

Board matters

This is the report from February and March 2019 Board meetings.

In February the Board welcomed Rob Binns to his first formal meeting following his appointment in January 2019. The Board also thanked Simon McCalla for his service as he departed after over nine years with the company.

Strategic items

Domain Infrastructure Management – the Board received an update from Tim Phillips, Director of IT Operations, on the investment that has taken place in the past 24 month period and the key areas of investment in the three to five years ahead.

Domain Watch – Cath Goulding, Head of Cyber Security, shared with the Board details of the progress achieved by the Domain Watch initiative to date, and outlined future objectives for the service.

Performance and finance – in addition to the regular finance and performance reports, the Board approved the budget for the financial year ahead.

Marketing – The COO provided an update on Nominet's cyber security marketing. A briefing was provided on the RoR marketing campaign that would take place in preparation for the expiration of the free reservation period for second level .UK registrations in June 2019.

Blockchain – Adam Leach, Director of Emerging Tech, reported to the Board the outcomes from initial investigations into the potential application of blockchain technologies across Nominet's areas of business.

WaveDB Explore – the Board were informed of the successful launch of WaveDB Explore, a spectrum availability tool for Wireless ISPs in the US.

Public Benefit – details of two new public benefit initiatives were shared with the Board. The first was the launch of the 'Digital Access for All' taskforce established by the Learning Foundation and Nominet, with a commitment to design and deliver the solutions to the problem of digital exclusion. The second was the announcement of the Digital Transformation partnership with the Samaritans.

Governance items

Mergers and Acquisitions Committee – the terms of reference for a newly formed Mergers and Acquisition Committee were approved.

Committee appointments – Rob Binns was appointed Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee.

Jane Tozer was reappointed Chair of the Remuneration Committee.



Kelly Salter, Stephen Page, Rob Binns, Russell Haworth, Ben Hill were all appointed as members of the new Mergers and Acquisition Committee. Mark Wood was appointed as Committee Chair.

In stepping down from the Board, Simon McCalla also stood down as a member of the Nominations Committee and as a director of Nominet US INC.

Committee updates – In February, the Board received an update from the NRS Ltd meeting that preceded the Board meeting. At the March meeting, updates were provided from the Nominet US INC meeting that took place towards the end of February, as well as the inaugural meeting of the Mergers and Acquisition Committee held in early March. Updates were also received from the Remuneration Committee, Nominations Committee, Audit and Governance Committee all of which took place on the morning of the 27th March prior to the Board meeting.