

I can't explain this in techie speak so I won't even try. I just have a feeling that the world is moving faster than we can keep up with it and that if we want Nominet to be a part of that future world then we do need to untie the hands of the Board. My first 'computer' was an Amstrad word-processor at a time when mobile phones were the size and weight of a house brick. Now I can download my email and browse the web on a phone so small that my fingers are too big for the keys. Skype and others provide telephone services via Broadband and my laptop connects to the internet out in the back garden without wires.

And that is why I am opting for option 3.

Option 1 is already obsolete unless we really want Nominet to do the registry for .uk and nothing else. Which is a valid position to take but not one that I subscribe to.

Option 2 allows Nominet to bid for ENUM and to offer its expertise on a consultancy basis, but who can predict what will come after ENUM? If you are an option 1 person then it doesn't matter because your position is that Nominet should do .uk and nothing more. But if you are dithering over option 2 then you have already accepted that Nominet should be able to expand its area of operations. So take the leap and jump to option 3.

Option 3 allows for Nominet to adapt to a changing market whilst keeping it on track as a registry rather than an 'anything goes' company. I have read with interest the comments made by Sam Kington and am in general agreement with them.

Option 4 is the 'anything goes' option.

So I'm supporting Option 3 (preferably amended as suggested by Sam Kington). The world is changing around us and I'd rather we had a member led, not-for-profit organisation like Nominet involved in managing some of those areas where technologies are converging. I don't know what is around the next corner but I do know that if it is related to what we currently call 'the internet' or 'the web' then I do want Nominet to be in a position to bid to run the UK based registries of whatever comes next.

I'm happy to leave the running of ice-cream parlours to Ben'n'Jerry's or Walls.

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