

I'm seeing many responses that amount to "Nominet can run what they like as long as they don't break .uk". That seems to me to miss the point of the consultation; what we're being asked is whether we are convinced that doing these things will leave .uk service undamaged.

I was completely in favour of option (1) before the Nominet lunch. During the lunch, I was convinced that there is real value, for Nominet, for the tagholders, and for the UK internet community, in Nominet's bidding for ENUM.

An attempt was also made to convince me that offering consultancy services was a good idea. I freely concede that Nominet knows an awful lot of stuff about running registries - witness how much better .uk is run than most others - but I fear it becoming a business objective, because I don't think it can be done without drawing core expertise away from .uk. It was pointed out to me that Nominet won't bother to do it as a charitable aim, which whilst sad is understandable. I'm therefore happy with it proceeding on a cost-recovery basis - Nominet can share its skills, without subsidising other registries, but selling expertise can't become a business activity to compete with running a registry.

So I'm in favour of option (2), but with the note below article 3.6 moved to below article 3.4, and a note inserted below each of articles 3.5 and 3.6 that says "on a cost-recovery basis".

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