

This document contains respondents between 20 and 20 inclusive.

1. Do you support the idea of placing relevant stakeholders at the heart of the policy advisory process?

- Yes
 No

2. Do you support the PAB's proposal for the creation of issues groups to develop policy recommendations in response to stakeholder proposals?

- Yes
 No

3. Do you agree with the PAB's outline for issues groups (open membership, stakeholder led, time-limited, with a requirement to prepare an impact assessment, and working by consensus)?

- Yes
 No

Do you have any comments on the way that issues groups might work?

Yes, consensus can mean unanimity (which is undesirable) or a majority shared view. It should be clear that unanimity is not required for an issue group to reach a shared view.

4. What mechanism should there be for selecting members of issues groups?

In particular, how might we ensure effective participation from Nominet members to bring necessary expertise into the discussions?

Initially, members should be selected by Nominet after open advertisement, applicants making public their claims for appointment and those appointed should serve for a year. Selection should be on the basis of members' representativeness (geography, type of stakeholder, gender etc) and expertise (which should be varied). After 10 months an election should be called with anyone able to vote - serving members and any others should be eligible to stand. Thereafter members should be appointed for not more than three years and a third of appointees should retire annually (meaning that a third of the first wave would retire after one year and so on).

Members should serve for no more than two full three year terms.

Members should be required to demonstrate contribution to discussions and the determination of group views when they stand for election.

5. Do you agree that "permanent" groups might be needed in certain cases?

- Yes
 No

What issues might benefit from this approach?

Complaints handling and representation of user interests.

6. Do you agree that “closed groups” (i.e. groups with invited membership) should be set up when this is necessary?

- Yes
- No

7. Do you agree that a standing committee is necessary to provide some form of independent assessment of, and support for, the issues groups?

- Yes
- No

8. Do you agree that the tasks identified by the PAB for the standing committee are appropriate?

- Yes
- No

9. Do you agree with the range of stakeholders identified by the PAB for the membership of the standing committee?

- Yes
- No

How should members of the standing committee be identified?

In particular, how should Nominet member participation of the standing committee be chosen, bearing in mind the importance of ensuring balance representation?

One third should be appointed by Nominet, one third by issue groups and one third by general election (following the procedure identified for issue groups).

10. Do you support the proposal for an enhanced secretariat taking an active role in the standing committee of stakeholders and for engaging with external stakeholders?

- Yes
- No

11. Do you have any further comments on the proposed new policy advisory process?

This is a personal view and not the official view of my employer the Open University.

12. Please give us your contact details

Name

Professor Richard Collins.

Company name/Organisation name

Open University