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RDS-WHOIS2-RT Plenary Call #47

28 January 2019



RDS/WHOIS2-RT Plenary Call Agenda

- 1. Welcome, roll-call, Sol
- 2. Review of Draft Report Updates
 - WHOIS1 Rec #1: Strategic Priority
 - WHOIS1 Rec #2: Single WHOIS Policy
 - WHOIS1 Rec #3: Outreach
 - WHOIS1 Rec #4: Compliance
 - WHOIS1 Recs #5-9: Data Accuracy
 - WHOIS1 Rec #11: Common Interface
 - Objective 5: Safeguarding Registrant Data
 - Objective 6: ICANN Contractual Compliance Actions, Structure and Processes
- A.O.B.



Review of Draft Report Updates

Agenda Item #2



p6

As outlined above, the ICANN CEO was furthermore instructed by the ICANN Board to oversee improvements to the enforcement of the contractual conditions relating to gTLD RDS (WHOIS) in the gTLD registry and gTLD registrar agreements. For an analysis of these aspects, please see the Section 8 of this report. We note that the CEO was instructed to oversee changes related to specific areas and not all of the changes recommended, but that was in fact done.

p9

1.2.2.6.1 Questions

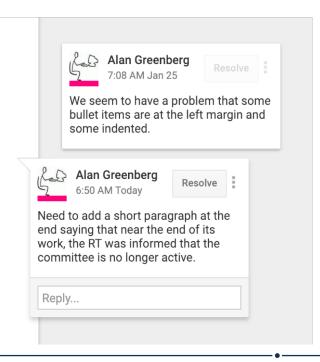
How often does staff report to the ICANN CEO or the ICANN Board on RDS (WHOIS) improvements and what form does that take? Are there any documents (internal reporting, meeting minutes, memos etc.) that can demonstrate compliance?

1.2.2.6.2 **Analysis**

According to feedback from ICANN organization, the ICANN Board receives CEO updates, on a trimester basis, on the status of ICANN's key organizational activities, including RDS (WHOIS) improvements. No documents were provided to demonstrate compliance.

1.2.2.7 Staff Incentivization

"Advancement of the WHOIS strategic priority objectives should be a major factor in staff incentivization programs for ICANN staff participating in the committee, including the CEO."





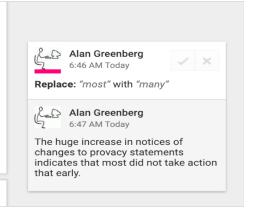
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ICANN's current focus on compliance with GDPR appears to indicate that the new regulation had caught ICANN unawares. Given the fact that the GDPR was initiated in 2012, and most-many global corporations acted promptly to ensure compliance as

⁹ https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/remuneration-practices-fy18-01jul17-en.pdf

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p11

These recommendations are aligned with As a result, while ICANN's Strategic Plan and Mission, which already seeks to reflect the strategic priority given to RDS (WHOIS), the but focus is too much on compliance and support for Community processes, rather than providing a real advance planning and strategy function within the ICANN Board and organization. As a result, while ICANN's Strategic Plan and Mission already seek to reflect the strategic priority given to RDS (WHOIS), the focus is too much on compliance and support for Community processes, rather than providing a real advance planning and strategy function within the ICANN Board and organization. Therefore, the recommendation failed to achieve its original aim of instilling a culture of proactive monitoring and improvements on RDS (WHOIS).



p11

1.2.4 Recommendations

Based on its analysis, members of this subgroup agree that this WHOIS1 recommendation has been partially implemented. Further recommendations are provided here to address the problems/issues identified above.

Recommendation numbers of the form Rx.n are recommendations that follow up on Recommendation x¹⁰ of the first WHOIS Review. Recommendations LE.n, SG.n, CM.n and BY.n are recommendations related to the new work done by the present review team under its investigations related to Law Enforcement, Safeguarding Registrant Data, Contractual Compliance and the Bylaw governing Specific Reviews.

Recommendation numbers of the form Rx.n are recommendations that follow up on Recommendation x¹¹ of the first WHOIS Review. Recommendations LE.n, SG.n, CM.n and BY.n are recommendations related to the new work done by the present review team under its investigations related to Law Enforcement, Safeguarding Registrant Data, Contractual Compliance and the Bylaw governing Specific Reviews.



¹⁰ In the case of R5.n, R12.n and R15.n, they are follow-up recommendation of the original R5-9, R12-14 and R15-16 respectively.

p12: R1.1/R1.2

Rationale:

The intent behind these recommendations is to ensure that ICANN as an organization is well placed to address future policy issues, that may arise from legislation or from community concerns.— It—It will be important to also take into account relevant non-legislative developments, such as soft policy measure will be important to also take into account relevant non-legislative developments, such as soft policy measures or sor guidance provided by guidance provided by authorities on the implementation of relevant legislation.

The issues identified could best be addressed by an improved implementation of the original recommendation. For these purposes, further elements are proposed in a re-shaped recommendation to provide concrete targets for the ICANN Board and organization.

The potential impact of not addressing the recommendation could created further situations of organizational unpreparedness, making it less possible to assume its responsibilities in a timely manner. Given the challenging process ahead as compliance with data protection rules and obligations under the Bylaws will take significant additional time, improved implementation could help the organization to better address such issues in the future.

These recommendations are aligned with ICANN's Strategic Plan and Mission, which already seeks to reflect the strategic priority given to RDS (WHOIS) but focus on compliance and support for Community processes, rather than providing a real advance planning and strategy function within the ICANN Board and Organization.



p13: R1.1/R1.2

Implementation:

The implementation has to be provided by the ICANN Board and leadership, with staff support. A successful implementation would consist of a comprehensive and clear comprehensive and clear revised Charter for an the an ICANN Board www.orking gCgroup on Registration Data Directory Services (BWC RDS), which, which should be should be created if not already ready in place place. This should be implemented as soon as possible and at the latest within 6 months. This could dovetail with ongoing efforts to ensure swift and constructive cooperation between the Board, ICANN leadership, and the GNSO representing the Expedited PDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. The www.orking gCroup puBWC RDS orking group would need to be supported by appropriate dedicated resources from ICANN, who would provide the requisite analysis of global policy developments and supply the ICANN Board with regular updates, which could also be shared with the full ICANN community.



p13: 1.3

Recommendation R1.3

The ICANN Board, in drafting, in drafting should update—the Charter of aa its—Board www.orking gCgroup on RDS, should, should to ensure the necessary transparency of the group's work, such as by providing for records of meetings and meeting minutes, to enable future review of its activities.

Findings:

It is difficult to assess the forward-looking nature of the work done by the previous BWG-RDS in the absence of any record of its activities.— The Board should conduct its work transparently and with the Community involvement of the Community and with Community involvement, rather than acting a alone in these matters which are of key importance to lone in these matters which are of key importance to lone in these matters which are of key importance to lone in these matters which are of key importance to the entire Community and beyond.



p14: 1.3

Rationale:

Given the strategic importance of RDS (WHOIS) and related activities, it is expected that the work of the previous relevant—BWG-RDS or any successor entity would be of interest to future reviews. or accountability and transparency of the work, an account on its activities needs to be created and made available to the ICANN Community.

Impact of Recommendation:

This recommendation impacts the ICANN Board members and ICANN Board support staff and ICANN Board support staff participating in anyany the BWG on RDS and ICANN support staff to the Board. It, and and increases itstheits administrative burden incumbent on the ICANN Board and its support staff.

Feasibility of Recommendation:

The recommendation would create a new administrative burden on the ICANN Board and on relevant support staff. However, given the limited burden of keeping of meeting records and the creation of minutes, its implementation should not be overly burdensome and is therefore considered feasible.

Implementation:

The implementation has to be provided by the ICANN Board, with staff support. A successful implementation could consist in a Charter providing for Charter providing for an obligation to create create records or summaries of Board Wworking gGroup ICANN BWC-RDS—Board working group meetings and corresponding meeting minutes, which the Board should resolve to create as soon as possible and at the latest within 6 months.



WHOIS1 Rec #2 – Single WHOIS Policy

p3

After 27 months of contentious deliberations on the Phase 1 portion of its road mapped work plan, Next-Generation gTLD RDS PDP WG meetings were <u>suspended until further</u> notice in

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April 2018¹. It is awaiting guidance regarding how this PDP would be affected by GDPR compliance efforts. Formal action to suspend or terminate this PDP, in accordance with Policy Development Process procedures, is now likely, given initiation of the Expedited PDP. The Next-Generation gTLD RDS PDP working documents are available for examination here.

¹ The PDP has since been terminated.



WHOIS1 Rec #2 – Single WHOIS Policy

p4

Finding:

The RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team's believes that had the plan been executed to completion, a single comprehensive RDS (WHOIS) policy could have emerged. In any event, the ICANN Board-adopted the Temporary Specification that the consensus policy expected to result from the Expedited PDP should form the basis for a single RDS (WHOIS) policy. It remains to be seen exactly what additional work, may be need to create a single comprehensive RDS (WHOIS) policy.

Summary Findings:

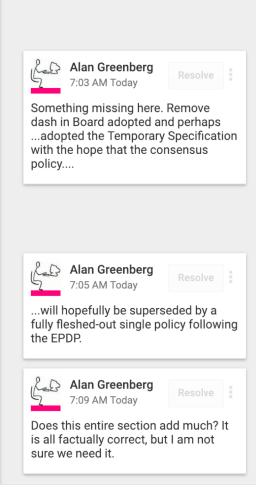
- The <u>webpage</u> is a good and sufficient substitute for the single authoritative RDS (WHOIS) policy document but navigational improvements and further organization of content could make it better.
- The GNSO EPDP chartered to address the Board-developed Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, will hopefully report a single fit-for-purpose gTLD RDS (WHOIS) policy for the first time, at last.
- When a single fit-for-purpose consensus gTLD RDS (WHOIS) policy has emerged, the RDS (WHOIS) website will be superseded by another digital artefact documenting this policy.

Research Findings:

The subgroup followed the timeline from the release of WHOIS1 Final Report to present current time. The RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team examined the responses to the WHOIS1

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WHOIS1 Rec #2 – Single WHOIS Policy

Final Report by ICANN constituencies, records of the ICANN Board's discussion on receipt of the WHOIS1 Final Report and its subsequent response, the Action Plan developed by ICANN Org Staff on the ICANN Board's direction, the subsequent published status reports of the Implementation Plan and the evidence of implementation. They RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team also examined the list of RDS (WHOIS)-related consensus policies and procedures that have emerged from the GNSO policy making activities between then and now as well.

In reporting their findings, the previous WHOIS1 Review Team noted that being guided by the explicit language in the AoC regarding the existence of a single document labeled "WHOIS Policy" and despite assurances of its existence, they could not, after diligent searching, find "a clear, concise, well-communicated WHOIS Policy."

The WHOIS1 Review Team acknowledged that they were able to find elements of "a WHOIS policy" in several places; they listed Registrar and Registry contracts, GNSO Consensus Policies and a Consensus Procedure, the IETF Requests for Comments (RFCs) and domain name history as sources. This evidence supports their finding that ICANN's RDS (WHOIS) policy remained "poorly defined and decentralized".

Their recommendation 2 flows from this finding; that the ICANN Board oversee the creation of a single RDS (WHOIS) Policy document and in that document, clearly detail the extant RDS (WHOIS) policies as are now contained in Registry and Registrar contracts and GNSO Consensus Policies and Procedure.

The ALAC, GNSO Constituencies and the SSAC submitted positive endorsements of the WHOIS1 Final Report. In its response, the SSAC noted ""the foundational problem facing all "WHOIS" discussions is understanding the purpose of domain name registration data", that "there is a critical need for a policy defining the purpose of collecting and maintaining registration data" and suggested that "the formation of a properly authorized committee to drive solutions to these questions first, and to then derive a universal policy from the answers, is the appropriate sequence of steps to address the WHOIS Review Team's report."

The ICANN Board called a special meeting to consider the Report. After due consideration of the WHOIS1 Final Report, and the comments from other interests, the ICANN Board directed the [ICANN] CEO to create and maintain a single public source. This source would that compiles current gTLD RDS (WHOIS) requirements for gTLD registries, registrars and registrants (including consensus policies and contractual conditions). It also resolved that the CEO initiate a process to rethink the entire RDS (WHOIS) framework from a fundamental place, taking due care to consider and establish the purpose for collecting and maintaining registration data.



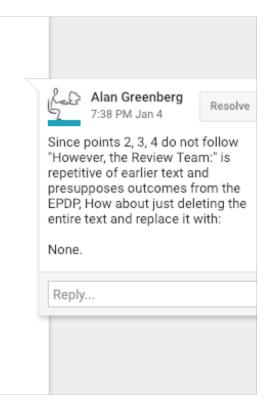
WHOIS1 Rec #1 – Single WHOIS Policy

p6

1.1.5 Recommendations

There were no objections from the RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team to decisions reached by this subgroup and there are no further recommendations. However, the review team:

- 1. Accepts that the WHOIS1 Review Team's Recommendation 2 is fully implemented.
- That the ICANN Board's motion to initiate and provide a framework for GNSO RDS PDP[s], using the EWG Report as input, is intended to deliver a holistic next generation RDS (WHOIS) policy framework That would address current set of fragmented and decentralized RDS (WHOIS) policies.
- Notwithstanding its temporary nature to be sunsetted in one (1) year that the Temporary Specification for RDS (WHOIS) promoted by the ICANN Board in May 2018 constitutes for the first time the framework for a single RDS (WHOIS) policy.
- That the EPDP raised by the GNSO to address the adoption or adaption of the Temporary Specification will, hopefully affirm a single RDS (WHOIS) policy at the end of its work.





WHOIS1 Rec #4: Outreach

Action item: Alan to clarify what specific improvements we are looking for.

Recommendation R3.1

The ICANN Board should direct the ICANN organization to update all of the information related to RDS (WHOIS) and by implication other information related to the registration of second-level gTLDs domains. The content should be revised with the intent of making the information readily accessible and understandable, and it should provide details of when and how to interact with ICANN or contracted parties. Although not the sole focus of this recommendation, interactions with ICANN Contractual Compliance, such as when filing WHOIS Inaccuracy Reports, should be a particular focus. The revision of this web documentation and instructional material should not be undertaken as a purely internal operation but should include users and potentially focus groups to ensure that the final result fully meets the requirements. The resultant outward facing documentation of registrant and RDS (WHOIS) issues should be kept up to date as changes are made to associated policy or processes.

Findings:

The recommendation to provide outreach was correctly interpreted in that significant RDS (WHOIS)-related documentation was required. Although the resultant Portal is somewhat lacking in navigation tools, it was generally very well done. The current topic headings on the Portal main page are suited to those who are looking for information on specific issues (that is, they already understand the basics) but could benefit from groupings aimed at novices looking for an introduction, or targeted at specific groups (such as current registrants). However, it—The Portal was not well integrated with other registrant-related information or with earlier RDS (WHOIS)-related documentation and tutorial efforts. Documentation related to WHOIS Inaccuracy Reports was noted as needed a particular focus.

R3.2: Action item: Add implementation note, that the RT does not have any input on ICANN budget.



WHOIS1 Rec #4: Compliance

Section and recommendation needs cleaning (Susan, Alan, Jackie)

Action item: Susan to clarify that ICANN will not go on fact-finding missions, but use the information they currently have on hand (input received).

Susan to clarify that Compliance enforces Registrars to enforce data accuracy for registrants.

Action item: Alan to add a paragraph on current situation pointing out the paradox of goodwill vs doing it properly. Add sentence on whether contractual compliance can verify compliance if they can't look at the data.



WHOIS1 Recs #5-9: Data Accuracy

Section needs revision (Lili, Alan, Jackie)

might ratio of type (viriolo) updating.

 The ARS project has only checked a small fraction of RDS (WHOIS) records (70,000), as compared to the <u>342.4 million registered domain names in Q3 201</u>8. The limprovement of RDS (WHOIS) data quality across the whole gTLD domain space is therefore still very limited.

<u>Suggestion of added text:</u> But the intent of the ARS was not to de facto improve accuracy but to report on it.



WHOIS1 Recs #5-9: Data Accuracy

Action item: Findings section needs revision

Recommendation R5.1

The Accuracy Reporting System, which was instituted to address concerns regarding RDS (WHOIS) contact data accuracy has demonstrated that there is still an accuracy concern and therefore such monitoring must continue. ICANN Org should continue to monitor accuracy and/or contactability through either the ARS or a comparable tool/methodology.

Findings:

The ARS had been the only proactive measure to improve RDS (WHOIS) data quality. As analyzed in subsection 1.1.3.2, the current data quality issue disclosed by ARS was outstanding, and the confirmed RDS (WHOIS) data inaccuracy rate across the gTLD domain space is still high (30~40%) even without identity accuracy check. The most common underlying cause was that the registrars failed to validate and verify RDS (WHOIS) data in the first place.

<u>Action item</u>: ICANN org to double-check the recommendation numbering to ensure comment was in response to recommendation 5-9 and adjust as needed.



WHOIS1 Rec #10 – Privacy/Proxy Services

The subgroup concludes that no new recommendations need to be proposed to the WHOIS1 Review Team's recommendation. However, as the IRT work has not concluded and seems delayed in its progress, the subgroup will track the PPSAI IRT's progress and will consider making one or more recommendation(s) if necessary. At this point, the subgroup has identified the following issues, based on the status of PPSAI policy implementation as of July 2018. These issues may be subject to updates as implementation continues.

Issue #1: The WHOIS1 Review Team's recommendation suggests as non-binding options using a mix of incentives and sanctions to encourage adoption by service providers and enforce this policy once implemented. ICANN and the IRT should be encouraged to discuss incentives, as the current focus of the program's envisioned implementation seems to solely rely on sanctions and fees. The RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team is concerned the current intent of ICANN is to fund the Privacy/Proxy service accreditation program solely by charging providers accreditation and annual fees comparable to the fees payable by ICANN accredited registrars. The RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team considers that such fees could be counterproductive to the overall goal of the program. The new policy requirements will create a cost barrier at a time when the use of such services is expected to decline due to the effects of GDPR and will likely cause low adoption of the accreditation program by providers.



Alan Greenberg
6:01 AM Jan 14

Resolve

I'm not sure if these changes alter the intent or not. But perhaps more important, "incentives" are implicitly non-binding and I do not understand the concept of a non-binding sanction. So is the non-binding phrase needed at all?

VOLKER??



Draft Report Updates

WHOIS1 Rec #11 – Common Interface

Text needs revision (Alan, Susan, Jackie).

Action item: Susan/Volker to clarify that this recommendation was not specifically aimed at compliance.

WHOIS1 Rec #12-14 – Internationalized Registration Data

Final version?

WHOIS1 Rec #15-16 – Plan & Annual Reports

Final version?



Draft Report Updates

Objective 2: Anything New

Final version?

Objective 3: Law Enforcement Needs

Action item: MSSI to estimate number of hours spent on the LE survey in response to NCSG request for estimated cost associated with conducting the survey.

Objective 4: Consumer Trust

Action item: Alan and Erika to update section.



Objective 5: Safeguarding Registrant Data

Action item: Alan to review supporting text for this recommendation, with an eye towards section 3.2 of the 2013 RAA and modify as needed.

Recommendation SG.1

The ICANN Board should require that the ICANN Organization, in consultation with data security and privacy expert(s), ensure that all contracts with contracted parties (to include Privacy/Proxy services when such contracts exist) include uniform and strong requirements for the protection of registrant data and for ICANN to be notified in the event of any data breach. The data security expert(s) should also consider and advise on what level or magnitude of breach warrants such notification.

In carrying out this review, the data security and privacy expert(s) should consider to what extent GDPR regulations, which many but not all ICANN contracted parties are subject to, could or should be used as a basis for ICANN requirements. The ICANN Board should initiate action intended to effect such changes. The ICANN Board should initiate action intended to effect such changes.

The ICANN Board should consider whether and to what extent notifications of breaches that it receives should be publicly disclosed.must either negotiate appropriate contractual changes or initiate a CNSO PDP to consider effecting such changes.¶ should consider whether and to what extent notifications of breaches that it receives should be publicly disclosed.



Objective 6: ICANN Contractual Compliance

Action item: Impact of GDPR section still needs to be completed. Several edits need Susan's review.

<u>Action item</u>: Alan and Volker to add more details to CM.2 to clarify the registrant fields being addressed in the recommendation. Additionally, the whole recommendation should be reworded to better convey intent.

Recommendation CM.2

The ICANN Board should initiate action intended to ensure that all gTLD domain name registration directory entries contain at least one full set of either registrant or admin contact details comparable to those required for new registrations under 2013 RAA (or any subsequent version thereof) or applicable policies. The ICANN Board should direct ICANN organization to assess grandfathered domain names to determine if information is missing from the RDS (WHOIS) Registrant field. If 10.15% of domain names are found to lack data in the Registrant field, then the ICANN Board should initiate action intended to ensure that all gTLD domain and greenberg dhere to the same registration data collection requirements within 12 months. The ICANN Board should initiate action intended to ensure that all gTLD domain name registration directory entries contain at least one full set of either registrant or admin contact details comparable to those required for new registrations under 2013 RAA (or any subsequent version thereof) or applicable policies.



Conclusions

- Confirm which chapters can be considered final and sent to translation
- Confirm whether updates address <u>ICANN org operational input</u> received in Brussels



A.O.B.

Agenda item #3



A.O.B.



Confirm Decisions Reached & Action Items



Appendix

Open Action Items



Level of priorities

<u>Action item</u>: Susan to evaluate each recommendation and Define priority level for each recommendation with some quick description. E.g. High, to be implemented by...

<u>Action item</u>: Susan to include brief statement that refers to timing envisioned for recommendations while highlighting some of the dependencies. Agreement to consider the six-month Bylaw window in assessments.

Report

Action item: Susan will listen to the meeting recording for conversation regarding language "The board should negotiate", and update the wording through the report consistently.

Executive Summary

<u>Action item</u>: History of WHOIS on ICANN's website. Erika to provide Jackie with the right content/references link so introduction section can be properly updated.



Background Section

Action item: Alan and Jackie review and modify the WHOIS Background section (in reference to the last bullet on slide # 40 of Day # 3 of F2F meeting)

WHOIS1 Rec #2: Single WHOIS Policy (Carlton)

Action item: Jackie to work with Alan to mention the problems of the policy development process regarding a single RDS (WHOIS), to be placed in the Executive Summary.

WHOIS1 Rec #3: Outreach (Alan)

R3.2:

Action item: Add implementation note, that the RT does not have any input on ICANN budget.



WHOIS1 Rec #4: Compliance (Susan)

Action item: Susan to clarify that ICANN will not go on fact-finding missions, but use the information they currently have on hand (input received).

Susan to clarify that Compliance enforces Registrars to enforce data accuracy for registrants.

<u>Action item</u>: Alan to add a paragraph on current situation pointing out the paradox of goodwill vs doing it properly. Add sentence on whether contractual compliance can verify compliance if they can't look at the data.

R4.1

<u>Action item</u>: Volker to provide language to update recommendation 4.1 based on RrSG and NCSG comments.

<u>Action item</u>: Susan to delete the portion of the recommendation that refers to sanctions and make a reference to it in the report text.

R4.2

<u>Action item</u>: Volker and Alan work on rewording R4.2 and add some metrics in for measurability and success of implementation.



WHOIS1 Recs #5-9: Data Accuracy (Lili/Cathrin)

R5.1:

Action item: ICANN org to double-check the recommendation numbering to ensure comment was in response to recommendation 5-9 and adjust as needed.

Action item: Findings section needs revision

WHOIS1 Rec #11: Common Interface (Susan/Volker)

<u>Action item</u>: Susan/Volker to clarify that this recommendation was not specifically aimed at compliance.

Objective 3: Law Enforcement Needs (Cathrin)

LE.1

Action item: MSSI to estimate number of hours spent on the LE survey in response to NCSG request for estimated cost associated with conducting the survey.

Action item: Cathrin to bring this recommendation to GAC's attention



Objective 4: Consumer Trust (Alan/Erika)

Action item: Alan and Erika to update section.

Objective 6: ICANN Contractual Compliance: Actions, Structure and Processes (Susan, Cathrin, Alan)

Action item: Impact of GDPR section still needs to be completed

CM1:

<u>Action item</u>: Alan to reword CM.1 so that it does not say "the Board should negotiate ...". The goal is to ensure the recommendation is not dictating a PDP but suggesting a change somehow.



CM2:

<u>Action item</u>: Alan and Volker to add more details to CM.2 to clarify the registrant fields being addressed in the recommendation. Additionally, the whole recommendation should be reworded to better convey intent.

Update as of 11 December 2018: Based on the updated recommendation and rationale language Volker provided on 11 December (Day # 2), Susan is to take the pen and update the relevant sections of the report accordingly.

Jackie to add in introduction, to the extent that Alan and Volker deliberations so far impact areas in our review.

