

## Board Matters

The Nominet Board normally meets every two months, however in response to recent developments meetings will take place more frequently, most likely on a monthly basis until the end of 2021, subject to board availability. These additional meetings are shorter but allow the Board to maintain momentum on key issues facing the organisation.

This is the report from the June 2021 Board meeting.

### Strategic Items

**CyGlass** – Ben Hill (CFO) and Eleanor Bradley (Interim CEO) presented an overview of the broader market conditions influencing its product development, and to what extent that complemented Nominet's government focused cyber work. As part of the reform plan programme, the Board discussed considered the CyGlass product offering's alignment to the company's strategic direction.

**Technology Transformation Programme (TTP)** – Adam Leach (CIO) provided a brief update on the progress of the TTP which is a project designed to deliver increased investment in our core infrastructure to ensure future continuity of service for the .UK registry.

**Public Benefit** – Eleanor Bradley (Interim CEO) presented proposals for new areas of public benefit activity and spend. In response to calls from members to be more involved in this area, a Member 'Give Hub' was proposed, giving Members the option to nominate a charity each month to receive funding. The Board approved the proposals and asked the Executive to finalise details around the governance of the grant-giving. Further details will be announced soon.

**Communications** – Elaine Quinn (Director of Corporate Affairs) discussed with the Board the corporate communications plan for the coming months, to increase transparency and ensure members, stakeholders and staff are informed of key developments.

### Governance Items

**Committee updates** – the Board noted updates from recent Remuneration Committee meetings in which a decision had been reached to terminate the Long-Term Incentive (LTI) Scheme available to senior executive management moving forward.

The Board also received an update from the Chair of the Nominations Committee on the progress of the recruitment process for the vacant Chair and Appointed NED roles. It is anticipated appointments will be made in the coming weeks.

## Membership Engagement Opportunities

### Recent Membership Engagement Events:

7<sup>th</sup> June: Listening Process update. We were joined by independent research agency Savanta as they discussed their progress after completion of the first phase research of the listening process, which included focus groups and interviews. Savanta also explained the next phase of the research and confirmed that the online consultation, open to all members, stakeholders and employees would run from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June – 9<sup>th</sup> July. The invitation to participate has been sent to all members subscribed to receive member updates. If any members have not received it please contact [nominet.listening@mysavanta.com](mailto:nominet.listening@mysavanta.com)

10<sup>th</sup> June: PB Benefit –. Quarterly catch up with Chris Ashworth, Head of Public Benefit who provided an overview of how Nominet has responded to the challenges highlighted by the pandemic and how we are moving forward with the Public Benefit programme post pandemic. We also discussed the work we have done with some of our Public Benefit partners and heard suggestions for how members can be more involved in the Public Benefit work of the organisation.

17<sup>th</sup> June: Liz Behsudi Director of Domains and Jurisdiction Program gave members an introduction into their new toolkit on the topic of DNS abuse which includes practical advice for registrars and registries. The toolkit defines thresholds for action at the DNS Level and contains concrete, implementable tools and solutions for identifying, evaluating and remediating technical abuse.

24<sup>th</sup> June: At this month's Members call with acting Chair Rob Binns and interim CEO, Eleanor Bradley we provided an update on the progress we are making with the reform plan. This included updates on the recruitment of the Chair, Executive remuneration, the key themes coming out of the Listening Process, progress on delivering our commitments to increasing investment in Public Benefit and the establishment of the .UK Registry Advisory Council (UKRAC). Members were particularly interested in discussing the operation of the UKRAC once the members were elected and had some valuable suggestions regarding how we can increase transparency of how we use voting data.

### Upcoming Membership Engagement Events:

7<sup>th</sup> July: ICANN 71 Policy update with Nick Wenban-Smith, General Counsel and Head of Stakeholder Relations.

14<sup>th</sup> July: 2021 .UK co-marketing and promotions programme. The Marketing team will talk through the 2021 programme, explain how to apply and provide some examples of campaigns.

11<sup>th</sup> August: Monthly Members' Call with acting Chair Rob Binns and interim CEO, Eleanor Bradley. This online session provides an important opportunity for members to discuss topics of interest with Nominet's senior leaders.