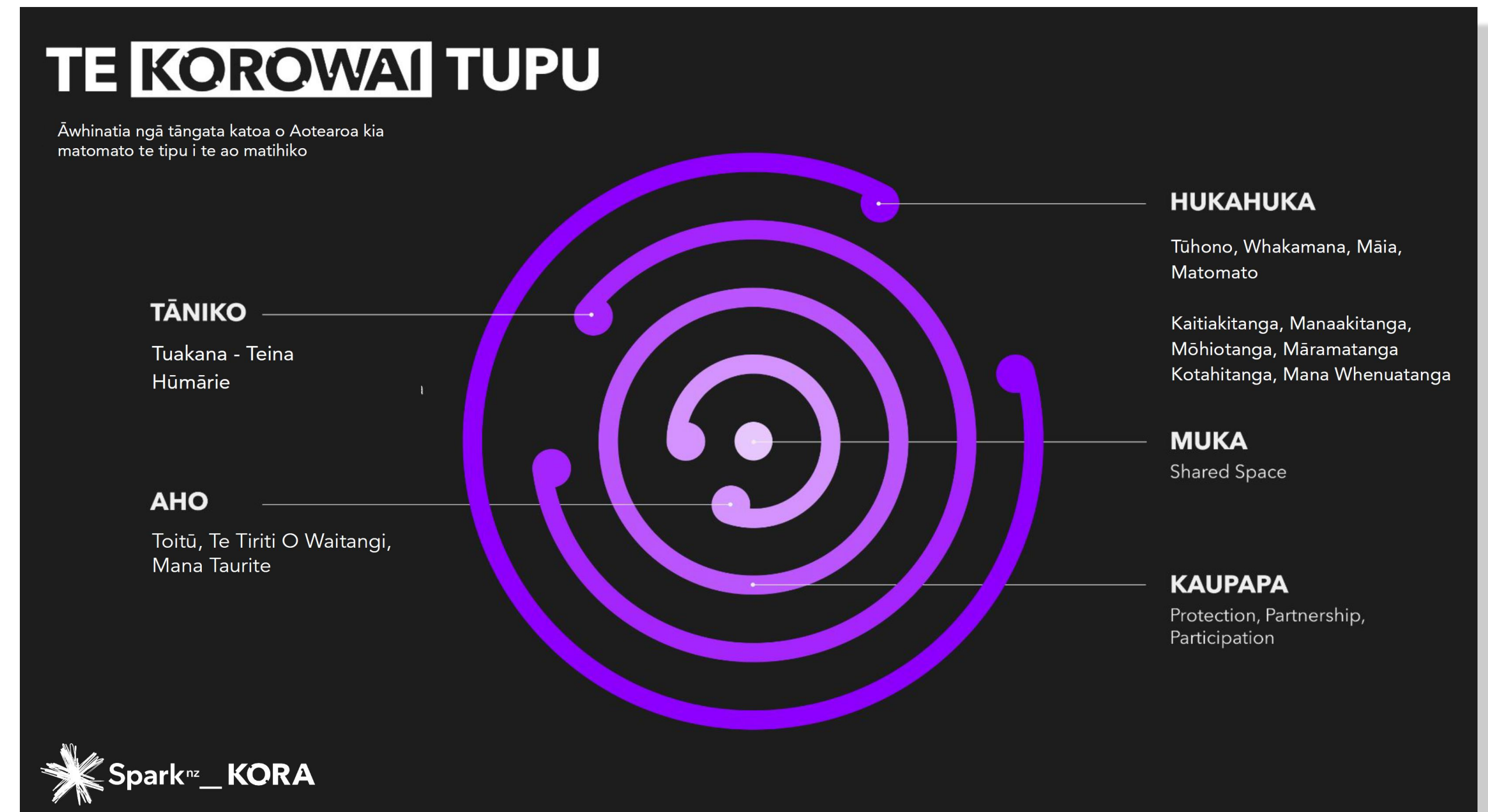
Over the next three years we will focus on:

Meaningful partnerships that deliver great outcomes for Māori

Increasing Māori representation in the technology sector

Focus on Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles of protection, partnership, and participation

Supporting the normalisation of te reo Māori (language) and tikanga Māori (practices)



# We will continue to pursue sustainable growth

Our three focus areas are enduring, representing the highest materiality to Spark and our stakeholders



## Economic Transformation

### Progress since FY21

- Significant investment in accelerated 5G rollout
- Ongoing investment in rural connectivity through RCG
- Research into the role digital technology can play to meet New Zealand’s climate challenge

### FY24-26 focus

Integrate technology into NZ’s climate change planning and enable businesses to become more sustainable through new technologies



## Digital Equity

- Community-led partnerships through Spark Foundation
- Scaled not-for-profit broadband service Skinny Jump ~150%
- Spark in top quartile of WBA<sup>1</sup> Digital Inclusion Benchmark

Increase Spark Foundation focus on skills and pathways, while continuing to scale affordable connectivity and integrate digital equity into Spark



## Sustainable Spark

- Science-based target established and linked to funding
- Enhanced ethical supply chain processes, JAC<sup>2</sup> membership
- Human Rights Policy established
- Spark accepted into Dow Jones Sustainability Australia Index

Securing renewable energy supply, energy efficiency programme, annual supplier audits, and ongoing investment in diversity

### Sustainable Development Goals



#### Our commitment

#### KPIs

### Economic Transformation

Empower New Zealand to transform to a high productivity, low carbon economy

**New technologies:** we will invest in the technologies Aotearoa needs to transform

- Deliver 5G Standalone nationwide by FY26 to enable innovation

**Digital infrastructure:** we will expand connectivity to more of the places New Zealanders live and work

- Increase 5G connectivity to all towns with a population >1,500 by end FY26

**Business digitisation:** we will support businesses to become more sustainable through technology

- Champion the integration of digital technology into Aotearoa’s climate change planning

### Digital Equity

Champion digital equity so all New Zealanders can thrive in a digital future

**Skills and pathways:** we will focus Spark and Spark Foundation investment on increasing Māori and Pasifika participation in the technology sector

- Increase Māori and Pasifika participation within Spark by 5pp by end FY26<sup>1</sup>

**Affordability:** we will support low income households to participate in the digital world

- Extend the reach of our not-for-profit broadband service Skinny Jump, with YoY growth

**Products and services:** we will increase accessibility and maintain the highest security and privacy standards

- Maintain top quartile position in the Worldwide Benchmarking Alliance’s annual Digital Inclusion Benchmark

### Sustainable Spark

Be bold in our business to have a positive impact on our people, the environment, and our communities

**Our people:** we will invest in the capabilities and wellbeing of our people and champion diversity and inclusion

- Achieve 40:40:20 gender representation at Spark by June 2024
- Spark has a top decile innovation culture by FY26

**Our environment:** we will reduce our impact on the natural environment

- Science based target (SBTi): reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions 56% from FY20-FY30 and ensure 70% of our suppliers by spend<sup>2</sup> have SBTi-aligned targets in place by 2026

**Governance:** we will operate a responsible and ethical business and supply chain

- Maintain top quartile benchmark in the annual Corporate Sustainability Assessment
- Complete five JAC<sup>3</sup> aligned supplier location audits annually

**TŪHONO:** we connect

**WHAKAMANA:** we empower

**MATOMATO:** we succeed together

**MĀIA:** we are bold



## Our purpose

TO HELP

ALL OF

**NEW ZEALAND**

WIN BIG

IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Āwhinatia ngā tāngata katoa o Aotearoa kia matomato te tipu i te ao matihiko

## Our values

**TŪHONO:** we connect

**WHAKAMANA:** we empower

**MATOMATO:** we succeed together

**MĀIA:** we are bold



## Our FY24-26 focus

We will empower the people and businesses creating Aotearoa's tomorrow by:

Bringing New Zealanders the best digital-first experiences, curated to their needs



**LEAD**  
Mobile



**OPTIMISE**  
Broadband

Enabling New Zealand Businesses to grow and become more productive and sustainable through technology



**LEAD**  
SME and business



**GROW**  
High-tech Solutions

## Our enablers

Next evolution technology

Simple, data-driven organisation

Innovation culture

**Our commitment:**  
to stand together  
for generations  
to come



Economic  
Transformation



Digital  
Equity



Sustainable  
Spark

## Toitū Sustainability at Spark

## Te Korowai Tupu



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Māori Strategy

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**Top quartile**  
Sustainability  
benchmarking

# Our plan for long term value creation

We will create long term value for our shareholders through five key focus areas

Revenue  
growth

Operating  
efficiency

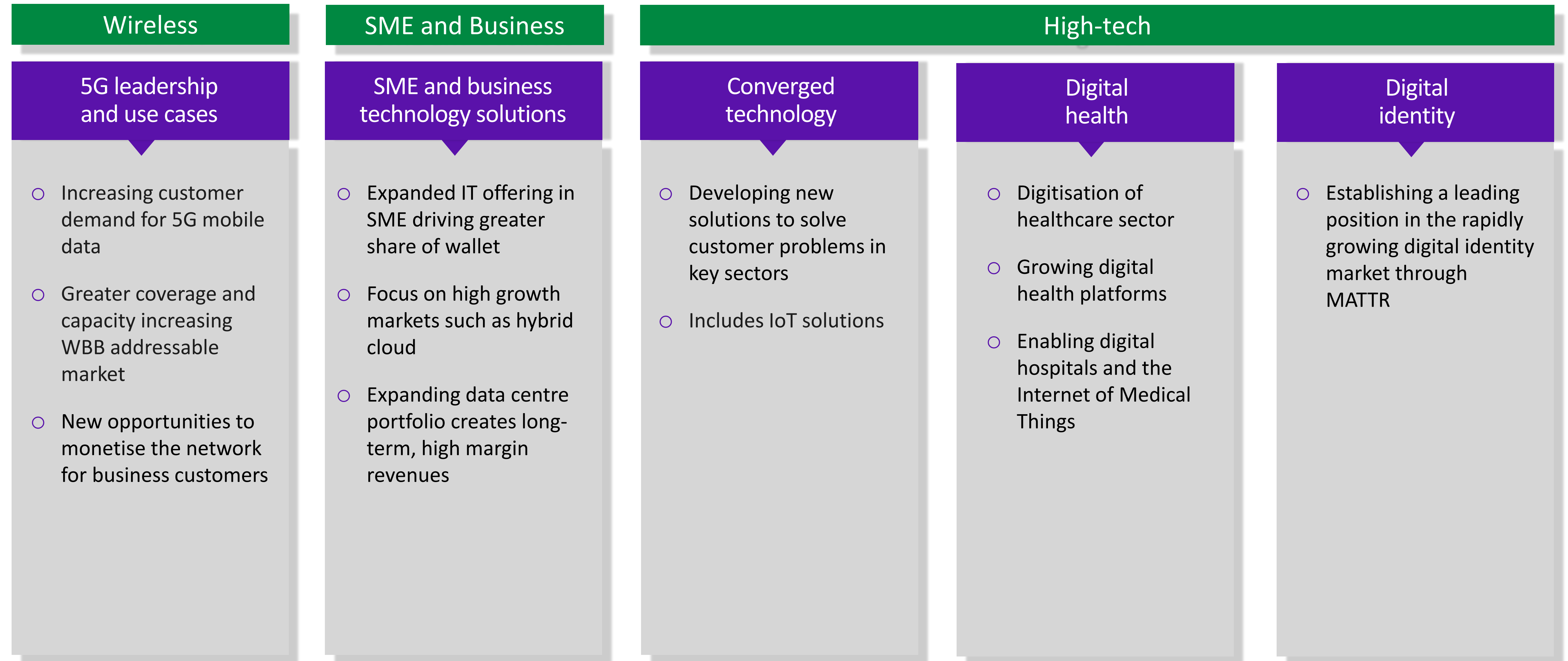
Invest for  
long-term growth

Free cash flow  
generation

Disciplined capital  
management

# We will target revenue growth of 2-4% p.a. through five key drivers

Delivering full-service offerings that create a portfolio effect to further grow revenue



# We will target gross cost reductions of \$125m-\$175m by FY26<sup>1</sup>

Simplification, automation, digitising customer journeys, and growing wireless broadband will underpin our efficiency

	Simplify the business	Automate core services	Digitise customer experiences	Create owners economics
Next evolution technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reduce and exit legacy (e.g. PSTN, legacy data, 3G)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Implement virtual telco cloud infrastructure</li> <li>○ Network deployment and management</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Invest in 5G capacity</li> <li>○ Invest in access and aggregation network</li> <li>○ Shared tower infrastructure driving medium term efficiency</li> </ul>
Simple, data-driven organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Simplify business products</li> <li>○ Modern tooling drives efficiency in customer service delivery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Extend marketing automation to SME and B2B segments</li> <li>○ Back office automation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Improve digital journeys</li> <li>○ Single view of the customer across all channels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Drive 5G WBB uptake through data-driven marketing</li> </ul>
Innovation culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Invest in our people to grow data, digital, and innovation capabilities</li> </ul>			
	Reduced product costs, labour efficiency, and improved customer experiences	Labour efficiency and improved people and customer experiences	Labour efficiency, higher product density, and lower churn driving higher revenue	Reduced input costs and improved customer experiences

1. Includes avoided costs. Spark may choose to reinvest some cost savings

# We will continue to invest for long term growth

TowerCo proceeds enable investment in assets that will generate long-term incremental returns

## Growth capex funded via \$350m of TowerCo proceeds

### Data Centres \$250-300m

Investment in digital infrastructure creating resilient revenues and earnings:

- An additional 13-17<sup>1</sup> MW by FY26 plus land of ~20% of total value, subject to meeting investment criteria – additional to the purpose-built site at Takanini (11<sup>1</sup> MW, completing in mid-2023), and Mayoral Drive facility enhancements
- Targeting RoI of 9-10%
- Revenues to commence from building completion and scale over time as utilisation grows

### Mobile and Edge Technology \$40-60m

Accelerating wireless performance to expand the addressable market:

- 5G Standalone foundations and multi-access edge compute
- Targeting RoI of ~10%
- Revenues to commence late FY25 and into FY26

## Underlying capex and spectrum

- Capex (ex. TowerCo proceeds) to be maintained at 10-11% of revenues to support core business and fund investment into digital identity, IoT, and data automation
- Spectrum investment underpins growth ambitions, including previously announced c-band spectrum rights

# Our investment is guided by our Capital Management Framework

Focussed on maximising shareholder value, fueling growth, and maintaining financial strength and flexibility



## Maximising shareholder value

- Growing dividends via growth in earnings and sustainable free cash flow
- Dividend Policy: pay-out ratio of ~80-100% of free cash flow<sup>1</sup> on a long run basis, with annual guidance expressed on a cents per share basis
- Returning excess capital to shareholders using capital management options (e.g. on-market buybacks, special dividends)



## Investing for growth

- Investing to sustain and grow the business organically
- Investing for growth via mergers and acquisitions that are EPS accretive over time



## Maintaining financial strength and flexibility

- Ongoing disciplined management of working capital to improve cash flow
- Committed to maintaining an appropriate investment grade credit rating

### Key principles for investing in growth

- ✓ Strategic alignment
- ✓ NPV positive
- ✓ ROI greater than Spark's hurdle rate in years 3-5
- ✓ Long run capex to revenue ~10-11%<sup>2</sup>

1. FCF defined as EBITDAI less tax paid, interest paid, maintenance capex (pre growth and spectrum capex), lease payments and pre any movements in working capital  
2. Excluding any spectrum purchases and renewals

# We will continue to invest in line with this framework

Investing for growth in the long-term, while growing dividends in the nearer term

## Maximise shareholder value

- Revenue growth combined with operating efficiency will generate EBITDAI and free cash flow growth
- Aspiration to grow dividend in line with free cash flow

## Invest for growth

- Capex envelope when combined with TowerCo proceeds is sufficient to support delivery of the three year strategy and incremental growth opportunities
- Continue to evaluate acquisition opportunities against the following criteria:
  - Generates returns consistent with the capital management framework (EPS accretive over time)
  - Provides new or enhanced capabilities
  - Accelerates growth in existing product and service lines
  - Delivers new revenue streams in strategically aligned markets

## Maintain financial strength and flexibility

- Committed to an investment grade credit rating
- Net debt expected to increase over time as we invest in long-term growth and return funds to shareholders, but not exceed S&P's adjusted net debt (which includes leases) to EBITDAI ratio of 1.7 times

# Our financial aspirations by FY26

Built on a foundation of better experiences for our customers and people and a sustainable Spark

## Revenue

- Aspiring to top-line revenue growth of 2-4% p.a.
- \$100-150m revenue growth from high tech solutions<sup>1</sup> by FY26

## EBITDAI

- Growing EBITDAI, through top-line revenue growth and disciplined cost management (low/mid-single digit CAGR to FY26)

## Capex

- Investing at 10-11% of revenues, with TowerCo proceeds creating the platform for incremental revenue and earnings growth

## Free Cash Flow

- Aspire to free cash flow growth of >10% by FY26

## Dividends

- Growing earnings and sustainable free cash flow will lead to growing dividends, generating top decile shareholder returns

1. High tech solutions, include Converged Tech, IoT, Digital Health, Digital Identity, Qrious  
Note – FY24 -FY26 financial aspirations are not guidance. Annual guidance will be provided for each year at the FY Results briefing



# Where we aspire to be by FY26

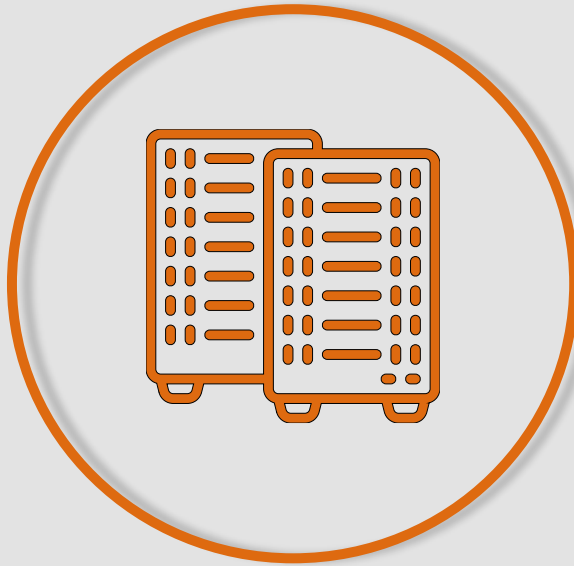
Market differentiation supporting continued sustainable growth



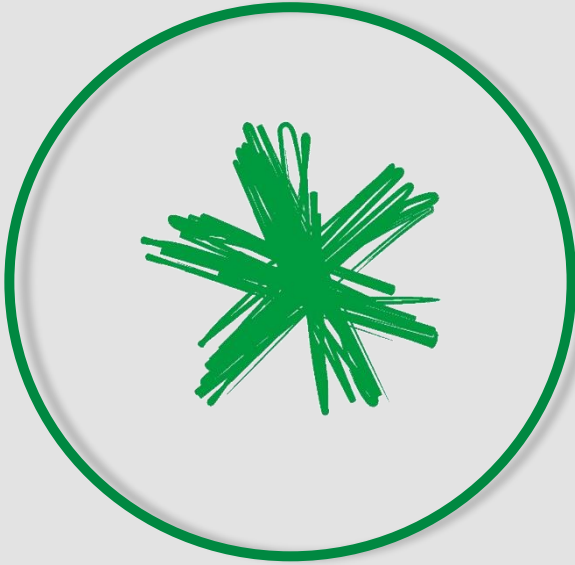
Digital and data-driven, everywhere



Home of high-tech solutions



Digital infrastructure fuelling growth



Innovative, diverse, and sustainable



Delivery of these aspirations will result in highly engaged customers and people, profitable growth, and top decile returns

# The value proposition for investing in Spark

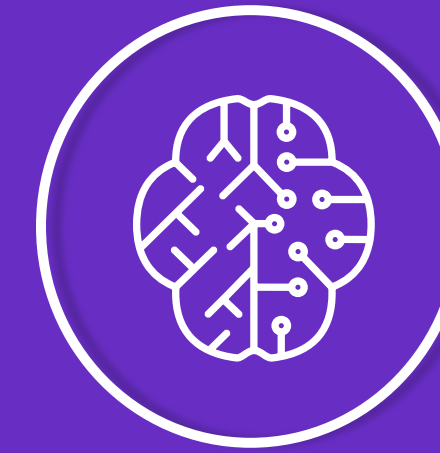
Growing differentiation and top-line revenues to deliver sustainable earnings growth and shareholder returns



Increasing demand for data driving growth in key mobile market



Future revenue growth in high-tech segments



Competitive advantage through data and resilient digital infrastructure



Best-in-class cost control with high EBITDAI margin



Portfolio management supporting shareholder returns and capital investment



Sustainable EBITDAI and FCF growth supporting a rising dividend over time

A man and a woman are standing outdoors at sunset. The woman is holding a smartphone up to take a photo, and the man is standing behind her with his arms around her. They are both looking at the phone. The background shows a body of water and trees, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The scene is romantic and peaceful.

NGĀ MIHI NUI

THANK YOU

# Disclaimer

This announcement may include forward-looking statements regarding future events and the future financial performance of Spark New Zealand. Such forward-looking statements are based on the beliefs of and assumptions made by management along with information currently available at the time such statements were made.

These forward-looking statements may be identified by words such as 'guidance', 'anticipate', 'believe', 'estimate', 'expect', 'intend', 'will', 'plan', 'may', 'could', 'ambition', 'aspiration' and similar expressions. Any statements in this announcement that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees or predictions of future performance, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are beyond Spark New Zealand's control, and which may cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements contained in this announcement.

Factors that could cause actual results or performance to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements are discussed herein and also include Spark New Zealand's anticipated growth strategies, Spark New Zealand's future results of operations and financial condition, economic conditions and the regulatory environment in New Zealand, competition in the markets in which Spark New Zealand operates, risks related to the sharing arrangements with Chorus, any impacts or risks to Spark's anticipated growth strategies, future financial condition and operations, economic conditions or the regulatory environment in New Zealand arising from or otherwise with Covid-19, other factors or trends affecting the telecommunications industry generally and Spark New Zealand's financial condition in particular and risks detailed in Spark New Zealand's filings with NZX and ASX. Except as required by law or the listing rules of the stock exchanges on which Spark New Zealand is listed, Spark New Zealand undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.