# Board Report

This is the report from the 22nd May 2024 Board meeting.

## Board matters

There were no declarations of interest in respect of the business for the meeting.

The minutes of the Board meeting of 27th March 2024 were approved.

## Operational Items

CEO Report – Paul Fletcher (CEO) reported to the Board on key operational matters facing the organisation, including those relating to the Registry and technology. The Board was pleased to note that quarterly communications from the CEO would be issued to Members on operational matters - in addition to the Board Report. It was suggested that the next edition should include an update on progress with the recent company restructure.

Performance and Finance – Carolyn Bedford (CFO) presented the regular finance and performance reports for the period ending in March 2024. The Board continues to be concerned about lower-than-expected renewal rates and the strategic implications. However, it was also noted that business performance remained strong with a better outturn in Cyber than expected and strong performance from the investment portfolio. At the year-end (March 2024) reserves had finished higher than expected. The FY24 Annual Report – which would set out the full position for 2023-24 - was expected to be signed off by the Board and shared with Members in late July. The external audit was progressing well.

Micro:bit Educational Foundation - the Board agreed £350k of phased funding for a five-year programme to support primary school teachers as part of the Micro:bit's Next Gen programme.

Standardisation Consultation Results – the Board received a summary of the results of the consultation which had involved participation by a significant number of Members. The Board noted that the Executive would report back to Members in June setting out consultation feedback and responses.

## Strategic Items

PDNS – David Carroll (Chief Customer Officer) updated the Board on progress with PDNS business planning.

Organisational Restructure – Beverley Hamblet-Bowes (Director of HR) provided an update on the restructure and consultation process.

## Governance Items

UKRAC – the Board received and noted a report from the UKRAC summarising discussions held at the 15th April 2024 meeting together with the Council's workplan for FY25. It also

acknowledged the role that UKRAC had played in the recent standardisation consultation which was much appreciated.

The Board discussed the role of the UKRAC and how it could be supported to fulfil its mandate to inform .UK policy. It was noted that oversight for Executive support for UKRAC had been moved to the newly created Customer Team.

Legal matters – the Board received an update regarding ongoing legal and regulatory matters.

Governance report – the Board agreed that governance of public benefit matters should be overseen by the whole Board rather than a sub-Committee from now on.  It was also agreed that governance of the investment portfolio would be incorporated into the role of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Next Meeting – the next scheduled meeting of the Board is the 17th July 2024.

## New & Cancelled Memberships

For the period 14th March to 8th May 2024 the following applicants were admitted as new Members of Nominet UK:

| ACCOUNT NAME |
| --- |
| Toyota (GB) Plc |
| Smart Numbers Ltd |
| Capita Business Services Ltd |
| UKC Labs Ltd |
| Bryxo Limited |
| Jonathan Edwards |
| Submersive Limited |
| Key Element Ltd |
| Brandflu Limited |
| Zaheer Hirani |
| 27Fibre Ltd |
| The Domain Name Company Limited |
| Cyber Security Defence Consultants Ltd |
| Whitehall Medical Limited |

The following memberships have been deleted during the reporting period:

| ACCOUNT NAME |
| --- |
| Ambrow Limited |
| Defined Hosting Ltd |
| Polestar Interactive Limited |
| UKC Hosting Ltd |
| ICN Computers Limited |
| Cybersoft Ltd |
| S.I.B Promotions Limited |
| Electronic Communities Ltd |
| Mr D Wildman & Mrs S Wildman |
| Tagz Limited |

The total number of Members currently stands at 2192.

## Membership Engagement Opportunities

## Member Engagement events update

| Date | Event |
|---|---|
| 15th April | .UK Registry Advisory Council Meeting |
| 18th April | .UK modernisation, standardisation and legacy service retirement consultation: Drop-in Q&A (virtual) |
| 24th April | Members' Call with the CEO and .UK modernisation, standardisation and legacy service retirement consultation: Drop-in Q&A (virtual) |
| Upcoming Events | |
| 28th May | May GiveHub Panel Meeting |
| June – TBC | .UK Registry Advisory Council Meeting |
| 20th June | Member conference at Bletchley Park |
| 26th June | June GiveHub Panel Meeting |
| 11th July | Members' Call with the CEO |
| 23rd July | .UK Registry Advisory Council |

## Member GiveHub update

The GiveHub panel of 7 members all volunteered to remain in post for a further year.

In April, the panel approved:

- £10,000 for ITSA Digital Trust's 'Digibus' project. This is the second grant awarded to this charity which provides a mobile digital training service to schools and vulnerable social groups in Gloucestershire. Proposed by Michael Findlay of 1 Click Services Ltd.