

# IE Domain Registry CLG

trading as .ie

**Policy Advisory Committee – PAC #47  
Minutes – 05 February 2026 Meeting**



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# Minutes of the 47<sup>th</sup> Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting held on 05 February 2026

**Meeting Location:** Hybrid meeting: on Microsoft Teams and .ie Headquarters

**Meeting Time:** Called to order at 11:00 am by the PAC Chair.

**Members and representatives (non .ie staff) present:**

Chair
Asiera
Department of Culture, Communications, and Sport (DCCS)
Department of Enterprise, Tourism & Employment (DETE)
.ie Board Representative
.ie Accredited Registrar (Blacknight)
.ie Accredited Registrar (EuroDNS)
.ie Accredited Registrar (Hosting Ireland)
.ie Accredited Registrar (Markmonitor)

## 1. Introduction & Memberships Matters

### Minutes from PAC 46

- The Chair confirmed that the Minutes from PAC 45 were taken as read and published online following the meeting (available at <https://www.weare.ie/policy-development-process/>).

## 2. Matters arising

### 2.1 Legislative & Regulatory Updates

- The PAC Secretariat provided brief updates on the following:
  - The Spring 2026 Legislative Programme for Ireland was released since PAC 46 with no major new developments impacting the .ie Registry.
  - In Ireland, the e-Evidence Package was set to be transposed soon. Service providers (like the Registry and Registrars) were expected to register with a new competent authority by August 2026.

- At the EU level, the Cyber Security Act 2 (CSA2) proposed minor amendments to the NIS2 Directive, though none directly impacted the .ie Registry.
- A study on the feasibility of a domain name info alert system for Crafts & Industrial Goods was set to be published by June 2026.
- NIS2 developments were discussed later in the meeting.

## 2.2 Policy Updates – Proposal to Retire the .ie Charity Policy

- The PAC Secretariat proposed a work plan to assess the proposal to retire the .ie Charity Policy (introduced at PAC 46).
  - The PAC Secretariat proposed to prepare a report on the potential risks and mitigative measures to inform the PAC's decision by **30 April 2026**.
  - The PAC Secretariat proposed that other measures, such as an open consultation and forming a dedicated PAC Working Group, were unnecessary for the proposal.
  - The PAC Secretariat proposed seeking consensus on the proposal at **PAC 48 (14 May 2026)**.
- The PAC suggested that if the proposal is accepted, there should be careful public communication and gradual implementation to help mitigate risks.
- One PAC Member pointed out that the objective of the Charity Policy was to assist charities with growing their online presence and was potentially not needed anymore given its age.
- The PAC agreed the proposed Scope of Work was reasonable and appropriate.

## 3. Disputes and Abuse

### 3.1 Disputes

- The PAC Secretariat presented 2025 YTD figures on Alternative Dispute Resolution and WIPO cases. There were 8 recorded disputes that went through the Alternative Dispute Resolution process, and 10 disputes that went through a WIPO process.

### 3.2 Regulatory Requests

- The PAC Secretariat also reported on 2025 YTD requests for registrant data. There were 11 requests, 8 of which were from regulators or legal authorities. Only these requests were approved.

### 3.2 Technical Abuse

- The CEO of .ie presented on YTD figures from the NetCraft Service. Monthly figures ranged between **1** and **30** attacks by group. Phishing URLs were the most detected attack type.
- The CEO also sought views from Registrars on the PAC if their views on the Netcraft Service, and if there were any concerns with it.
  - Registrars reported they were generally satisfied with NetCraft's services but also reported issues such as conflating IP disputes with phishing, having a frustrating ticketing system, and general non-responsiveness.
  - Registrars suggested that the Registry could investigate other service providers in the future if they wanted to switch. One PAC Member suggested an open tender.

## 4. NIS2 – Directive on Security of Network & Information Systems (NIS2)

### 4.1 Status Updates

- The PAC Secretariat provided the following legislative updates on NIS2:
  - The Report on the Pre-Legislative Scrutiny for the *National Cyber Security Bill 2024* was still pending, and there had been significant concerns from civil society.
  - NIS2 enforcement would reportedly have an unofficial “ramping up period” according to officials.
  - The “TOBAR” portal for managing NIS2 Compliance had been announced by the National Cyber Security Centre.
  - At EU Level, a multi-stakeholder forum on internet standards deployment had been established. The Registry was present and encouraged others to take part.

## 5. Any Other Business & Next Meetings

- The remaining 2026 PAC Meetings were set for the following dates:
  - PAC 48: 14 May 2026
  - PAC 49: 20 August 2026
  - PAC 50: 26 November 2026