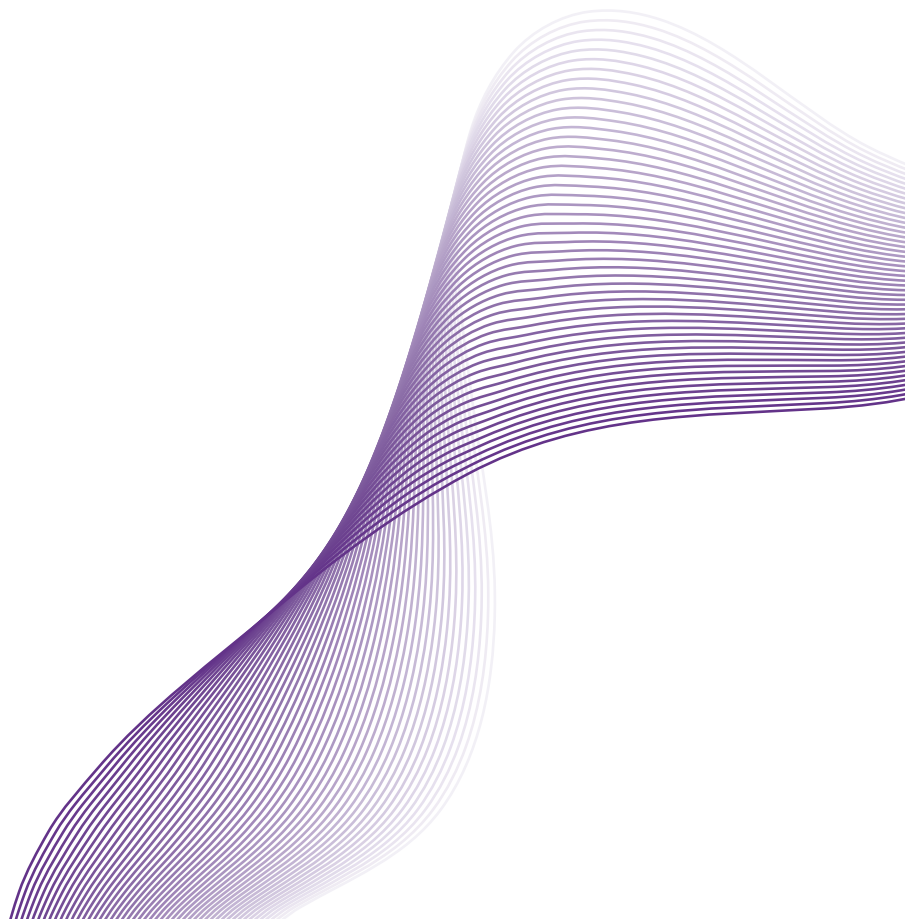


nominet[®]

Non-executive director elections 2008
Candidate statements



VOTE BY INTERNET

1. Go to <https://secure.nominet.org.uk/>
2. Log in using your email address and password
3. Click on the “members” tab
4. Click on the link for the “polls” page and click on the non-executive director election “view” button
5. This will take you to the election site
6. You must enter a name as authorised to vote in this election on behalf of your organisation
7. Click in the box next to the name for your first preference and a 1 will be entered. Click in the box next to the name for your second preference and a 2 will be entered, and so on until your preferences have been cast. You do not have to use all 6 preferences.
8. Click Submit
9. Check your preferences are correct and click on Submit

VOTE BY POST

1. Cast your votes by entering a 1 in the box next to the name for your first preference, then enter a 2 in the box next to the name for your second preference and so on until your preferences have been cast. You do not have to use all 6 preferences.
2. Place your ballot paper in the pre paid envelope provided and post to Popularis Ltd, Independent Scrutineer, 6 De Montfort Mews, Leicester LE1 7EU or bring it along to the AGM and hand it to the representative of Popularis Ltd.

**ALL POSTAL OR ELECTRONIC VOTES MUST REACH POPULARIS LTD
NO LATER THAN 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL 2008.**

Votes received after that time will not be included in the count.

You may only cast your votes by using the Internet system OR by post.
Please do not use both systems or ALL your votes will be disregarded.

List of candidates

Dickie Armour	4
Adam Beaumont	6
Darren Brown	8
Jim Davies	10
Gordon Dick	12
Robert Fox	14

Proposed by: Jason Smith, Namesco Ltd

Seconded by: Ditlev Bredahl, UK2 Ltd

Election Statement

I am passionate about Nominet and its future and believe I have the business acumen, and that my many years of experience running a variety of businesses, will be of value to Nominet. I have no hidden agenda and I think you'll see from the details on my personal website (<http://www.dickiearmour.me.uk>) that I am an honest, genuine and decent bloke who loves life.

Nominet is a very successful company with an ever increasing turnover. It is a sizeable business and the membership needs to make sure that the non-executive directors not only have the relevant experience in running businesses of this stature but also have the key skills that Nominet need and are currently lacking. I'm not a political animal and won't be running an aggressive campaign based on anything other than I have the financial and business acumen to make a positive contribution.

Nominet's marketing team recently introduced the Registrar Resources section of their website and I would like to see this area expanded. Using my extensive sales and marketing experience I hope to work closely with Phil Kingsland and his team to help raise Nominet's profile and offer further sales and marketing support to all members.

As some of you will remember from my election statement last year I stated "I would like to see the surplus used in a sort of Nominet Trust Foundation way for the greater good of the wider UK Internet community." I know some of us would rather see a rebate of some sort but under Nominet's Articles of Association that is not possible. I think the Foundation is an extremely worthwhile cause through which the wider UK Internet community will now benefit.

One worry with both the PAB and Board elections is that so few members vote. It's vital that we get a wider participation in these elections. My concern is that with only approx 10% of the membership voting, we don't get a true reflection of the membership in the result. I think we would all like to see greater member participation and I will spend some of my focus, if elected, on improving membership engagement.

I support Nominet's series of special resolutions for proposed changes to the Articles of Association, especially the addition of two appointed non-executive directors to the Board. I find it strange and a little concerning that at present Nominet can only appoint non-executive directors via an election process, in which only a minority of members vote. I think Nominet has lost out on some very good candidates and some past non-executive directors due to the current election set-up and I believe the introduction of appointed non-executive directors will help ensure Nominet is better placed to get the necessary talent and skill sets it requires.

Nominet has some exciting and challenging times ahead and needs to make certain that it remains well placed to react to the rapidly changing marketplace. I believe I will make a positive contribution and I ask for your support.

Dickie Armour

I am General Manager of Fibranet Services Ltd and have been involved in the group directly and indirectly since 1999. I have over nine years experience of running Internet based businesses predominately based around domain name registration, software and web development and web hosting. Our main business interests are **www.freeparking.co.uk** and **www.fibranet-services.co.uk**.

Prior to the dot com crash I was Global Head of Sales concentrating on eCommerce software. After the crash I ran the dedicated server business within NTWebhost and PowerHost. Both businesses were successfully sold to Tollon Ltd in December 2002 and I went as part of the deal. I was Managing Director of Tollon for two years and oversaw all aspects of the hosting business from domain name registration and hosting through to broadband and software development. I sat on a round table forum at Microsoft's first ever UK Hosting event and worked closely with Microsoft whilst we adopted their SPLA licencing model. Having served my time at Tollon I left and came back to Fibranet Services Ltd.

At Fibranet we are currently working on the launch of two new businesses and are continually adding new features, products and services to Freeparking. In 2006 Freeparking became an ICANN accredited domain registrar and this has helped increase Freeparking's profile both nationally and internationally.

I also have an interest in an email business; **www.letsgetpersonal.co.uk** with a couple of friends. So many people still don't realise that it is very simple to buy their own domain name and have cool looking email instead of ISP branded email.

Through my fundraising efforts we've formed a partnership with Cancer Research UK and from every domain name sold we give 50p to the charity.

Prior to my Internet business life I was a stockbroker in the City for just over sixteen years. I began on the floor of the Stock Exchange and in 1983, at seventeen I was the youngest dealer on the floor. I saw huge changes during my career, from Big Bang in 1986 through to the introduction of electronic trading in the late 90s. The last firm I worked for in the City was Cantor Fitzgerald International where I helped introduce their e-Speed business, a new electronic trading platform which the market makers used to enter their own prices into Cantor's systems. It was the first of its kind.

I have over twenty five years experience in business, well developed interpersonal skills and a proven background in developing and maintaining business relationships at the highest levels. I am self motivated, highly positive and a good team player. I am honest and still follow the Stock Exchange's motto; "Dictum Meum Pactum": my word is my bond. I have been successful in helping run many businesses across a range of sectors and I hope to put these skills to good use for Nominet.

Proposed by: Peter Gradwell, Gradwell dot com Ltd

Secoded by: Jon Farmer, Entanet International Ltd

Election Statement

I feel that not only do I wish to assist Nominet in achieving its goals and ambitions, but also, perhaps, to help define new ones. My past experience on the Nominet PAB and approaching 10 years as a tagholder brings me awareness of the Nominets' origins and operation. However, looking forward, I believe my main contributions will draw on my commercial experience of the convergence of "The Internet" and regulated/non-regulated telecoms.

Following the widening of Nominets' remit from the .uk namespace to the UK ENUM tier 1 delegation, I believe that there is a need to draw experience from both the internet community and also the telecoms arena. This has started to happen, but I believe that few candidates have extensive experience of both sectors.

As projects such as ENUM promise to become the backbone of a transparent communication hierarchy, this will necessitate that Nominet will become a cornerstone in the carrier-grade reliability of the UK telecoms industry.

To date, Nominets' sphere of influence remains in the largely unregulated internet industry, but, looking to the future, a managed transition into the realms of regulated telecoms will be a necessary outcome.

This will involve a closer and more defined relationship with the UK regulators such as OFCOM and Phonepayplus and encompass a new layer of considerations such as the routing of premium billing services, 999 calling and perhaps some still unforeseen issues associated with the increased functionality leveraged by such technology. I hope to facilitate the pre-emption of some of these issues by the assistance in management of working groups and liaison with bodies such as the ITSPA to allow early adopters the chance to share their experiences, concerns and suggestions.

There is also the need to liaise with and recognize the importance of the existing telecoms infrastructure providers and their roles in underpinning any shift in technology. I have extensive understanding of the underlying infrastructure within some of the major UK networks and how this can be leveraged both technically and commercially, having rolled out projects involving, to date, over 40 million geographic numbers and counting.

In addition to the new, there is still some tidying-up to do, which should not be resource intensive, but which I would propose to oversee. There are still significant portions of the x.uk sld namespace which are run by private companies which operate outside the sphere of Nominet. This is a historical arrangement analogous to "pre-Nominet" domains. I believe the pursuit of a more formal commercial framework should be fostered with such private entities.

Adam Beaumont PhD BSc MIET, MRSc

Ad@beaumont.me.uk 07778 619409 // 0 11 33 20 30 40 Born - 1972

Having lectured for 3 years in physical chemistry at the University of Leeds, my dabbling with the academic network lead me to a position with (what was) the DERA in secure mobile and land networking.

In late 1998, My interest in the internet lead me to run a "hobby" website, which registered .uk domains. My DERA position was short lived when .uk domain registration pricing was reduced to £5 per domain and I found myself running a busy domain registry and hosting company. My company, aql benefited greatly from the boom of registrations, peaking at registration volumes bringing it consistently in the top 3% of domain registrars.

In 2001, which saw the end of "speculative" domain registrations and a consolidation of the registration industry, I changed the focus of our company - investing significantly into interconnection with the uk mobile networks. This was the beginning of "internet accessible" mobile messaging, the decline of the pager and capitalisation on the desire for engineers to receive SMS type pager alerts via mobile handsets. 2001-2003 was also the period when I served as an elected member of the Nominet PAB.

In 2004, aql invested in voice infrastructure and became a BT-interconnected telecommunications provider.

Today aql hosts over 30 million Ofcom-assigned UK geographic numbers for SMS and approximately 15 million numbers for voice, has over 15,000 SMS messaging subscribers, including some of the largest UK public and private entities. aql still serves domain registration customers and we set up the UK's first SMS domain renewal reminder service in 2006.

My current focus is based around expanding our UK network and particularly our out-of-London colocation facilities. My project for the last year was to design and build our own secure data facility (which is now operational), with backhaul to London and on site diesel backup and UPS. I'm currently in the process of procuring a second site.

I'm driven by technology and how to make it work. I'm lucky to be able to indulge in this by ploughing back substantial investment into research and development, with 3 patents applications in the areas of telecoms, signaling and mesh networking and enjoying the challenge of making longer-term technology investments and predictions.

I'm still hands-on as an active SC cleared security consultant, providing vulnerability, security and disaster recovery advice to a variety of significant organisations.

My other active shareholdings, interests and directorships include :

Bubblenets Ltd – a specialist wireless mesh networking company,

Telephony Services Ltd – a wholesale telecoms provider,

Coralbridge Ltd – a strategic telecoms operator

Beaumont Neale Properties Ltd – an investment vehicle

Memberships

IET, RSc, RIPE, ITSPA, Nominet UK

YABA - Yorkshire Association of Business Angels (providing investment and advice to Yorkshire based startups).

Interests

My new responsibility as a father!. I'm also: An avid kayaker (white water and sea). A fell runner. A motorcyclist.

A funk bass player. A helicopter enthusiast.

Proposed by: Martyn Routley, InvictaWiz Ltd

Secinded by: Martin Tanner, ADM Computer Services Ltd

Election Statement

I have watched the growth and success of Nominet of the past several years and I am very happy to see them continue the good work. The .uk domain is at the core of most members business interests and will continue to be so.

From time to time it is necessary to revue the past and plan for the future. There has been a lot of talk about reducing the cost of registration and from the figures I see a reduction is totally justified.

Another suggestion that I have heard is that a rebate should be made to members in respect of past registrations. Either or both these fee adjustments are eminently possible. The business is awash with funds that it does not need.

Since Willie Black left the influence of the members has declined; as the membership are the people most affected by any changes in the management of the CC TLD it is of paramount importance that they have the dominant presence on the board.

Rather than dilute the influence of the membership I propose that the chairman of the board be elected by the membership. The term of office should last for two years and be eligible for re-election thereafter. Needless to say I am opposed to the resolutions to be put before the AGM which if passed will allow the board to appoint its' own directors.

Perhaps the legal influences on the Board have tended to slew the dispute resolution service. Recently there have been a number of decisions which I feel have not been justified. I would like to see an overhaul of the DRS system to ensure the results are more consistent.

I have no problem with the proposed ENUM registry, it is a logical development. I would however be concerned should there be any attempt to change the direction of the business to areas outside the UK as in my view that is beyond their remit.

Darren Brown

Rather than following the traditional route to university I served an apprenticeship in Electrical / Electronic Engineering for British Rail Telecoms.

This involved a four year HND in electronic engineering at Tonbridge College.

During my time at BRT I climbed to the grade of Technical Officer for the Technical Services Group.

In 1996 I left BRT to start my own Internet Company. Orbital net was initially a small webhosting and domain registration Company.

After two years I incorporated it as a company and joined Nominet in 1999.

We expanded into being a successful ISP providing hosting, Broadband, Leased Lines and the UK's largest WiMax Class Wireless Network covering Kent, East Sussex and South Essex. Orbital is now the largest ISP based in Kent.

In 2006 I Purchased a Failing Kent wireless network which served domestic customers in rural areas, this Limited Company for which I am also a Director is now a successful domestic service which now runs at a profit. My main motives for this were to ensure that rural areas can receive a quality broadband product without the need to be in an urban area.

I have always taken an interest in Nominet and its governance; recent plans have led me to feel I should be more actively involved.

As a director I will champion the rights of the members.

I take time away from my business to get actively involved in local environmental issues and until recently sat on the Local Environmental Planning committee for the Town in which Orbital is based.

Proposed by: Thomas Vollrath, GX Networks Ltd
Seconded by: Paul Fallon, Total Web Solutions Ltd

Election Statement

My View of Nominet

Nominet holds a unique position as the guardian of the .uk namespace. I see it as a company owned by its members; as a key supplier to the internet community; and as a vital national resource.

I deal with Nominet on behalf of clients on a day-to-day basis. My general experience of the staff at Nominet is that they are highly skilled and dedicated people who do a very good job. It is a well run registry.

These are my views on what I see as key strategic issues.

Cost Neutrality

I strongly support Nominet's not-for-profit status and the objective of cost neutrality in the provision of its services. I am not comfortable with the current annual surplus. In particular, the cost of registration is higher than required to break even.

Before any further decisions are made regarding what to do with the accruing surplus, I think a Board committee should be set up and give top priority to reviewing the various options available.

Nothing should off the agenda – including looking at how to reduce the level of the surplus, price cuts, refunds to registrars/registrants and the Foundation. The best independent advice should be sought. Proposals should then be put formally to the membership, with reasons given for the Board's recommended choice.

The Nominet Foundation

The Foundation is an excellent and worthwhile cause. It should also assist in improving the general profile that Nominet enjoys. However, no decisions regarding further donations should be made until a full "surplus review" has been completed.

The DRS

Nominet should actively consider putting the DRS at arm's length and outsource the operational side of it to someone like WIPO.

Governance

Nominet's unique role means that I believe that it must remain a member driven organisation. Stability and accountability are essential.

I believe that "The Combined Code" of corporate governance needs to be reviewed and to a large extent embraced. Relating to matters before this AGM, all directors need to be subject to peer review and re-election.

I believe Special Resolution 6 should not be adopted. In due course, I suggest a wider ranging Resolution (in line with best practice found in The Combined Code) should be recommended to members.

Nominet should consider volunteering to be subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

Nominet should review its internal complaints procedure and look at putting in place an independent ombudsman to deal with complaints.

Contact

These 500 words are just a summary of my views on Nominet. I invite you to find out more about my opinions and why I think I have something to offer as a non-executive director at my website – www.jimdavies.me.uk – or email jim@jimdavies.me.uk - or Skype [jim.davies2](https://www.skype.com/jim.davies2) - or telephone 01843 609355. I am always happy to talk!

Jim Davies – About Me

Phone 01843 609355

Email jim@jimdavies.me.uk

Age 42

Nationality British; with Australian Permanent Residency

Family Married; 3 children

Summary

I am a 42 year old solicitor. I bring an entrepreneurial background in business along with formal legal training and practice. My background means that I am used to reviewing situations and providing independent and pragmatic advice.

I have been involved with Nominet for the past 2 years and represent a number of Nominet members – ranging from companies through to individual members. That involvement gives me a thorough understanding of the issues facing Nominet and ideas on how to contribute to it on a strategic level.

Education

- **Cambridge University** – MA in Natural Sciences and Law
- **Keele University** – Postgraduate Certificate in Business Computing
- **College of Law** – Law Society Finals

Work

- **Consultant Solicitor – Bell Denning, London and others.** I specialise in internet and intellectual property law. I advise on contentious (including many domain name disputes under the DRS, UDRP and in Court) and non-contentious matters (including trademark, copyright and wider commercial issues).
- **Managing Director – Global Projects Management Limited.** The company provided consultancy advice and implemented IT security solutions for professional clients, primarily law firms. Work included a close relationship with a private company that is now part of a larger IT security group. As well as managing the roll out of security projects, I was involved in a number of funding and corporate deals.
- **Trainee Solicitor – Monier-Williams, London.** Long standing involvement in Court of Appeal trademark case; and also general company/commercial work.
- **Project Coordinator** for UK Foreign Office funded legal projects in Eastern Europe and the UK.
- **Assistant Production Manager** – at a marble and granite factory in Sydney, Australia.
- **Assistant Export Coordinator** – Red Stripe brewery in Kingston, Jamaica.
- **Gauntlet Enterprises** – I established and ran a successful entertainment business whilst at university; providing and managing the entire range of entertainments for college balls, primarily in Cambridge May Week.

Interests

- Family; most sports (especially cricket and rugby); recreational scuba diving; travel; wine.

Proposed by: (Board member retiring by rotation and restanding)

Secunded by: (Board member retiring by rotation and restanding)

Election Statement

I have very much enjoyed the challenge of working with Nominet serving our members and I still have energy and ideas to bring to Nominet and therefore I offer myself to the members for re-election.

Diversity

We have one of the most diverse and competitive registrar communities of any domain registry with just under 3000 members. Such diversity also permeates through to views on what Nominet should be doing both now and in the future. It is therefore important that the Board you elect seek consensus on the issues of the day. As an independent director not beholden to any one membership community I will continue to seek to deliver consensus as we move forward.

Not for profit

I have always believed Nominet's not-for-profit status is one of its greatest strengths, this does however lead to some unique challenges. Nominet has since its early days been making surpluses and the reserves we require have now been achieved. Our constitution limits the options available to the board, therefore we have started the process of finding areas of common ground within the membership to address our future profits. The first part of the jigsaw is the establishment of a charitable foundation to give back to the community we all serve. As with any jigsaw the first part is always the easiest and we must now move forward and find areas of agreement within the membership on the other components.

dot UK

Our domain is amongst the most popular in the world. This has been achieved through open and fair policies and delivering stable and scalable systems. I believe it is vital that this remains core to our business and that we do not stand still or become complacent.

Marketing

I believe that Nominet must provide further backing to, and partnerships with, all our member registrars as our channel to market to ensure .uk domains and our registrars continue to thrive.

Operations

In recent years Nominet has made improvements to many of its processes to move away from bureaucracy and become more customer oriented. There is still work to be done in this area both operationally and in policy setting. I believe continued improvement on this is essential as it is not unreasonable for our members to expect any problems they experience to be fixed smoothly.

New frontiers

With the backing of our members Nominet won the contract to run UK ENUM, a technology that bridges the telecoms and internet world. I believe ENUM is only the first of the new frontiers Nominet must explore and we should look for opportunities that complement and benefit the services we currently offer to our member registrars.

Contact

As many of you know I am always available to discuss Nominet issues with members, please feel free to get in touch (nominet-election2008@gordon.me.uk) if you have any comments or queries.

Gordon Dick

Email: nominet-election2008@gordon.me.uk **Tel:** 0131 516 6521

2004 – present: Non-Executive Director, Nominet UK

- 2004 – present: Nominet Board Representative, Policy Advisory Body.
- 2004 – 2007: Member, Remuneration Committee.
- 2007 – present: Chair, Audit committee.

Working with my board colleagues and our staff, Nominet has come a long way while I have served on the board, including:

- We recognised that we were process driven rather than customer driven and set out to change this.
- We identified that we had an excellent and diverse channel to market through our member registrars and that we should do more to support them selling our .uk domain. As a first step towards this, last year we published market intelligence in the form of our Domain Name Industry Report and marketing support materials.
- We took a fresh outlook on our role internationally and agreed an exchange of letters with ICANN setting out our respective rights and responsibilities for the UK domain to safeguard it for the UK community.
- We have taken an active role in the International Internet Governance Forum and launched a UK IGF to feed into the international process.
- We identified UK ENUM as a new market that would have synergies with our current business, sought member support to bid for it and won the contract.

As a director I regularly attend member events and am always available to discuss problems, concerns or hear what we have got right!

2004 – present: I provide consultancy services to small businesses to identify their business needs, then define and implement their online strategy.

2007: ScotchSpam.org.uk – successfully used the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations and Data Protection Act to claim damages from a sender of unsolicited marketing email in a small claims courts. This received international coverage in the media.

2002 – 2004: Working in Tokyo, Japan, my role involved the management of non-Japanese staff and their interactions with our Japanese colleagues and customers. This gives me experience and skills in successfully bringing people from diverse cultures, backgrounds and viewpoints together.

1995 – 2001: E-commerce and online marketing.

In 1995 against the conventional wisdom and in collaboration with the authors and publishers I was involved in the launching of a full book online at the same time as its paper publication. With our focus being on online retail from the early days we put small businesses online and provided content based marketing environments to draw end users.

Education: BSc (Hons) in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science from the University of Edinburgh.

Proposed by: Ian Taylor, Sys3 Ltd

Seconded by: Kathy Duthoit, Netside Ltd

Election Statement

I, and most members that I talk to, believe that over the years, technically and administratively, Nominet have done an excellent job. I also believe the plan to fund a charitable foundation is a very laudable idea and should be pursued with the utmost vigour.

Reduce Registration Fees

My only criticism is that for the past several years they have taken far more in fees from the membership than is justified by the costs.

I believe that future fees should be in line with costs. The accounts for 2007 show that Nominet can continue to cover their expenses should fees be reduced by as much as 30%, to £3.50.

Return Fees by way of Rebate

The current credit squeeze is likely to have a knock on effect for our industry as it ripples out through the economy. With this in mind, I suggest that a portion of the £11.5 million that Nominet holds in cash and short term investments, should be used to make a significant rebate to the members in respect of past fees paid. If elected I would endeavour to help the board find ways in which this could be achieved.

There is no valid reason why Nominet should continue to hold such excessive reserves of cash. The business is a monopoly, able to recover whatever costs it incurs from the membership.

Retain Board Representation for the Members

Among the resolutions being proposed at the forthcoming AGM is one to increase the size of the board by allowing the executive to appoint additional directors themselves, without their being elected by the membership. Nominet has built its' reputation by listening and acting on the advice of its' members, now it intends to permanently remove the vital link between the board and the membership. I intend to vote against this resolution (resolution 6) and I strongly advise all members to vote against this resolution.

Increase member participation on the Board

With the Board wishing to appoint outside directors, the power of the members could be compromised. I believe that to restore balance, the interests of members will be best served if the membership directly elects the chairman.

If I am elected I will do my utmost to implement these changes.

If you have any comments or questions on this manifesto please E-mail me at vote@bb-online.co.uk

Robert Fox

After graduating as an Electronics Engineer, I started work in the City of London as a Field Support Engineer for a computer service company.

After 1986 my interests were concentrated in software and telecommunications, working as a support manager for an online database company and subsequently managing teams of engineers creating a nationwide communications network.

The next step was to set up my own business in 1988. We developed communications software and subsequently developed a number of databases for various clients. In doing so we undertook consultancy work for a number of blue chip companies including British Telecom, Telecom Eirean, The European Bank, Barclays De Zoete Wedd Securities Ltd., County NatWest Securities Ltd., and also The Department of Trade and Industry.

In 1990 I helped form a new business in Ireland. We created and maintained a comprehensive financial and credit database of all Irish limited companies. I held the position of Technical Director there until 2004.

In 1997 I set up my current business, the international domain name registration agents, BB Online UK Ltd. We became Nominet members in 1998, ICANN accredited since 2000, and then the first operational NZ registrar in the Northern hemisphere. Currently BB Online is accredited to, or members of some 17 major country code registries.

Interests

Fellow of the Royal Society Of Arts

My other interests include theatre, fitness, travel and skiing.

Roles and responsibilities of a non-executive director of Nominet

Nominet's Board is responsible for making strategic and policy decisions and for the oversight of the Company. The Board meets regularly to discuss strategic, policy and other issues.

The position is remunerated, and expenses are paid, both in accordance with existing rules. Board meetings are currently held every two months and take between half or one day each. In addition, non-executive directors serve on Board sub-committees, the Audit and Remuneration Committees, each of which meet up to four times per year, usually on Board meeting days. Directors are also expected to participate in strategy meetings and to join in other member events during the year. There is non-executive director representation on Nominet's Policy Advisory Body, which can require up to one day's work every two months.

Being a Board member of a company is a serious commitment, both in terms of time and the legal responsibilities you take on.

About non-executive directors

There is no legal distinction between executive and non-executive directors in the UK. They have the same legal obligations, responsibilities and potential liabilities.

All directors should bring a broad perspective to Company and business matters. Non-executive directors are usually selected for their broad experience, independence, impartiality, personal qualities, and sometimes because they have relevant specialist knowledge or contacts with relevant stakeholders. Non-executive directors should be independent of the Company's management, its customers, owners and staff, so that they can be objective in Board discussions, and provide supportive oversight of the executive management.

Non-executive directors' focus should be at the appropriate level. They should concern themselves with Board matters and not micro-manage.

The key responsibilities of non-executive directors include:

Contribution to strategy

Non-executive directors should be able to identify factors in the external environment, which will affect the Company – they may have more of an external perspective than their executive counterparts. They may be more creative in strategic discussions, as they will typically be less constrained by their knowledge of the business than their executive counterparts.

Oversight

Non-executive directors monitor the performance of executive management in achieving the Company's vision and strategic objectives.

Networking

Non-executive directors can help the Company by making connections with their own networks of contacts.

Audit

Directors must ensure that the Company's accounts are a true and fair reflection of its actions and financial performance, that appropriate internal controls are put into place and are monitored satisfactorily. This duty applies to all directors, whether or not they are part of a formal Audit Committee.

Declaration of interests

Nominet maintains a register of directors' interests, which is reviewed by the Company's auditors annually. Directors will be expected to declare all interests, not only in the register, but on an ongoing basis at Board meetings when and if a potential conflict arises.

For fuller information about the role of a non-executive director from the Institute of Directors and Companies House, please see:

<http://www.iod.com/intershoproot/eCS/Store/en/pdfs/roleofnxdx.pdf>

<http://www.companieshouse.co.uk/about/pdf/gba1.pdf>

An explanation of Single Transferable Voting (STV)

There are various methodologies that can be used for calculating the results of a poll by Single Transferable Vote. Nominet uses the Hare-Clarke method.

Hare-Clarke is a variation of preferential counting called proportional preferential. In order to be elected a candidate needs to achieve a set quota of votes. The quota is calculated after all the first preference votes have been counted, and is calculated using the following formula: $Q = V / (P + 1) + 1$. The following example illustrates how this is done:

The formula is: total number of valid votes / (number of positions +1) +1

500 valid votes are received for 12 seats.

$$500 / (12 + 1) + 1 = 39.4615$$

Quota = 39.46

Any candidate with votes greater than the quota are automatically elected. If all seats are filled at this point then the election is completed and declared. However if not all seats are filled then the following steps will occur:

- If the successful candidate(s) has more than the quota, the last package of votes that they received will be redistributed based on the preferences indicated on the ballot paper. The votes will be assigned a transfer value such that the total value of the votes redistributed is equal to their surplus. Once this has been done results will again be checked to see if the required number of candidates have been elected. The transfer value is calculated as $T = (V - Q) / V2$. V is the number of votes the candidate has and Q is the quota. V2 is the number of votes in the last package that they received.
- If the successful candidate(s) do not have a surplus of votes then a currently unelected candidate with the lowest number of votes will be excluded and their votes redistributed using preferences. This process is repeated until all candidates are elected or until the number of remaining candidates is equal to the candidates required, in which case they are declared elected.

Dickie Armour – Nominet Board Election 2008

Full Disclosure Statement

1. I stood for election once before in 2007. My 2007 election statement can be found at http://www.nominet.org.uk/digitalAssets/28568_2007_Board_elections.pdf

2. Nominet maintains a register of Directors' interests. I would of course declare any interests I have along with any potential interests members of my close family might have, in accordance with best corporate governance practice.
During a board meeting I would of course declare any conflict of interest on a case by case basis. If necessary I would withdraw from that part of the meeting.

3. I have not been involved in any legal actions involving domain names or Nominet DRS cases.

4. I am not involved in any ongoing matters/investigations of any nature.

Additional statement from Adam Beaumont

Full Disclosure:

I've previously stood for election back in 2003 - my election statement is still archived online at:

http://www.nominet.org.uk/digitalAssets/28558_2003_Board_elections.pdf

My primary reasons for standing haven't changed. However, an extra 5 years of experience has allowed me to develop a more strategic role within aqI, which I feel is more commensurate with the requirements of a Nominet board member.

My original statement highlighted my telecoms experience, which I believe is now highly relevant following Nominet's success in gaining the responsibility of operating the ENUM tier-1 registry. I want to be involved in building on that success.

In what is approaching 10 years of trading, I've never been involved in any legal actions involving domain names as respondent or otherwise, nor are there any ongoing investigations of any nature relating to either myself or any of my companies.

To clarify my standpoint further:

1) I'm opposed to any mechanism which effects a distribution of profit or surplus directly to members. Any other viewpoint can only have the short-term in mind, which ultimately, is not in the interests of stakeholders.

2) I believe that the appointment of independent directors with the necessary complimentary and required skills can only benefit Nominet. I support the adoption of resolution 6. If Nominet need to appoint expertise, they should be empowered to do so.

Additional statement from Darren Brown

As requested I will answer the concerns that you have raised.

1: I have never before stood for Election for Nominet.

2: I do not believe that there would be any conflict of Interest by me being a Director of Nominet, although Orbital Net is a Member of Nominet, Domain Names Are only a small part as we are mainly a connectivity provider.

3: I have never been involved in any DRS case in any capacity.

4: There are no ongoing matters / investigations of any nature to which I am subject.

Regarding the Distribution of Profit's, Nominet has been charging the same rate for some time now and has built such large cash reserves that it may In fact be the case that members have been charged more than necessary. I am not sure that the response from the QC has actually taken this into account. I am However also in favour of donating the surplus money to charity so long as this is carefully investigated and as an organisation we feel comfortable with the choices made. Perhaps if this is the way forward, I would suggest that membership have an active role in the decisions made.

My reasons for standing for this election is purely to contribute to the success of Nominet.

General Comments

The Nominet Board (with the exception of Angus Hanton) posted online their open letter regarding the forthcoming election and invited a response from the candidates. My response has been delayed by a flight from Australia, by my requests to the Board to correct serious errors of fact in their letter and also in dealing with unfounded allegations made against me by a former Nominet Director.

The Board's Errors of Fact

I find it difficult to understand why the Board chose to publish such an extraordinary letter without first seeking from the candidates a confirmation that the assertions of fact in relation to people's positions were correct.

In my case, they were not correct and the letter gives a wholly misleading impression of my views on serious policy issues. I asked the Board to correct their error by way of a further letter to the members, but unfortunately they have chosen not to do so.

Distribution of Profits

I welcome the opinion of Michael Todd QC – obtaining such advice formed part of my election statement. Contrary to what the Board's letter indicates, it confirms the position set out in my election statement – which did not speak about drawing from the current surplus, but rather proposed looking at the options available with any future surpluses.

I took advice prior to drafting my statement and it concurs with Counsel's Opinion, namely that there were very few options as to what could be done with the existing surplus. To suggest that I believed otherwise is untrue.

However, there are a number of valid and legally possible alternatives to consider with regard to any future "*accruing surplus*". I proposed that these options be subject to an urgent and wide-ranging review – the results of which would then be put to the members to formally make a decision.

My stated policy – under the heading Cost Neutrality - referred only to what could be done to seek to aim for cost neutrality and so to lower the future level of the annual profits. It referred to looking at alternatives regarding the "*accruing surplus*". This position was further put into context on nom-steer prior to the Board's letter being published; as well as by the section of my statement that followed, dealing with future levels of funding for the Foundation.

It is disappointing that the misrepresentation in the Board's letter has not been retracted, despite my invitation for them to do so.

Nominet Board Structure

I agree that the Board needs independent non-executive directors. I disagree with the Board's suggestion that Special Resolution 6 provides the best way to achieve this aim.

In my view it risks entrenching a significant part of control of the Board in the hands of unelected directors, notwithstanding the need to obtain approval of an AGM for any new Appointed Non-

Executives. Approval is not the same as election and in my view it limits the options available to the members.

It also continues to leave out of the election process altogether the Executive Directors. That is a very unusual position for a company with such a large membership.

That is why I propose that Special Resolution 6 be rejected – and instead be replaced by a wider ranging resolution that would require all directors (including those Appointed by the Board and those who are Executive Directors) to be subject to the same requirements of retirement by rotation and the same re-election process. I believe that this is in line with best corporate governance practice. My concern is that, if the current proposal is adopted, it will be presented as the members' final choice with regard to the issue of the Board structure. I therefore think it is essential to get it right first time – and I do not think Special Resolution 6 goes far enough.

The presentation that, due to low levels of voting, Nominet may be subject to a coup d'état due to low turnout is disingenuous. Whilst there may be quite a small percentage of voters, it seems to me that the numbers of votes cast has been rising significantly in recent Board elections. As an example, the 3% cap in 2006 was set at around 13,000 votes, yet had almost doubled to around 25,000 votes in 2007.

In any event, I reject the suggestion that I might be part of an organised raid on the company. I confirm that I have not met either of the other two candidates singled out by the Board's letter; nor had I ever communicated with either of them prior to the Board's letter being published.

Response to the Request for Full Disclosure

I take the view that that the request for "Full Disclosure" from the Board (except Angus Hanton) is in fact a short list of leading questions. Nevertheless, I am happy to comply.

1. I have never before stood for election for the Nominet Board or the PAB.
2. In relation to potential conflicts of interests with regard to my work as a solicitor, I would follow the rules set down by the Solicitors Regulation Authority, as well as those that govern a director of a company.

As a solicitor, I am acutely aware of the risks of conflicts of interests. I act for a number of different types of Nominet members, including ISPs, web development companies and individual members with domain portfolios. Those contacts would help ensure that I would always be aware of the views of a number of different constituencies within the membership. However I reject any assertion that, if elected, I would represent any special interest group.

3. My then company (GPM) was a Claimant and I was a Part 20 Defendant in civil litigation relating to the citigroup.co.uk domain name, which was finally settled out of court under an Order in the Court of Appeal. The terms of that Order are confidential. Nominet has been aware of this for a number of years.

I have acted and I am currently acting for a number of clients in respect of DRS disputes. I have acted and I am currently acting for a number of clients in respect of litigation in the courts. I act for both claimants and for respondents.

I am unable to mention ongoing matters, due to client confidentiality issues. However, decided cases that are in the public domain include DRS Appeals in bounce.co.uk, verbatim.co.uk and Ireland.co.uk. I am acting in the forthcoming myspace.co.uk Appeal.

On a few occasions, the conduct of a case may result in a Formal Complaint being made against Nominet. If I were to be elected, I would obviously be unable to act for clients in this regard. However, this experience has given rise to my policy for setting up an independent Ombudsman to deal with such complaints. I believe the current self-regulation by the executive is a model that puts unfair pressure on people to review their own (or close colleagues') actions and it falls short of best practice in terms of the service provided to the complainant.

4. I understand that there was an investigation about me recently raised by former Nominet Director, Alex Bligh, with the Solicitors Regulation Authority. Mr Bligh questioned publicly whether I was a solicitor and unfortunately he did so without giving me the opportunity to confirm the position to him.

As soon as I became aware of his allegations, I provided Mr Bligh with proof that they were untrue. In an email to me and on nom-steer of 24 April 2008, Mr Bligh apologised to me *"for any implication that he [I] was not entitled to practice as a solicitor at the relevant times"*.

I am unaware of any other investigation or enquiry of which I am a subject.

Conclusion

I trust the Nominet membership to draw their own conclusions and to vote accordingly for a stable, balanced and accountable Board of Directors, who can put behind them any differences they may have had in this election. I offer a constructive, yet independent, voice on the Board and I invite the members to vote for me.

Additional Statement from Gordon Dick

The Nominet board invited all current board election candidates to make further declarations to Nominet members. I have addressed the points requested in detail below.

Any previous occasions that they have stood for election to the Nominet Board and the platforms on which they stood.

I stood for and was elected to the Nominet board in 2004. I stood again and was re-elected in 2006. For absolute clarity, the election statements I stood on are attached.

Expanding further than requested I also declare that I have previously stood for the Nominet PAB in 2001 and served one term as an elected PAB member, before stepping down from the PAB. The election statement I stood on is also attached.

How they would deal with the conflicts of interest that will arise from their current employment or roles.

Any conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest through work or otherwise will be fully declared. I note that for a number of legal reasons (including the fact the directors are all, in their own right, members of the company) it is impossible to avoid all the situations where you may need to take a position even when you have an interest, however such interests need to be known by others in the process in order to inform their decisions. As a director, my interests are declared and our auditors have reviewed the declarations. Where I take a position I will always do so in the best interests of Nominet, its members and stakeholders even when it is detrimental to any other interests I have.

I have a legal duty to act in what I believe are the best interests of Nominet, our members and stakeholders. I have at all times in the discussion of the recent board statement regarding the AGM and director election reiterated my interest as I am re-standing as a candidate, it has been noted in the letter to members and I note it again now. I fully support the Board and the decision to make the statement and as such I believe I am also duty bound to support the Board's position in public.

I hope members will feel that I have done everything possible to act appropriately while fulfilling my legal duties to the company, our members and stakeholders. For that reason and those set out in my election statement, I hope you will be able to vote for me as your 1st preference. However if you feel unable to support me, for any reason at all, then I would urge you to vote for Dickie Armour and Adam Beaumont.

All legal actions involving domain names, or Nominet DRS cases where they have been a respondent, or otherwise involved.

1. I have never been involved in any legal action regarding domain names.
2. I have never been the complainant or respondent to a DRS case or other top level domain dispute.
3. I have, on one occasion (from memory I think in late 2001 or early 2002), advised a long standing customer of the time with regards to a mediated settlement in a domain name dispute where their local competitor had registered one of their brand names. It was settled amicably without a need for a decision.
4. I have on numerous occasions been asked in generic terms about the DRS and on what grounds complaints can be raised.

Any ongoing matters/ investigations of any nature to which they may be subject.

I know of no ongoing matters or investigations of any nature to which I am subject.

Attached previous election statements.

2006 Board Election Statement

I have been involved in the internet industry since 1995 and I was first elected to the board of Nominet two years ago. Having sought feedback from a number of Nominet members and Policy Advisory Board members as to whether I should stand for re-election I decided it was important at this time to offer myself for a second term serving the membership.

As a member of the Nominet board I have also served on the Policy Advisory Board and Remuneration Committee for the last two years. Clearly as a board we made mistakes with the handling of proposals for the EGM earlier this year and from that I have learnt and I apologise. I have played a key role in re-engaging the membership to find a consensus on the way forward for Nominet that satisfies both the concerns and aspirations that members have for Nominet. I have been actively involved in member out-reach programs on the future which included meetings around the country over the last few months. I regularly take part in member meetings and other on-line and off-line forums of discussion with members and other stakeholders.

I have always believed that one of Nominet's key strengths is the status as a not-for-profit organisation serving the wider community that allows it to hold the trust of the industry, government and civil society at large.

I do not believe in representing just one type of member but in balancing the diverse needs and interests of all members and stakeholders, which can be very challenging. In doing this Nominet must ensure fairness in policy, strategy, and implementation, taking account of the views of all members and end users large and small. In order to achieve this further work is needed on our communications and consultations.

A timely and thorough review of the Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) is already in preparatory stages and it is my desire to see this address the real concerns being raised about the current service.

There are clearly many challenges ahead for Nominet as the worldwide registry markets mature and consolidation occurs. As an industry owned organisation Nominet should ensure that it has the foothold necessary to move forward with the interests and backing of our members. Nominet must strive to be the best registry in the world in everything it does, technical and administrative.

Nominet should help the members in selling our core product of UK domain names but should do this in a manner that does not artificially distort the market and ensures buyers do not bypass members to purchase direct. I am interested in exploring the feasibility of encouraging growth in the personal registrations market making ".me.uk" as essential a piece of lifestyle infrastructure as a phone number is today.

I would like to hear from you as a Nominet member on any issue I can help with. Please email me at nominet-election2006@gordon.me.uk if you wish to discuss any Nominet issues.

2004 Board Election Statement

A few months ago it was suggested I put my name forward for this election. I thought about it long and hard; I talked with Council of Management (CoM) members, with Policy Advisory Board (PAB) members and with ordinary Nominet members before concluding it is important to stand to ensure the membership has an alternative choice in this election. I am both ready and willing to take on the challenge of assisting the Executive in steering Nominet safely through the next two years by taking on board the views of the membership and the wider community. I would like to make clear my key beliefs.

Nominet works best as a not for profit organisation influenced by the many and not the few and should remain independent and industry run and not government controlled.

Nominet should not compete with its membership but aid it in serving the wider internet community.

Nominet must ensure fairness in policy, strategy, and implementation, taking account the views of all industry players and end users large and small.

Nominet must continue to enhance the TWO way communications channels with members and end users.

Nominet must aim to be the best domain registry in the world in everything it does, technical and administrative.

Nominet must ensure that it and its members are not brought into disrepute by the actions of a few, and, to ensure this, there should be a well known voluntary code of practice (in addition to a strong tag holder agreement ensuring minimum standards) and that Nominet must deliver on this in order to secure its future.

I believe Nominet must deliver and deliver soon on the proposals for an integrated web site for members and tag holders to manage the accounts they have with Nominet. The clock is ticking, time is moving on and the lack of web interface in the year 2004 is somewhat embarrassing for Nominet.

Nominet is entering another critical time in its life cycle. A corporate governance review is already under way and the candidates you elect will be charged with making decisions on this review; I urge you to choose accordingly. I believe that there should be a limit to the number of consecutive terms served by non-executive directors in order to guarantee regular refreshment of the board. Regular but steady churn of CoM members helps to invigorate Nominet and ensures that complacency and arrogance does not have a chance to set in.

I believe CoM members should not sit on the PAB as full PAB members as in doing so they are advising themselves. I believe they should be in attendance for two way information exchange.

For more information please take a look at: www.Gordon.me.uk

I want to hear from YOU as a Nominet member. I want to represent YOU. Please email me at com-elections2004@gordon.me.uk if you have any questions or you want to say "I agree/disagree with you because..."

2001 PAB Election Statement

I became involved in the Internet industry in 1995, and have established a sound background in e-commerce and in recent times have been an active member of the Nominet steering list. I hope to continue the good work that has been done to date in improving Nominet for the benefit of the members and the Internet community at large as a not-for-profit organisation without government intervention by ensuring policies adopted are fair.

I am particularly keen to make further progress on areas of two way communication between Nominet and the membership and examine how the mechanisms already in place can be improved upon. The communications policy should ensure that online communication is central to the organisation and becomes more dynamic.

The possibility of including interfaces (web or otherwise) for members and tag holders to access most aspects of their account details more effectively and efficiently should be investigated.

We should examine whether members would benefit from some form of support network of consultants, either drawn from established members or Nominet executive or elsewhere, being set up to help the membership as a whole but particular to supply backup help for new members.

I am keen to ensure that NominetUK is seen to be amongst the best of domain registries in the world from top to bottom through all policies it implements whether technical or administrative.

Questions on specific issues are welcome by email to nominet-pab@gordondick.co.uk

Additional Statement from Robert Fox

Am I being naïve in thinking most of the brouhaha of this election is all about money?

The candidates seem to be divided into two camps. The altruists wanting to promote the greater good of Nominet by spending their money, and the financially aware who cannot abide to see the funds that they have paid to create being used to cushion a very comfortable corporate lifestyle.

I stand by my original statements:

From the figures provided by the 2007 annual accounts registration fees do not need to be higher than £3.50

The size of the surplus funds is ample evidence that members have been overcharged in the past and should be entitled to a refund of their overpayment. Whether such overcharging is covered by the QC's opinion circulated by Nominet depends on the questions originally asked.

All members of the board of directors should seek re-election after serving their term of office. Directors may recommend candidates but members should elect them.

Additionally:

I am pleased to see that Nominet are allowing members to change votes already cast. This is the least they can do since they have been asking members to vote for their resolutions since before 15th April. It would be far better if the whole package of resolutions including the appointment of directors were placed before the membership prior to their being asked to vote.

It is deplorable that having asked for statements from eligible candidates that can be circulated amongst the membership after the 15th of April for an election to be held on 30th April that they should subsequently call for additional information intimating that some candidates may, for whatever reason, be unsuitable to hold office.

For the record I am a company director, I have been a company director since early 1990. I have not ever been disqualified from holding this office either in the UK, Ireland or anywhere else. Neither have I served a term of imprisonment or been declared bankrupt etc etc. That should be sufficient for any board election.

As an active registrar my company has been involved in legal actions involving domain names but not to the detriment of my business reputation. I am aware that, should I be elected, there could be a conflict of interests. If that were to occur I would advise my co-directors of my interests and abstain from voting should I or they consider it necessary.

NOMINET UK

ELECTION OF NON EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS 2008

Total number of members	2,777	
Total number of ballot papers received	440	15.84%
Turnout (no cap applied)	4,632,944	60.17%
Cap (3%)	40,146	
Paper ballots returned	94	
Web ballots returned	346	

Results of votes cast: (attached)

The elections were conducted in accordance with the Nominet Articles of Association. Members had been asked to indicate if they would accept notification of the ballot by email, and where they did an email was sent giving details of the link to vote through the Nominet web site. Ballot papers were sent to all other members in the post. Ballot papers were returned in the post to Popularis, through the Popularis web voting system or directly at the AGM on 30th April 2008.

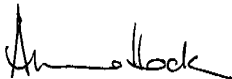
The web voting system was accessed via a link on the Nominet web site. It was held on a server independent from Nominet, and the requirements for a secret ballot were observed regardless of the method used to return a ballot paper.

All systems were checked to ensure no member voted more than once by using more than one system to return their votes.

The Non Executive Directors elected are:

Gordon Dick
Jim Davies

Certified by:



Anne Hock
Popularis Ltd
1st May 2008

**NOMINET UK
ELECTION OF NON EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS 2008**

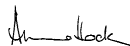
Seats **2**
 Quota 462,433.00 (Total votes / No of vacancies + 1) + 1
 Cap(3%) 40,146.00

Candidate	Stage 1				Stage 2				Stage 3				Stage 4				Stage 5					
	Total	Dropped	Surplus	Next Pref	Distribution	Total	Dropped	Surplus	Next Pref	Distribution	Total	Dropped	Surplus	Next Pref	Distribution	Total	Elected	Surplus	Next Pref	Distribution	Total	Elected
ARMOUR Dickie	355,293.00			0	0.00	355,293.00		19,576	19,576.00	374,869.00		30,631	30,631.00	405,500.00		331,826	30,268.02	435,768.02				
BEAUMONT Adam	100,145.00		23,312.00	3,770	3,770.00	103,915.00		3,525	3,525.00	107,440.00	D	0	-107,440.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00				
BROWN Darren	23,312.00	D		0	-23,312.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00			0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00			
DAVIES Jim	378,523.00			10,301	10,301.00	388,824.00		49,008	49,008.00	437,832.00		7,225	7,225.00	445,057.00		65,232	5,950.24	451,007.24	E	ELECTED		
DICK Gordon	442,091.00			1,774	1,774.00	443,865.00		14,649	14,649.00	458,514.00		49,743	49,743.00	508,257.00	E	45,824.00	0	-45,824.00	462,433.00	E	ELECTED	
FOX Robert	87,932.00			2,796	2,796.00	90,728.00	D	0	-90,728.00	0.00			0	0.00	0.00		0	0.00	0.00			
Non Transferable				4,671	4,671.00	4,671.00		3,970	3,970.00	8,641.00		19,841	19,841.00	28,482.00		105,307	9,605.74	38,087.74				
Total	1,387,296.00		23,312.00	23,312	0.00	1,387,296.00		90,728.00	90,728	0.00	1,387,296.00		107,440.00	107,440	0.00	1,387,296.00	45,824.00	502,365	0.00	1,387,296.00		
Surplus per Next Pref vote			1.00					1.00					1.00				0.09					

Calculated using Microsoft Excel 2000 - figures displayed to 2 digits - except Quota which is rounded

Ballots returned
 Paper 94
 Web 346
TOTAL 440

Certified by:



Anne Hock
 Managing Director
 Popularis Ltd
 1st May 2008