

## Board Report

This is the report from the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Board meeting. The Board also held a short meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> June to discuss governance matters.

### Board matters

Following his resignation on the 4<sup>th</sup> July, the Board acknowledged and thanked Philip Buckingham for his contribution and service during his time on the Board.

Declarations of interest: in relation to the business of the meeting, Ashley La Bolle declared an ongoing interest in Registry Services Provisions matters and excused herself from discussions in which it appeared. The Elected Non-Executive Directors declared an interest in the discussion on .UK Pricing Review agenda item.

The minutes from the Board meetings on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 and 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were approved.

### Operational Items

**CEO Report** – Paul Fletcher (CEO) reported to the Board on key operational matters facing the organisation.

**Performance and Finance** – Carolyn Bedford (CFO) presented the regular finance and performance reports for the period ending in May 2023.

### Strategic Items

**Chair Strategic Initiatives** – the Board reviewed the progress against the October 2021 Chair's strategic initiatives. A fuller update will be provided to members at the AGM.

**Registry updates** – Eleanor Bradley (MD-Registry & Public Benefit) reported on the market performance of .UK and the broader trends within the domain industry. The Board agreed to discuss the company's broader Registry Strategy Provision at the November meeting.

**Registry Domain Management** – the Board approved incremental expenditure for the Domain Management Registry project designed to modernise and simplify our registry systems.

**.UK Pricing Review** – Eleanor Bradley (MD-Registry & Public Benefit) provided the Board with a summary of market and economic factors that are impacting the registry's cost base. The Board acknowledged the broader economic conditions had become increasingly challenging over the past 12 months and decided to discuss the matter further at the November Board meeting.

**AU-PDNS** - a Board working group met on the 26<sup>th</sup> June and approved a proposal relating to the continued provision of AU-PDNS.

## Governance Items

**Annual Report and Accounts** – the Board formally approved the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

**Member Engagement** – David Buckle (Head of Membership Engagement) and Eleanor Bradley (MD-Registry & Public Benefit) reported to the Board on recent and planned engagement activities as well as the broad themes of discussion amongst members on the Community and Member Calls. The Board provided feedback on how the approach to engagement could be further improved and asked the Executive to report back at the September meeting on how value could be potentially added to the membership status.

**Articles of Association Consultation** – Elaine Quinn (Director of Corporate Affairs) provided an update on the consultation process which closes on the 9<sup>th</sup> August. Nick Wenban-Smith (General Counsel) advised on legal aspects of the proposals which had recently been a topic of discussion on the member Community.

**UKRAC** – Ashley La Bolle (Elected NED and UKRAC Chair) provided an overview of the UKRAC meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**NED Elections** – the Board received an update on the 2023 NED elections with a status report on the screening results for each of the candidates. Noting the need for the elections process to be fair and the same rules must apply to every nominee, the Board unanimously decided that a candidate who had not adhered to the stated deadlines would not be included on the ballot this year.

**Board committees** – the Audit & Risk Committee met on the 4<sup>th</sup> July to review the Annual Report and Accounts, Strategic Risk Register and FY23 Audit findings.

The Public Benefit Committee met on the 17<sup>th</sup> July to review the social impact performance dashboard.

The Investment Committee met on the 17<sup>th</sup> July to review the performance of the investment portfolio for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> June.

**Modern Slavery Statement** – the Board approved the company's Modern Slavery Statement for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. The new statement is available on the company's website.

**Next Meeting** – the next scheduled meeting of the Board is the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

## New & Cancelled Memberships

For the period 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 the following applicants were admitted as new members of Nominet UK:

ACCOUNT NAME
Solent Computer and Internet Services Ltd
Vuykont Infotech Limited

Eurovensys Sp z o.o.
Cloud DNS Ltd
SYG Research and Services Ltd
Colwyn Technologies Limited
Engine Room Technology Ltd
Alpha Internet Limited
Julian Borislavov
Garth Piesse

The following memberships have been deleted during the reporting period:

ACCOUNT NAME
Ekonnec Ltd
Vuykont Limited
Cloudstream Technology Ltd
Phil Buckingham*
Solidblueliquid Ltd
Internet Corporated Networks Ltd.

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

## Membership Engagement Opportunities

### Member Engagement events update

Date	Event
25 <sup>th</sup> May	GiveHub Panel meeting
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Members' Call with the CEO
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Members' Call with the CEO
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Regional CEO Lunch – Manchester
29 <sup>th</sup> June	GiveHub Panel meeting
30 <sup>th</sup> June	UKRAC meeting
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Proposed changes to Nominet's Articles of Association call
27 <sup>th</sup> July	GiveHub Panel meeting
<b>Upcoming events</b>	
30 <sup>th</sup> August TBC	Summer drinks
5 <sup>th</sup> September	UKRAC meeting

28 <sup>th</sup> September TBC	Members' Call with the CEO
30 <sup>th</sup> November TBC	Members' Call with the CEO
W/C 4 <sup>th</sup> December TBC	Legal and Policy conference with Christmas drinks – London
14 <sup>th</sup> December TBC	Members' Call with the CEO
January 2024 TBC March 2024 TBC	Provisional dates for regional engagement events: South west Midlands TBC

### Member GiveHub update

Two grants were approved from applications received in May. £10,000 was awarded to the 123rd Manchester Scouts to help enhance their facilities and enable more people to participate in Scouting in the Chorlton area. £10,000 was also awarded to help fund Digibus, a mobile support service operating throughout Gloucestershire that helps individuals to become more confident using digital technology. The grants were proposed by Peter Savic of Plum Communications and Michael Findlay from 1 Click Services respectively.

No applications were received in June or July.

GiveHub applications are reviewed by a panel of volunteers from the membership. The panel's Terms of Reference have been amended to clarify the maximum term a volunteer may sit and to enable panel members to submit applications themselves provided they recuse themselves from the discussion or decision relating to the application.