

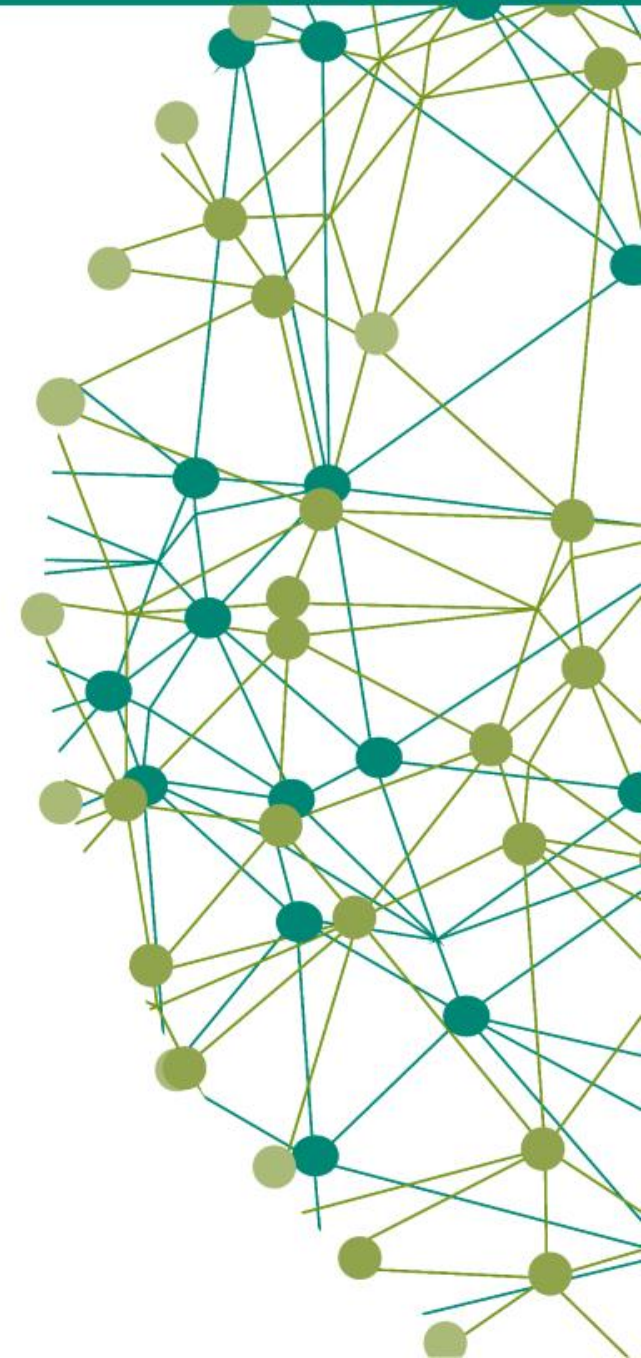


IE Domain Registry

# Policy Advisory Committee

20 February 2020

Meeting - PAC#23



# Policy Advisory Committee - Agenda



1. **Membership Matters – Apologies**
2. Minutes
3. Update:- proposal to modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact
4. New:- proposal relating to the handling of reserved/blocked .ie domain name
5. Presentation:- discussion relating to the handling of online abuse in the .ie namespace
6. Any Other Business
7. Next Meeting – PAC#24

# Policy Advisory Committee - Agenda



1. Membership Matters – Apologies
- 2. Minutes**
3. Update:- proposal to modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact
4. New:- proposal relating to the handling of reserved/blocked .ie domain name
5. Presentation:- discussion relating to the handling of online abuse in the .ie namespace
6. Any Other Business
7. Next Meeting – PAC#24

## 2. Minutes of the PAC #22 Meeting – 5 December 2019

- Meeting minutes are circulated to the membership within 2-3 working days of each meeting
- Comments/feedback accepted over a two week period
- If clarifications/edits are requested, and consensus exists, these are reflected in the Minutes
- Meeting minutes, and supporting slides, are published on IEDR.ie after the comment period has ended

### Meeting minutes of the 5 December 2019 (PAC#22):

- ❖ Published online at <http://www.iedr.ie/policy-development-process/>

# Policy Advisory Committee - Agenda



1. Membership Matters – Apologies
2. Minutes
- 3. Update:- proposal to modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact**
4. New:- proposal relating to the handling of reserved/blocked .ie domain name
5. Presentation:- discussion relating to the handling of online abuse in the .ie namespace
6. Any Other Business
7. Next Meeting – PAC#24

### 3. Update on the policy change proposal

To modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact

#### Recap:-

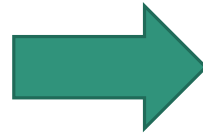
- Policy change proposal relates to the **abuse contact on the .ie WHOIS service**
- Currently an **optional** contact field – populated with an email address (set by Registrar)
- Email address can be used by the Public to report concerns of online abuse

# 3. Update on the policy change proposal

To modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact



## Sample WHOIS record



Domain: iedr.ie  
Domain Holder: IE Domain Registry CLG  
Admin-c: IH4-IEDR  
Tech-c: ITS2-IEDR  
Account Name: IEDR  
**Registrar Abuse Contact: abuse@iedr.ie**  
Registration Date: 16-March-1999  
Renewal Date: 01-January-2025  
Holder-type: NonBillable  
Locked status: N  
Renewal status: Active  
In-zone: 1  
Nserver: ns0.iedr.ie 77.72.74.133 2a01:4b0:0:6::5  
Nserver: ns2.iedr.ie 77.72.78.88 2a01:4b0:2:2::88  
Nserver: e.ns.ie  
Nserver: f.ns.ie  
Nserver: ns.heanet.ie  
Nserver: a.ns.ie  
Nserver: b.ns.ie

### 3. Update on the policy change proposal

To modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact

#### Recap continued:-

- Policy change proposal would:-
  - ✓ make abuse contact a **mandatory** field
  - ✓ alter how “abuse” is **defined** within the WHOIS Policy
- PAC found broad **consensus** for policy change request at PAC#20
- 30-day **consultation** held with Registrar channel



### 3. Update on the policy change proposal

To modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact

- ❖ The proposal was submitted:-
  - to promote and mandate **uptake** of the abuse contact field
  - to provide a **reliable channel** for the submission of abuse reports
  - to enable Registrars to be **notified** of abuse concerns, providing them with the opportunity to manage potential abuses on their servers/platforms
  
- ❖ The mandatory use of abuse contacts:-
  - reflects industry best practice
  - is a beneficial, consumer protection feature

### 3. Update on the policy change proposal

To modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact

#### Stakeholder Consultation (Registrars)

- 30-day **consultation** launched on 2 September, ended 1 October '19
- 7 responses were received
- Feedback was highly favourable to the proposed change

### 3. Update on the policy change proposal

To modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact

#### PAC # 22:

- PAC issued recommendation for the implementation of proposal to the IEDR Board of Directors

#### Update:

- IEDR Board of Directors approved policy change request in December 2019
- IEDR is now working on implementation:
  - IEDR will issue comms. to Registrars within 2 weeks, giving notice of implementation date
  - IEDR will publish updated WHOIS Policy on website at least 30-days before implementation

# Policy Advisory Committee - Agenda



1. Membership Matters – Apologies
2. Minutes
3. Update:- proposal to modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact
- 4. New:- proposal relating to the handling of reserved / blocked .ie domain name**
5. Presentation:- discussion relating to the handling of online abuse in the .ie namespace
6. Any Other Business
7. Next Meeting – PAC#24

## 4. Update on the Discovery Group reviewing the handling of reserved / blocked names

### Recap:

- ❖ PAC acknowledged the need for enhanced determinism, consistency and clarity:
  - some names appeared as self-registered to IEDR to ensure they were unavailable for registration (to avoid confusion - uk.ie)
  - other names appeared as available, when they weren't geographical place names e.g. Thurles.ie

## 4. Update on the Discovery Group reviewing the handling of reserved / blocked names

### Recap:

- ❖ A number of potential, **suitable policy responses** were identified
- ❖ Discovery Group was **setup** to review and discuss these options
- ❖ Discovery Group engagement has developed **consensus** on elements of a potential approach

# 4. Update on the Discovery Group reviewing the handling of reserved / blocked names

Discovery Group has developed broad, emerging consensus that an appropriate response should:-

- ❖ be based on the principles of **transparency**, **quality of information** and a **mechanism to “apply”** for a reserved domain name
- ❖ adopt the “EURid (.eu) approach”
  - Avoid the introduction of a dedicated Reserve Name Policy
  - Address “reserved”/”blocked” names in the “availability” provisions within .ie Registration & Naming Policy
  - Publish a non-exhaustive list of ”blocked”/”reserved” names
  - Publish user-friendly materials, such as leaflets, with guidance on why/how such names are handled
  - Introduce a defined, transparent procedure for facilitating requests to “apply” for “blocked”/”reserved” names

# 4. Update on the Discovery Group reviewing the handling of reserved / blocked names



## Discovery Group found strong consensus for:

- ❖ **Use of labels** such “blocked”, “reserved”, similar to those used by EURid (.eu)
  - to distinguish the applicable grounds for blocking/reserving names
  - clarifying that names labelled as blocked/reserved (on the relevant list) aren’t “available” for registration
- ❖ IEDR to block names for **security reasons**. Such names will not be published on any publicly available list
- ❖ .ie domains intended for **potential future commercial use** by the Registry would be treated as normal registrations, rather than as blocked/reserved names. In line with standard practice, these names will show IE Domain Registry as the domain holder on WHOIS



# 4. Update on the Discovery Group reviewing the handling of reserved / blocked names

## Definitions

### Reserved Names

- Names historically protected by the Registry for various reasons
- Names not available for registration through the standard first come, first served process
  - Those with an overriding public interest in the name can apply through the special registration process

### Blocked Names

- Names that are **not** permitted for registration, including:
  - ❖ Names that were “**shelved**” as part of a legal dispute
  - ❖ Names blocked on **consumer protection grounds** (registration could **lead to confusion or be misleading**)
  - ❖ Names blocked for **technical/security grounds**)

# Reserved .ie Domain Names



## \*NOTE

Reserved List*
dennisjennings.ie
elliptic.ie
government.ie
kid.ie
mise.ie
pdn.ie
peticulargrooming.ie
pin.ie
porn.ie
school.ie
webprofessional.ie
web-professional.ie
webprofessionals.ie
web-professionals.ie

These names are currently registered to the IEDR.

The Discovery Group is reviewing the proposed design of a procedure for interested parties to request to register reserved names.

Separately, should IEDR voluntarily decide to release a name from the .ie Reserved Name list, it will reserve the right to either auction the name or to allow it to expire via the non-renewal process.

In such instances, a notice will be published on the IEDR website providing 30-days notice of the intended change.

# Blocked .ie Domain Names: Non-technical/security reasons \*\*



Legal Dispute	Two Letter Names	Consumer Protection
<b>*Rationale: "Shelved" following dispute</b>	<b>Rationale: Avoid confusion/misleading</b>	<b>Rationale: Avoid confusion/misleading</b>
office1.ie	co.ie	info.ie
	ds.ie	int.ie
	ec.ie	mil.ie
	ei.ie	mobi.ie
	eu.ie	net.ie
	ie.ie	arpa.ie
	ip.ie	com.ie
	ir.ie	org.ie
	me.ie	
	ni.ie	
	rr.ie	
	uk.ie	
	us.ie	

\*Note  
- "Shelving" is no longer available as a mechanism for remediation in disputes.

- This follows a review under the .ie policy development process, during discussions on the policy change request to introduce an Alternative Dispute Resolution Policy.

# .ie Domains registered to IEDR...



IE Domain Registry

allinthename.ie	iedr-cofunding.ie	irishnationaldomainregistry.ie	name.ie
allinthenames.ie	iedrtd.ie	irishregistrars.ie	nationaldomainregistry.ie
auctionmy.ie	iedr-optimize.ie	irish-registrars.ie	nationalregistry.ie
auctionyour.ie	ienic.ie	irishregistrations.ie	optimize-iedr.ie
buyandsellmy.ie	ieregistrar.ie	irish-registrations.ie	registrarof.ie
buyandsellyour.ie	ie-registrar.ie	irishregistry.ie	registry.ie
buymy.ie	ieregistrars.ie	irish-registry.ie	registryof.ie
cctld.ie	ie-registrars.ie	irishtld.ie	renewmydot.ie
claimthename.ie	éire.ie	irishwhois.ie	securemyname.ie
domainregistry.ie	domainregistry2.ie	itsallinthename.ie	secureyourdomain.ie
domain-registry.ie	wpad.ie	itsmydomain.ie	sellmy.ie
domainregistrytld.ie	testbed.ie	itsmyname.ie	sheis.ie
domains.ie	ieregistry.ie	itsyourname.ie	subdomains.ie
eire.ie	ie-registry.ie	liberalisation.ie	sub-domains.ie
eireregistry.ie	ietld.ie	liberalization.ie	thomainname.ie
finalcall.ie	iewhois.ie	mydomainname.ie	tld.ie
getyourdomain.ie	iezone.ie	myecomkit.ie	trademy.ie
getyourname.ie	ie-zine.ie	myecommkit.ie	tradeyour.ie
heis.ie	inside.ie	idn.ie	uwhois.ie
iecctld.ie	internetday.ie	iedrpi.ie	weare.ie
iedomainregistry.ie	internic.ie	iedrtest.ie	whois.ie
iedomains.ie	inthename.ie	ns.ie	whoisdot.ie
iedr.ie	ipv6.ie	supportdocs.ie	why.ie
		////////////////////	
		////////////////////	
i-e-d-r.ie	irish.ie	zzz.ie	yourdomainname.ie

ENUM - Commercial Project	
enum.ie	enumregistrations.ie
e-num.ie	enumregistry.ie
enumdomain.ie	enum-registry.ie
enum-domain.ie	enums.ie
enumdomainregistry.ie	enumtld.ie
enumdomain-registry.ie	enum-tld.ie
enum-domainregistry.ie	enumwhois.ie
enum-domain-registry.ie	enum-whois.ie
enumdomains.ie	ienum.ie
enum-domains.ie	myenum.ie
enumireland.ie	my-enum.ie
enum-ireland.ie	num.ie
enumnic.ie	registrarofenum.ie
enum-nic.ie	registrar-of-enum.ie
enumreg.ie	registryofenum.ie
enum-reg.ie	registry-of-enum.ie
enumregistrar.ie	tier1registry.ie
enum-registrar.ie	tier1-registry.ie
enumregistrars.ie	tier2registrar.ie
enum-registrars.ie	tier2registrars.ie
enum-registrars.ie	tier2registrars.ie

## 4. Update on the Discovery Group reviewing the handling of reserved / blocked names



**As full consensus for an appropriate policy response was identified at PAC #22**

- Formal policy change proposal submitted in accordance with .ie policy development process
- Discovery Group expected to transition to Working Group
- Working Group will continue review of proposal and implementation-matters

## 4. Update on the Discovery Group reviewing the handling of reserved / blocked names



### Discovery Group has also full consensus for the following:-

- ❖ Introduction of a defined, transparent procedure for facilitating requests to “apply” for reserved names
  - Available to those with a legitimate, overriding interest in the name
  - Provided by the Registry
  - Consensus – not appropriate to offer this via automated functionality on Registrar systems

## 4. Update on the Discovery Group reviewing the handling of reserved / blocked names

### Proposed process:

- ❖ The interested party would submit web-form on [www.iedr.ie](http://www.iedr.ie) with relevant supporting info
- ❖ IEDR Registration Services will review and issue decision
- ❖ If interested party has further information it wishes to have considered, matter will be considered by IEDR Mgmt.
  - If approved, the interested party can submit the registration order with a Registrar (re-assign)
  - If refused, the interested party may submit an appeal to the IEDR Board of Directors
  - If refused by the Board, the domain remains reserved

# 4. Update on the Discovery Group reviewing the handling of reserved / blocked names



## Next Steps:

### Discovery Group will continue to discuss:-

- ❖ **Procedure to request to register reserved names**
- ❖ **Minimal Policy edits arising from the proposed policy response**  
To be circulated by the Secretariat, including “label” definitions, for discussion/refinement
- ❖ **User-friendly materials, including leaflets**  
To be drafted and circulated by the Secretariat for discussion/refinement.
- ❖ **Present recommendations at next PAC meeting**



# Policy Advisory Committee - Agenda



1. Membership Matters – Apologies
2. Minutes
3. Update:- proposal to modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact
4. New:- proposal relating to the handling of reserved / blocked .ie domain name
- 5. Presentation:- discussion relating to the handling of online abuse in the .ie namespace**
6. Any Other Business
7. Next Meeting – PAC#24

# 5. Update on the discussion on the handling of abuse in the .ie namespace

## PAC#22 Meeting Action Item:

During discussions at PAC #22, it was suggested that:

- **the PAC would benefit from a discussion with representatives from the Gardaí regarding -**
  - what problems they are having with tackling online abuse (particularly with .ie names)
  - which crimes they wish to tackle
  - what frictions they're experiencing with “normal” channels for suspension/takedown

## Update:

- A member of Garda National Cyber Crime Bureau has kindly agreed to present on this matter today.....
- Q&A will follow with participants from Garda National Cyber Crime Bureau and Economic Crime Bureau.

# Policy Advisory Committee - Agenda



1. Membership Matters – Apologies
2. Minutes
3. Update:- proposal to modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact
4. New:- proposal relating to the handling of reserved / blocked .ie domain name
5. Presentation:- discussion relating to the handling of online abuse in the .ie namespace
- 6. Any Other Business**
7. Next Meeting – PAC#24

# 6. Any Other Business

- a) Updates on the cessation of the direct registration service
- b) Update on industry related developments / legislative changes

# 6. Updates on the planned removal of the Direct Registration Channel



## **RECAP** Background: Direct Registrant Channel

- Exists for those wishing to register a .ie domain without help of an accredited .ie Registrar
- 1-Year Registration/Renewal Cost: €62 ex. VAT
- “Registrar of Last Resort”
- IEDR does not provide any additional services to Directs (e.g. hosting, email, web dev)
- Console for Directs was substantially upgraded in 2012/13

*Tech development, customisation, testing was expensive, resource-demanding*

- The Direct Registrant channel has experienced **significant decline** in recent years... *(see next slide)*

# 6. Updates on the planned removal of the Direct Registration Channel



## RECAP Background: Direct Registrant Channel (continued)

### Direct registrations

12 months to:-	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sept 2019 YTD
<b>New Regs - Direct</b>	606	285	210	146	157	141	112	94	85	47
<b>New Regs - Total</b>	36,587	39,398	33,482	32,154	31,072	35,225	34,615	39,523	51,040	38,797
<b>% of Total new registrations</b>	1.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%

At 31 December:-	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	30-Sep-19
<b>Direct Db</b>	5,096	4,562	3,996	3,370	3,081	2,733	2,509	2,371	2,308	2,202
<b>Total Db</b>	154,918	174,777	184,377	187,269	198,191	210,839	221,871	237,412	262,140	277,471
<b>% of Total .ie database</b>	3.3%	2.6%	2.2%	1.8%	1.6%	1.3%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%

# 6. Updates on the planned removal of the Direct Registration Channel



## RECAP Why is this being proposed?

- **Significant decline** in direct registrations in recent years
- No evidence that Direct Registrant channel needed (changing Registrar landscape):-
  - **Choice:** there are currently over 130 accredited .ie Registrars, providing a range of professional services, with varying fees and accessible platforms
  - **Expertise:** Mix of national and international Registrars, many ICANN accredited, and some offering specialist services, such as brand protection etc.
- Analysis indicates there are **no adverse issues / risks to consumers** from this service withdrawal
- IEDR cannot grow its direct portfolio, given its self-imposed restrictions on marketing/promotion

# 6. Updates on the planned removal of the Direct Registration Channel



## How will this service be withdrawn?

### Consensus found at PAC#22 for IEDR to:

- Advise Direct customers of the planned removal of the service,  
(giving an appropriate notice period, and advising of options/rights)
- Sell the portfolio to an existing accredited .ie Registrar



# 6. Updates on the planned removal of the Direct Registration Channel



## Updates:

- **Direct customers notified on 5 Feb 2020 of IEDR plan to exit service**
  - Directs were also informed of options and rights
- **Validated Registrars are bidding in a closed auction to purchase the direct portfolio**
  - Standard, good governance rules are applicable to the tender process
  - Auction is operated by independent third party, Grant Thornton (GT)
  - IEDR will be informed of the identity of the winning bidder by GT

# Policy Advisory Committee - Agenda



1. Membership Matters – Apologies
2. Minutes
3. Update:- proposal to modify .ie WHOIS Policy with respect to mandating use of the abuse contact
4. New:- proposal relating to the handling of reserved / blocked .ie domain name
5. Presentation:- discussion relating to the handling of online abuse in the .ie namespace
6. Any Other Business
- 7. Next Meeting – PAC#24**



IE Domain Registry

# Next Meeting

PAC # 24

**11 June 2020**