

## Board Report

This is the report from the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 Board meeting.

### Board matters

Declarations of interest: in relation to the business of the meeting, Ashley La Bolle declared an ongoing interest in Registry Services Provisions matters which may arise in performance updates from the executive team.

The minutes from the Board meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 were approved.

### Operational Items

**CEO Report** – Paul Fletcher (CEO) reported to the Board on key operational matters facing the organisation. Eleanor Bradley joined for this part of the meeting to answer questions relating to the registry side of the business.

**Performance and Finance** – Carolyn Bedford (CFO) presented the regular finance and performance reports for the period ending in December 2022. The Board also reviewed and provided feedback on the headlines from an early draft of the FY24 operating budget.

### Strategic Items

**Governance of Technology** – Oliver Tweedie (CTO) outlined his observations since joining the company on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and set out his areas of priority moving forward.

**Cyber** – UK Cyber Ambassador Juliette Wilcox CBE attended the meeting to brief the Board on HMG's approach to Defence and Security trade. The Board discussed what factors it was important to consider in determining which cyber export opportunities to pursue.

**Cyber**– David Carroll (MD of Cyber) provided a progress update on the series of protective DNS (PDNS) pipeline opportunities.

### Governance Items

**Constitutional documents** – the Board reviewed both the Articles of Association and Memorandum of Association and discussed potential baseline changes which would reflect modern practice as well as simplifying the language.

**UKRAC** – Ashley La Bolle provided the Board with a summary of recent discussions at the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

**Board Appointments** – the Board ratified a Nominations Committee recommendation to formally adopt the *British Standard BS7858:2019 - Screening of individuals working in a secure environment: Code of practice*. This will apply to candidates for the Executive, Appointed and

Elected director roles on the Board. The current role holders have all been subject to screening consistent with the standard.

**Nominet as a Public Benefit company:** the executive will bring the outputs of a review of how best to define and communicate Nominet's contribution as a public benefit company to the board at a strategy day later this year.

**Board committees** – the Audit & Risk Committee met on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January to conduct a deep dive exercise on strategic risk. The Remuneration Committee also met that day to discuss the budget in support of the FY24 annual pay review process as well as the Company's current approach to flexible working.

The Nominations Committee met on the 24<sup>th</sup> January, it discussed issues arising during the 2022 NED elections and the importance of cultivating a positive and welcoming campaign environment for all concerned. The Public Benefit Committee also met that day to receive progress updates on previously approved programmes, it also approved a recommendation to obtain independent research to inform the strategic approach to how public benefit funds could be used in support of technical initiatives.

**Next Meeting** – the next scheduled meeting of the Board is the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023.

### New & Cancelled Memberships

For the period 16th November 2022 to 17th January 2023 the following applicants were admitted as new members of Nominet UK:

| ACCOUNT NAME                      |
|-----------------------------------|
| Brand Focus Limited               |
| Sinntech Limited                  |
| Black Nova Designs Limited        |
| Orange Cyberdefense France SAS    |
| UKC Hosting Ltd                   |
| Siarhei Kulich                    |
| Chris Clarke Web Services Limited |
| IQ Mobile Limited                 |
| Carolyn Bedford*                  |
| Eric Kimpton                      |
| Artur Daci                        |

\*Memberships issued to new board members as per our articles of association

The following memberships have been deleted during the reporting period:

| ACCOUNT NAME                   |
|--------------------------------|
| Trunk Networks Limited         |
| Colcatweb Limited              |
| Sercomm Consulting Ltd         |
| Yasmin I S Jamhour             |
| The PC Clinic Business Limited |

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| Maximum Hit India Pvt. Ltd. |
| Internet SRS AB             |

## Membership Engagement Opportunities

### Member Engagement events update

| Date                           | Event                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 | GiveHub Panel meeting                |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2022 | UK Registry Advisory Council meeting |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> January        | GiveHub Panel meeting                |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> January       | UK Registry Advisory Council meeting |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> January       | Members' call with the CEO           |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> January       | GiveHub Panel meeting                |
| <b>Upcoming events</b>         |                                      |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> February      | Members' Call with CEO               |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> February      | GiveHub Panel meeting                |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> March         | GiveHub Panel meeting                |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> March         | UK Registry Advisory Council meeting |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> March         | Member tech focused event            |

### Member GiveHub update

The GiveHub panel have approved the following applications:

The Restart Project (£10000), proposed by ExNet Limited. The Restart Project keeps electronics in use for longer through repair and reuse, helping to stop environmental degradation and promote digital inclusion. The donation will help improve digital and fixing skills within the organisation's community.

PACT - Parents and Children Together (£10000), proposed by Reading University. PACT support children, women and families who have experienced or been impacted by trauma. The funding will enable them to take their Bounce Back 4 Kids (BB4K) initiative online and begin using it with families affected by domestic abuse.

Compaid (£10000), proposed by Greg Findley. Compaid assists disabled, older & other vulnerable people to overcome the barriers of social, digital & economic exclusion. The funding is intended to support over 200 people through training delivered at its dedicated training centre in Paddock Wood, West Kent.