

## DECEMBER 2010 COMMUNIQUÉ

Nominet's Board of Directors met on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2010.

### Company Matters

- The registration milestone of 9 million .uk registrations has been achieved.
- The reserved short domains sunrise was launched on schedule on 1<sup>st</sup> December. CMS Cameron McKenna are providing independent validation of trade mark rights in accordance with the release rules.
- A test penetration attack of Nominet facilities has been performed as part of our comprehensive security programme. The results have been good.
- The Oxford site has been run from a back up diesel generator for a day as part of business continuity incident rehearsals.
- The knowthenet.org.uk educational portal site was successfully launched on 4<sup>th</sup> November.
- Nominet has hosted an e-crime training visit from the National Policing Improvement Agency.
- Two workshops for the Anti Counterfeiting Group have been held.
- The CEO provided a verbal update from the Cartagena ICANN meeting.
- We have hosted a visit from Norid (registry for .no, Norway)
- A successful .uk registrar conference day was held on 4<sup>th</sup> November coinciding with the launch of the 2010 Domain Name Industry Report.
- The Marketing and Communications team has been restructured, with a change in reporting lines and roles for some of the team.
- Nominet was "highly commended" in the Business of the Year category at the Thames Valley Business Awards.

### Finance Matters

- The management accounts for October and November 2010 were reviewed. The Board welcomed the new and more detailed format of the financial reporting pack.
- The continuing demand for new .uk registrations and consequent positive start to the new financial year was noted.
- The audit field work in respect of the financial year ended September 2010 is now complete and the draft tax computation prepared.

### Board Matters

#### Investment strategy and governance

- The Director of Finance presented papers on Nominet's investment strategy and investment governance arrangements. After review and discussion it was agreed that capital protection would be re-confirmed as the primary investment objective, with long term capital and income growth as a secondary objective.
- With the investment portfolio now constituting a material part of Nominet's asset base, it was agreed that a new Board sub-committee with specific oversight of investment management and treasury policy would be formed.

#### Market research exercise

- The Board received the results of the first of two parts of an independent research exercise conducted by Ipsos Mori. This concerned opinions and views on the following areas:
  - Nominet's current products and service levels
  - Perceived impact of Nominet's Public Purpose
  - Attitudes to broadening membership
  - The level of trust between Nominet and its members, and by consumers in .uk
- The second part of the research is scheduled for 2011.

## Governance

- The executive presented the Garratt/ Mutuo recommendations and the outstanding issues for review. The Board agreed to work through each of the issues over a series of meetings, before presenting any options/ recommendations to the members in due course.

## Current year corporate objectives

- New KPI format corporate objectives for the 2010/11 financial year were reviewed and agreed.

## **Forthcoming Events**

8<sup>th</sup> February – Nominet Internet Awards launch, London

15<sup>th</sup> February – Member lunch, Birmingham

## **Operational Statistics**

As at 30 November there were 2,832 active members and 4,326 active tags. Since October 2010, 12 new members have joined. The number of new registrations in November 2010 was 182,186 (November 2009: 174,995). The average renewal rate for the past 12 months was 69%. The net growth of the register for the last 12 months was 10.93%.