



NOMINET

.UK Policy Stakeholder Committee Conference Call

5th May 2016

Dialling-in: David Abrahams; Garreth Cameron; Liz Coll; Richard Hyde; Carolyn Kimber; Vicki Nash

Apologies: Pete McDougall; Gilad Rosner; Dave Thomas

Nominet Policy Team: Leanne Kenny; Richard Plater

Lyons Review & Workings of the Stakeholder Committee

The Policy Team noted that feedback had been received from all committee members during the recent discussions in this area and thanked all members for their views. A progress report was then provided outlining outcomes to date.

Publishing meeting summaries

It was noted that given the clear and unanimous agreement of committee members, meeting summaries were now being published on the company website.

Expanded committee membership

Following the last meeting, further feedback was sought from Committee members regarding potential developments of the Committee. The value of an expanded membership was supported by Committee members and thoughts on recruitment to the Committee were then discussed. Committee members noted that the Policy Team should think carefully in defining a profile for potential new members, particularly considering how to generate a greater diversity of members.

Committee members felt it would be important to ensure that potential new members could be approached with a clear rationale supported by a well-developed view of what they could bring to the Committee's work.

The Policy Team noted that they are now working on a recruitment strategy and confirmed that a member of the TechUK policy team will be joining the Committee.

- Action: Policy Team to further develop a profile for new committee members

Committee remit

Following discussions about the Committee's remit at the last meeting, this is continuing to be considered within Nominet. It was noted that while this could be one part of the company's wider response to the Lyons Review it is separate to other aspects, such as the significant focus on

increased engagement with Nominet members. The Policy Team confirmed that the views of the Committee would be fed into internal discussions before any decisions are made.

Nominet update

The Policy Team provided an update on a number of recent company announcements including that Volker Greimann had been elected to the board as a non-executive Director, the recent partnership agreement with Minds + Machines, and the announcement that Nominet is preparing to bid for the contract to run the back-end registry services for the .org top-level domain.

Finally, committee members were directed to a blog post outlining some recent work by Nominet researchers that aims to allow BBC micro:bit devices to communicate with each other in order to enable their utilisation as IoT devices.

- Action: Policy Team to circulate link to blog post to committee members
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Policy work programme update

The Policy Team provided an update on the policy development work programme.

Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) review

Committee members were reminded that all comment is now in and is under review. One area of feedback from the consultation related to what some respondents saw as a further encoding of “initial interest confusion” as a concept within the DRS. Such an outcome was not the intention in drafting the particular proposed change and so this amendment is being reviewed in light of the feedback.

Criminal use suspensions

The Policy Team reported back on an action item from the March meeting when there was a query about the average age of domain names suspended due to notifications of criminal use. A sample of domain names suspended during the first four months of 2016 was examined to provide a snapshot view.

Most suspended domain names were relatively new registrations of less than a year old. It was also noted that amongst suspended domain names there was a disproportionately high frequency of names that had been previously registered one or more times.

ICANN policies comparative study

The Policy Team are working on a comparison of the policies in place for .UK domain names with those mandated by ICANN for gTLDs. This work is only to inform internal Nominet thinking at this stage and is not designed to lead to changes in .UK policies. The work is prompted by a wish to ensure that .UK remains competitive in the market and only places extra burdens on Registrars where warranted.

AOB

It was noted that the June meeting may need to be re-scheduled due to a diary clash. Committee members discussed the issue of meeting scheduling in general.

- Action: Policy Team to gather views and then review meeting and conference call timings