



NOMINET

JANUARY 2017 COMMUNIQUÉ

Nominet's Board of Directors met on Tuesday 17th January 2017.

Board matters

New Board Committee – The Board approved the establishment of a new Developments, Mergers and Acquisitions (DMA) Committee. The creation of this committee will ensure that there is expertise and an appropriate governance structure in place to explore opportunities where members of the wider board may have conflicts of interest. The DMA committee will either provide feedback and recommendations to the Board or act under delegated authority from the Board as agreed. The committee will be chaired by the Chair of the Board and the other members are Andrew Pinder, Dickie Armour and Russell Haworth. Other Executive directors will attend as required.

Appointment of an additional independent non-executive director – The Board unanimously agreed to propose a change to the articles that will provide for the ability to appoint up to four independent non-executive directors. It is felt that this will strengthen the Board and provide a balance in having the potential to have four appointed, four member elected and four executive directors. Only three of the executive positions are filled. This proposal will be presented for approval by members as a special resolution at the AGM. If approved, the decision on whether to fill the vacancy will be taken by the Board under the new Chair.

AGM, member resolutions and the calculation of voting rights: The AGM will take place in Oxford on Thursday 27th April 2017. The ordinary resolutions for membership approval are the approval of the annual report and accounts and re-appointment of the auditors. There will also be a special resolution to amend the articles to appoint up to four independent non-executive directors. The calculation for the voting rights for the AGM and election will take place based on paid for domains under management (DUMs) as at noon on Wednesday 1st March 2017.

Committee updates – The Board received updates from the Audit and Governance Committee, Investment Committee, Nominations Committee and Nominet US Board.

Nominet Chair recruitment – The Board received a report on the Chair recruitment process and an update on the candidates. The process will continue and an announcement will be made in due course.

Company matters

ICANN – At the ICANN meeting in Copenhagen in March, Nominet will host a meeting of the Chairs and CEOs of key country code registries. Discussion will cover trends, opportunities and challenges for domain registries in the past year, looking at future strategy and diversification and considering the implications of this.

Membership engagement strategy - The Board received an update from Leanne Kenny on the membership engagement strategy, the results of the member research and supported the 2017 member events programme.

The regular company performance overview was presented and reviewed.

Finance matters

Annual pricing review – The Board received an initial recommendation from the Executive that there be no price increase in 2017 with a final decision being presented at the March Board meeting.

The company performance overview report included the usual update on the current financial position and year-end forecast.

Nominet Trust

Vicki Hearn presented the report from the Nominet Trust and shared a video from the launch of the NT100 event. Members can view the video through this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WvGiyYv0z3g&feature=youtu.be>

Forthcoming events

Member open day at Minerva House, Oxford – Tuesday 28th February 2017

ICANN Copenhagen – 11th to 16th March 2017

Nominet Board meeting – Wednesday 22nd March 2017

Operational statistics

As at 31st January 2017 there were 2,494 active members and 2,917 active tags. 8 new members joined during December and another 8 joined in January. The number of new registrations in December 2016 was 103,630 (December 2015: 132,399) and January was 147,092 (January 2016: 167,261). The average renewal rate for the past twelve months (to October 2016) was 72.98%. The total number of names on the register as at end of January 2017 was 10,593,706 and the net growth of the register for the last 12 months was -0.63%.

Criminal domain suspensions

During November and December 2016, 2,836 domain names were suspended at the request of UK law enforcement agencies. Three requests for reversal were received and all were upheld.