

# James Conaghan

**Proposed by:** Andrew Lugg, 1st DNS Ltd

**Seconded by:** Michele Neylon, Blacknight Solutions

In the past, Government has been supportive of self-regulation within our Industry, but the last 12 months have seen ever-increasing rumblings about ‘regulation of the internet’. These rumblings come, not just from our own Government, but from the European Union too, and they are very much to do with the representation and protection of end users.

The end user is now very much a focus of government thinking. Just two examples of this are “A Government Perspective” [1] by David Hendon, BERR, and the BERR letter to Nominet last October [2] that refers to self-regulation and wider stakeholder interests.

I believe the elected members of the PAB should take the initiative in the Policy Development Process by shaping policy recommendations that show a clear awareness of government and end user concerns and that represent the views of all stakeholders. I believe as Members, we need to accept our collective responsibility towards the wider stakeholder community, not just from a commercial perspective, but from a socially responsible one too.

To this end, I think it is vitally important that communication between Members and the PAB is radically improved, not only for the sake of the Membership, but so Government can see the Memberships’ commitment through its elected PAB representatives, to the end user.

No matter what may be promised in some of the election statements you read, please bear in mind, it is not the job of the PAB to micromanage Nominet or its Board, the job of the PAB is to create policy recommendations that encompass intent, responsibilities, standards, and objectives. The PAB can do this more effectively with more ideas and more support from you, the Members. If you elect me, I will do my utmost to improve communication between the PAB and the Membership so that all your views are represented within the policy development process. [www.nic.uk/policy/develop/flowchart](http://www.nic.uk/policy/develop/flowchart).

I have already served on the PAB from 2004 to 2008. In my 2006 election statement I wrote: “how Nominet interacts with its members can have a butterfly effect on other stakeholder groups”. Ironically, the events of the past few months have turned that statement around. I could now say, how members (and some board members) interact with Nominet has already had a profound butterfly effect on all stakeholders, and indeed, on the credibility of the Membership as a guiding force within the Nominet ethos.

I think it is imperative that all Nominet members look at constructive ways of moving the self-regulation debate forward in an informed and professional way. Google says: “focus on the user and all else will follow”. It’s not a bad philosophy by which to set the standard for .UK Policy that could inspire and help shape the development of internet governance on the international stage.

[1] David Hendon’s views are here:

[www.nominet.org.uk/digitalAssets/33411\\_uk08\\_A\\_Government\\_Perspective.pdf](http://www.nominet.org.uk/digitalAssets/33411_uk08_A_Government_Perspective.pdf)

[2] Copy of BERR letter here:

[www.nominet.org.uk/digitalAssets/31728\\_BERR-Letter-October2008.pdf](http://www.nominet.org.uk/digitalAssets/31728_BERR-Letter-October2008.pdf)

Get a Nominet perspective here: <http://blog.nominet.org.uk/insight>.

Email me [james@conaghan.me.uk](mailto:james@conaghan.me.uk) if you have questions.

# James Conaghan

## Brief CV - James Conaghan

### Summary

I am a community minded professional with in-depth knowledge of the domain name system, hosting, web design and development. I have run a web design and hosting company since 1999 and have been a Nominet Member since then.

My professional knowledge encompasses (but is not limited to):

- a keen understanding of the DNS and the workings of domain name registries, in particular Nominet
- acute awareness of the issues affecting Nominet Members and end users (i.e. stakeholders) in their daily use of .uk domain names
- a passionate interest and belief in self-regulation

### Qualifications

- Educated to A level standard, Northern Ireland
- Further education in the Royal Air Force where I served for 5 years
- University of Life

### Brief career History

1999 – 2009          Name Dropper UK  
Domain name registrar, hosting, design.

1990 – 1999          Graphic design and print  
Self employed in all aspects of graphic design,  
direct marketing and print broking.

1980 – 1990          Various management positions including the design and production of mail order catalogues, and Managing Editor (and a director) of a publishing company.

Prior to 1980          Worked in the following fields:

- Copywriting
- Retail Advertising
- Retail Management

Further relevant information:

2004 – 2008          Elected PAB Member  
Served 2 terms as an elected PAB member. I was involved in the writing of the PAB Code of Conduct and contributed to other important policy debates including IDN and the DRS (via sub committees).

# Mark Healey

**Proposed by:** Damien Shaw, JANET (UK)

**Seconded by:** Michele Neylon, Blacknight Solutions

I have been a member of the PAB for the past two years, and want to continue to be involved in evolution of Nominet policy. The PAB is a vital part of Nominet, and needs to discuss the viewpoints of all the stakeholders in the .uk namespace. I deal on a daily basis with many different people with an interest in .uk, from individuals and small businesses, all the way up to large corporations with extensive domain portfolios, often entering into long discussions with them regarding domain name policy.

Nominet is still going through a lot of necessary change, and much of that change affects policy. The PAB needs a mixture of long serving members and new blood to ensure that the discussion continues to move along and remain fresh, without losing sight of the experience at the table. With my twelve years in the industry, and two years on the PAB, I can continue to bring that mixture of experience and new ideas to meetings.

If you have attended any of the Annual General Meetings over the past nine years you'll have met me, but if not, why didn't you go? Member involvement is vital to keep Nominet aware of how the Members feel about the issues affecting them. I hope that I will be able to continue representing the views of many Members at the upcoming PAB meetings, whether I agree with them or not.

If you have any questions, or need reminding what I look like, please email me at [m@rk-healey.co.uk](mailto:m@rk-healey.co.uk)

One final word: please vote, it's important, and every single vote counts.

# Mark Healey

## Mark Healey CV

I have been employed for the past 12 years by KCOM Group PLC, company number 2150618 and formerly Kingston Communications (Hull) PLC, primarily in front end technical support and domain name related roles. KCOM Group PLC encompasses a number of brands including: Affiniti; Eclipse; Jam IP; Karoo, sponsors of Hull City AFC; Kingston Communications, which is where I am currently based; and Smart421.

During my time at KCOM I have moved through a number of different brands, and have dealt with every type of registrant imaginable, from individual consumers and sole traders all the way through to multinationals with large domain portfolios. I have trained large numbers of staff on domain name administration and issues surrounding domain names and DNS, and have advised both internally and externally on domain name strategy.

I have been an elected member of the Nominet Policy Advisory Body for the past two years, attending every PAB meeting during that time, taking part in a number of PAB sub-committee meetings on specific topics, as well as attending the joint PAB/APACS meeting last November focusing on phishing. I have also taken part in a number of Nominet working groups, and provided input into various Nominet public consultations, outside of my role as a member of the PAB.

My academic background is not internet or computer related, but science based. Having gained 3 A-Levels and an S-Level at Sixth Form College in 1992, I attended UMIST to study Chemistry, but picked up the Internet bug there in 1993, and have never looked back.

Whilst at University I was elected to both the Student Council and the Student Executive, which also entailed sitting on the Management Board of the Student Union's limited company which ran the Student Union's services.

# Michael Toth

**Proposed by:** Paul Fallon, Total Web Solutions Limited

**Seconded by:** David Blackburn, Paragon Limited

I have been on the PAB for nearly 2 years and have asked many questions that have had an impact on the policy we agreed. I also understand how the PAB team work and communicate together, to produce improved policy changes, which are for the greater good of the internet community as a whole and for individual companies and members.

Good policy helps and protects all of us; and with this in mind I invest time thinking, reading and generally understanding all parts of what we are asked to discuss and consider. If elected again I will continue to help develop better communication between the PAB team group, listen to members and hopefully be part of a team that produces great policy for us all.

I think I fit very well within the group and with all members of the team and will argue points that I think need balanced argument, which supports better policy outcomes.

If I am elected my goals will include

- Better and equal communication with members, large or small.
- Continue to push for development of the DRS, maybe suggesting it should be run externally.
- Listen to all stakeholders which should help me bring new issues to the debate table.
- View any issues with the PAB that you directly bring to me.
- Suggest changes that encourage Nominet to listen to a greater part of the internet community.
- Continue the debate to release 1 and 2 letter domain names.
- Press for longer registration periods of 10 years.
- Encourage more government agencies to get involved, especially with phishing and child safety.
- Encourage more members to vote and get involved.

Having been in this industry for more than 10 years I have seen a lot of issues, and have been involved in a few fights myself. I hope this will give me more of an insight into any problems, give me level headedness of thought and helps me develop policy that continues to help you to positively develop your Nominet related internet business interests.

We all want a safe .UK name space with better development of internal policy that should be driven by the members. Please keep talking to the PAB, as it is you that drives the improvements of the .uk names space.

About me.

I love the challenge of overcoming problems; strategy is what I do best. Business development is in my blood and I run a small number of interesting businesses; each with its own set of policy and running issues. I am open and believe that we should have a policy at Nominet that allows members to see what is going on internally, right or wrong, so we can better understand how to correct it.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on [pab@toth.biz](mailto:pab@toth.biz)

**Openness – Directness, I say it how it is – Honesty – Team Player – Able to ask others for advice**

# Michael Toth

## Personal statement for Nominet PAB election.

I am 43 years old construction graduate, with an active interest in Nominet. Since joining Nominet about 10 years ago I have tried to attend every AGM as well as some members meetings. I have been to Nominet head office several times to talk about my own related issues. Overcoming problems and strategising is what I enjoy and do best.

Over the years, more of my business interests have migrated from the real world to the internet world. My interests and knowledge within this industry has also increased with time. I have made a lot of friends and am thankful for the time, knowledge and friendship that each of them has given me.

My learning curve has included the following,

- While at University I jointly ran a building site, managing the construction of 500 houses. This taught me people and organisational skills early on.
- Also at university I worked in the computer department on the help desk.
- I gained a Construction Degree from Leeds.
- Setting up of a computer repair and business networking company.
- Developing a system to register and manage domain names.
- Setting up of several advertisement and information based websites.
- Managing a portfolio of thousands of domain names.
- Buying land and building a home in a foreign country highlights the need to delegate and seek out the skills you lack and most of all, to be organised.
- Maintaining (For Free) a local schools computer department of about 50 PCs.
- Member of the PTA at my son's school.
- Discussing and trying to organize the setting up of the Domain Name Association. [www.ukdna.org.uk](http://www.ukdna.org.uk)
- Member of the PAB since March 2007.
- I have a number of exciting new business ventures under development, which I hope to disclose and tell you about in the near future.

I would hope to bring to the board the following strengths.

<b>Openness</b>	My email <a href="mailto:pab@toth.biz">pab@toth.biz</a> . Telephone 01943 600096
<b>Directness</b>	If I have a problem I will talk to you about it.
<b>Fairness</b>	I consult with many, digest the info then speak.
<b>Team Player</b>	I can work in a team as well as on my own.
<b>Adaptability</b>	I am able to ask others for advice.

My personal home interests include - house design and build, skiing, scuba diving, travel, spending time playing with my children, reading Sunday morning papers (mainly "The Times"), and spending some time each day to have a chat and a coffee with my partner.