

Chair's Paper: PAB Work Programme

Introduction

The PAB agreed its work programme for 2008-9 at its March meeting (see Annex). However, I would like to re-examine this programme in response to two drivers: the election of new members to the PAB, and current initiatives affecting the regulatory environment (a number of which were identified in the January discussion on Trust in the Internet) or which could help bring a better understanding of the competitive environment in which we work.

Issues Identified by New PAB Members

From the election statements of new PAB members, there are some shared themes and interests that can be identified, in particular:

- Promotion of Nominet and the .uk brand;
- Industry standards; and
- Participation, awareness raising, transparency.

Two new members identified DRS as a topic in their election statements. As this has just been the subject of a long consultation process, it is appropriate to deal with this once the new policy and procedures have been implemented, perhaps at the November meeting.

In addition, new PAB members individually identified a number of other specific issues that they saw as important.

Issues identified in the Trust in the Internet Discussion and subsequently

We should continue to monitor issues of regulatory or general policy interest. Some current issues were identified in the discussion on Trust in the Internet, and at the January meeting we agreed to look at the implications of the Byron Review: this is on the agenda for the May meeting.

Specific issues include:

- A current OFCOM consultation on self and co-regulation;
- The EU communications regulatory framework; and
- Data retention and the implementation of the directive into UK law.

In addition, the CBI survey IT User Competitiveness Scorecard Survey has been put on the agenda for the May meeting as a point of information: we have the opportunity to look at the results of this work later in the year.

The PAB is invited to:

- Discuss the list of additional issues identified above and those issues requested by new members; and
- Assess these proposals in conjunction with other issues on the work programme to agree on our priorities for the current year up to and including March 2009.

PAB Work programme 2008/2009

The following reflects all the policy items suggested by PAB members and the executive.

Date	Main Topics	Notes
January 2008	Trust In The Internet	Presentation by Lord Erroll
	Domain name re-registration	Executive paper
	PAB Performance Review	
	Work programme 2008	
March 2008	Domain Name re-registration	Report from the PAB sub-committee
	DRS outcomes	Executive presentation
	Work programme 2008	Executive Paper
May 2008	PAB Performance Review	Report from PAB sub-committee
	.ltd.uk Rules	Executive paper
July 2008	Review of the PAB rules	Executive paper
	Lock State	Executive paper
September 2008	Two letter domains	
	Industry Standards	Executive paper
November 2008		