

POLICY ADVISORY BOARD REPORT
PORTLAND HOUSE, LONDON, SW1E
11 January 2006
MEETING 42

Those present:

Tom Adams	Appointed Member - Cabinet Office (e-Government Unit)
Denesh Bhabuta	Elected Member
Alex Bligh	Appointed Member - Nominet Board
James Conaghan	Elected Member
Andy Clarey	Appointed Member - DTI
James Cronin	Elected Member
Jeremy Beale	Appointed Member - CBI
Gordon Dick	Appointed Member - Nominet Board
Earl of Errol (APIG)	Appointed Member - All Parliamentary Internet Group
Clive Feather	Elected Member (co-opted)
Jason Johns	Elected Member
Alex Kells	Elected Member
Sebastien Lahtinen	Elected Member (Chair)
Mark Lewis	Appointed Member - Companies House
Hazel Pegg	Elected Member
Eric Ramage	Appointed Member - ITMA

From Nominet by invitation of the PAB:

Bob Gilbert, Chairman
Lesley Cowley, Chief Executive
Farisha Constable, Solicitor and PAB Secretariat
Emily Taylor, Director of Legal and Policy

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from David Evans, Jonathan Zittrain and Francesca Woodhouse.

2. Approval of November meeting report

The November meeting report was approved unanimously.

3. Feedback from Board on PAB recommendations

There were no comments on the paper.

4. Working Groups Update

Internationalised Domain Names Working Group

Clive Feather apologised for the delay in making further progress on this. Only three people had shown interest in attending a meeting to review the Internationalised Domain Names consultation responses. Andy Clarey offered his assistance in providing a perspective from the DTI. A meeting will be arranged in the next few weeks, with a view to providing proposals to the March PAB meeting.

.net.uk Working Group

Sebastien Lahtinen reported that the consultation had been published and would be open for three months, until 19 March 2006. Nominet will then collate the responses for the Working Group to consider.

5. Update on PAB Elections & New Members

Sebastien explained that the annual PAB elections will be taking place in the next few months and Denesh Bhabuta, James Conaghan, James Cronin and Alex Kells are due to retire by rotation having served a two year term.

He also noted that Clive Feather who was co-opted by the PAB to fill a seat left vacant by member who had stood down during the PAB Year, will be standing down in accordance with the PAB rules.

All five members standing down are eligible to stand for re-election and a letter calling for nominations will be sent out in the next few weeks.

James Conaghan, Clive Feather and Alex Kells confirmed their intention to stand for re-election.

Denesh Bhabuta will not be standing for re-election.

James Cronin is undecided and will consider his position in light of his current busy workload.

Sebastien formally announced that Francesca Woodhouse from the Federation of Small Businesses has agreed to join the PAB.

Sebastien and Emily advised the PAB that they will review the letter calling for nominations with a view to making the role of the PAB clearer and to encourage anyone interested to stand. James Conaghan offered to assist.

6. Feedback from Manchester member lunch

Sebastien attended the Manchester members lunch in November and reported on the comments and feedback from members on a number of issues including:

- * The form and content of consultations;
- * Introducing two tiers of registrars; 'trusted' and 'non-trusted';
- * 'Trusted' members being able to do transfers for registrants; and
- * Registrants being given the ability to delegate authority to their tag holder - e.g. by giving a power of attorney.

Sebastien also noted that there appeared to be some confusion as to the role of the PAB.

Emily Taylor stated that Nominet is working at improving communications and relationships with members even further and increasing awareness of the role and purpose of the PAB.

7. Governance Review

Bob Gilbert and Lesley Cowley gave a confidential presentation on the Strategic and Governance Review being carried out by the Board and outlined the Board's current thinking on a series of issues. PAB member feedback was received.

8. Matters arising from nom-steer and pab suggest

There were no matters arising.

9. Urgent Business

Eric Ramage reported that a meeting had been held to discuss the raising industry standards consultation. There will be another meeting once the revised consultation document has been produced.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 March 2006.