

Public notice of intention to apply for a gambling licence



Legislation

95. Public notice of intention to apply for gambling licence

1. A person shall, at least 28 days prior to making an application for a gambling licence or an application for renewal of a gambling licence, publish a notice of the person's intention to so apply and send a copy of the notice to the Authority.
2. A notice under subsection (1) shall contain such information, and be published in such places, including in newspapers and on websites, and in such form and manner, as may be specified by the Authority.
3. The Authority shall, as soon as practicable after receipt of a copy of a notice under subsection (1), publish the notice on its website.

Information for proposed licensees

The purpose of this guidance is to assist proposed licensees in preparing a notice of intention to apply for a gambling licence under section 95 of the Gambling Regulation Act 2024 (the "Act"). It sets out:

- ▶ what information must be included in a notice
- ▶ where notices must be published
- ▶ notice templates

What do I need to do?

All persons intending to apply for a gambling licence, or applying for the renewal of a gambling licence, must publish a public notice. A notice must be published at least 28 days before you apply for a gambling licence.

What must the notice include?

A notice must include:

- ▶ details of the proposed licensee,
- ▶ the type of licence being applied for and,
- ▶ in the case of an application for an in-person licence, a list of every premises to which the licence will apply.

There should be **one** notice for **each** licence application. If you are applying for an in-person licence to provide gambling activities at multiple premises, the notice may need to be published in multiple places. Please see the guidance below.

If any of the details included in the notice of intention are not mirrored in the licence application made to the Gambling Regulatory Authority of Ireland ("GRAI"), the licence application may be refused. In such cases, a new notice may need to be made reflecting the correct details which would require a fresh 28-day period. You must ensure that all information included in any notice is accurate and correct at the time of publication.

Where do I have to publish the notice?

Where you are applying for an **in-person licence to provide gambling activities at a premises**, you must publish the notice in a local newspaper circulating in the local authority area in which the premises is located. Publication in local newspapers will ensure that communities are informed of the gambling activity that is proposed for their area.

Where you are applying for an **in-person licence to provide gambling activities at multiple premises**, and these premises are spread across different local authority areas, you must publish the notice in local newspapers circulating in those local authority areas and in a national newspaper. A national newspaper means a daily newspaper circulating in the State.

Publication in a national newspaper in addition to local newspapers will provide increased visibility reflecting the broader geographical spread of the proposed licensee's operations.

Where you are applying for an **in-person licence to provide on course betting activities** at one or more relevant premises and nowhere else, you must publish the notice in a national newspaper only. A relevant premises is:

- ▶ a greyhound racetrack under the Greyhound Industry Act 1958
- ▶ an authorised coursing ground under the Greyhound Industry Act 1958
- ▶ an authorised racecourse under the Irish Horseracing Industry Act 1994
- ▶ a place at which a point-to-point steeplechase meeting is being held under the Irish Horseracing Industry Act 1994

Where you are applying for a **remote gambling licence**, you must publish the notice in a national newspaper only.

It is the responsibility of the proposed licensee to ensure that the selected local newspaper where the notice is published is circulating within the local authority area to which the licence application relates. There are 31 local authorities in Ireland. The local authority for your premises will be the county council, city council or city and county council responsible for the area in which the premises is located.

It is also the responsibility of the proposed licensee to ensure that the selected national newspaper is a daily newspaper circulating in the State.

Publication must be made in the physical and online editions of the local and national newspapers.

Once a notice has been published, a copy or copies must be sent to notices@portal.grai.ie as soon as practicable along with details of the newspaper where the notice was published and the date on which it was published. The GRAI will publish the notice on its website as soon as practicable after receipt.

The form of notice to be used, along with explanatory notes, are set out below.

Publication of notices in relation to in-person gambling licences

Where you are applying for an in-person gambling licence to provide a relevant gambling activity at a single premises or at less than four premises in a single local authority area, the notice must be published in a local newspaper circulating in that local authority area.

Where you are applying for an in-person gambling licence to provide a relevant gambling activity at multiple premises across multiple local authority areas or at four or more premises in a single local authority area, the notice must be published:

1. in a local newspaper; and
2. in a national newspaper.

A number of example scenarios are provided below to illustrate the requirements in relation to the publication of a notice:

Scenario 1

The proposed licensee is going to apply for an in-person gambling licence for one premises located in Carlow County Council's local authority area.

Notice publication required: notice published in a local newspaper circulating in Carlow County Council's local authority area listing the one premises. One total publication of the notice.

Scenario 2

The proposed licensee is going to apply for an in-person gambling licence for two premises located in Cavan County Council's local authority area.

Notice publication required: notice published in a local newspaper circulating in Cavan County Council's local authority area listing the two premises. One total publication of the notice.

Scenario 3

The proposed licensee is going to apply for an in-person gambling licence for four premises located in Clare County Council's local authority area.

Notice publication required: notice published in a local newspaper circulating in Clare County Council's local authority area listing the four premises and notice published in a national newspaper. Two total publications of the notice.

Scenario 4

The proposed licensee is going to apply for an in-person gambling licence for two premises, one located in Cork County Council's local authority area and one located in Donegal County Council's local authority area.

Notice publication required: notice published in a local newspaper circulating in Cork County Council's local authority area; notice published in a local newspaper circulating in Donegal County Council's local authority area; and notice published in a national newspaper. Three total publications of the notice.

Scenario 5

The proposed licensee is going to apply for an in-person gambling licence for 10 premises, with one premises in 10 different local authority areas across Ireland.

Notice publication required: notice published in a local newspaper circulating in each of the 10 local authority areas and one notice in a national newspaper. 11 total publications of the notice (this number may be reduced where the local newspaper(s) are circulating in multiple of the relevant local authority areas, i.e. in neighbouring local authority areas).

Scenario 6

The proposed licensee is going to apply for an in-person gambling licence for 100 premises, with at least one premises in each local authority area in Ireland. There are 31 local authorities in Ireland.

Notice publication required: notice published in a local newspaper circulating in each local authority area (31) and one notice in a national newspaper. 32 total publications of the notice (this number may be reduced where the local newspaper(s) are circulating in multiple of the relevant local authority areas, i.e. in neighbouring local authority areas).

Publication of notices in relation to on-course betting licences

Where you are applying for an in-person licence to provide on course betting activities at one or more relevant premises and nowhere else, the notice must be published in a national newspaper. A separate notice template is provided below and should be used if these circumstances apply to you.

Publication of notices in relation to remote gambling licences

Where you are applying for a remote gambling licence, the notice must be published in a national newspaper.

Notice Templates

Public notice of intention to apply for gambling licence

Notice is hereby given under section 95 of the Gambling Regulation Act 2024 that following the expiry of 28 days of the date of publication of this notice, [name of the proposed licensee] of [address of the proposed licensee's main office or place of business or registered address] (the "Proposed Licensee"), the Proposed Licensee intends to apply for a [business to consumer gambling licence[section 84(a)]] being [an in-person betting licence [section 85(1)(a)]] / [a remote betting licence [section 85(1)(b)]] / [a remote betting intermediary licence [section 85(1)(d)]] / [an in-person gaming licence [section 86(3)(a)]] / [a remote gaming licence [section 86(3)(b)]] / [an in-person lottery licence [section 87(3)(a)]] / [a remote lottery licence [section 87(3)(b)]]¹.

The gambling activity sought to be licensed is proposed to be provided by the Proposed Licensee from the following premises in the State:²

[address or information sufficient to enable clear identification of the location of the premises], situated in the local authority area of [name of local authority].³

Dated this [date of publication]

[Name of the individual responsible for publication of the notice]

On behalf of [name of the Proposed Licensee]

Public notice of intention to apply for in-person licence for betting from relevant premises only ("on course")

Notice is hereby given under section 95 of the Gambling Regulation Act 2024 (the "Act") that following the expiry of 28 days of the date of publication of this notice, [name of the proposed licensee] of [address of the proposed licensee's main office or place of business or registered address] (the "Proposed Licensee"), the Proposed Licensee intends to apply for a business to consumer gambling licence being an in-person betting licence.

The gambling activity sought to be licensed is proposed to be provided by the Proposed Licensee from relevant premises (within the meaning of section 2 (1) of the Act) only.

Dated this [date of publication]

[Name of the individual responsible for publication of the notice]

On behalf of [name of the Proposed Licensee]

1 Delete the licences that do not apply.

2 To be included where the application is for an in-person licence.

3 List every premises to which the licence will apply.

Údarás Rialála
Cearrbhachais
na hÉireann

Gambling
Regulatory
Authority
of Ireland