



PUBLICBENEFIT.UK

The Directors

Nominet UK

By email only

22 March 2021

Dear Directors,

I am writing to you following the vote to remove Eleanor Bradley, Russell Haworth, Ben Hill, Jane Tozer and Mark Wood as directors of Nominet UK, with effect from close of the EGM today.

This action by the campaign is undoubtedly a watershed moment in Nominet's history and demonstrates the resolve of the membership to restore its original purpose. You now must decide to either continue in the fashion of the old board or seize the opportunity before you.

As you are aware, my original plan contained a second resolution that called for Sir Michael Lyons and Axel Pawlik to be *appointed* (note, not "elected") as interim chair and deputy chair respectively. The Public Benefit campaign always sought to provide for a stable transition but Nominet refused to put the second resolution to a vote.

I've always wanted what is best for Nominet, so was buoyed by Mark Wood's statement yesterday;

"All of us on the Board recognise that we will need to make major changes – in the leadership of the company, its organisation, its focus and its direction of travel."

Following today's result, I am confident that you now understand the will of the members, whom you represent. Nominet has appointed interim directors previously so there seems no valid objection to appointing these 2 new interim directors now.

Sir Michael and Axel are willing and able to guide Nominet through this transitional period and to implement the campaign's five-point plan to restore trust between Nominet and its members. They clearly have the confidence and support of a significant proportion of the membership.

The attached letter shows they also have support of five of the founding members of Nominet who pledged their advice and time to the board under Sir Michael and Axel, should you confirm their appointment.

If you find yourself still opposed to the Public Benefit campaign objectives, you may wish to take the opportunity to consider your continuing involvement with Nominet, in the best interests of the membership and the company as a whole.

As Nominet approaches 25 years since it was founded, I very much hope that this action resets both the non-commercial purpose of Nominet and its positive relationship with members. I believe this is essential to secure a stable future for Nominet.

Members in support of the Public Benefit campaign fully acknowledge that now the hard work begins, and we are committed to seeing this restoration through. With your support, we can usher in a new era for Nominet, its membership, and the UK internet.

You have had 7 weeks to consider the outcome of the EGM so I have no doubt that you have already decided how you would like to proceed. Please make the board's decision public by 18:00 on Friday 26th March, so that we know where you stand.

Yours sincerely

Simon Blackler

P.S. Our expectation is that the board under Sir Michael and Axel will carry out a full consultation on voting rights as one of the first orders of business. Varying the voting rights cap without membership consultation would be viewed in the most unfavourable terms.



PUBLICBENEFIT.UK

The Directors
Nominet UK

22 March 2021

We, the undersigned, being Founders of Nominet UK, hereby pledge our commitment to support Sir Michael Lyons and Axel Pawlik if they are appointed to the board of Nominet UK, in whatever way we reasonably can with matters relating to the future of Nominet.

Richard Almeida (Mar 22, 2021 16:04 GMT)

Richard Almeida

William Black

Alex Bligh (Mar 22, 2021 20:07 GMT+1)

Alex Bligh
(in personal capacity)

K N Mitchell (Mar 22, 2021 10:13 EDT)

Keith Mitchell
(in personal capacity)

N R Titley (Mar 22, 2021 15:37 GMT)

Nigel Titley