



Office of the Director of
**Telecommunications
Regulation**

Geographic Numbering Applications

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Geographic Numbering Applications

1. Introduction

This document outlines the procedure to be used to apply for geographic number allocations, with effect from 1st December 1998.

This is not a legal document. The Director may amend it from time to time. This document is without prejudice to the legal position and to the rights and duties of the Director to regulate the market generally.

2. Background

From 1st December 1998, restrictions on the provision of telecommunications services in Ireland will be removed, and a new licensing regime for telecommunications service providers will become effective. Telecommunications service providers will be required to hold a licence under section 111(2) of the Postal and Telecommunications Services Act, 1983 (24 of 1983). Further information on the licensing regime may be obtained on the ODTR website: <http://www.odtr.ie/>

In March of 1998 the Director published a consultation document on telephone numbering (ODTR doc 98/09), and following this consultation, a decision notice was issued in July 1998 (ODTR D2/98). This document outlined the principles which will be used for numbering in a liberalised environment, and also addressed the requirements for numbering of new emerging telecommunications services.

An interim advisory group – the “Task Force on Numbering” has also been established to advise the Director on certain numbering questions. The Task Force (TFN) has considered a question regarding geographic numbering areas, and provided a recommendation to the ODTR.

In order to facilitate network preparations in advance of 1st December 1998, the Director has already made allocations of Geographic numbers to service providers. These allocations were made in accordance with the procedures established in ODTR doc. 98/41. These allocations have been made under the VAS licencing scheme. Any allocations made under this scheme will be re-allocated to the licensee after 1st December on issue of an appropriate new licence. Otherwise these allocations will be recovered when the VAS licences expire on 30th June 1999.

3. Numbering Areas

One of the key features of the geographic numbering scheme is the association of numbers with certain geographic areas. This is necessary for telecommunications service providers to determine call tariffs, and also makes the numbering scheme more user friendly to consumers. In decision notice D2/98, the ODTR stated that it will continue to associate blocks of numbers with geographic locations, and the leading digits of the numbers will identify the blocks and relevant numbering areas.

The country has traditionally been divided into 128 numbering areas. Annex 1 to this document specifies the name of each area, the relevant NDC¹, the number length, and also the size of block which will be allocated in each area. ODTR document 98/42 is a book of maps, which defines the boundaries of each area. Each number block which is allocated will be associated with a single numbering area, and may only be used within the boundaries of that area.

The TFN has recommended that the existing minimum numbering areas should remain unchanged, unless or until over-riding considerations arise in the future to change this position. The Director has decided that in the immediate future, the geographic numbering areas will remain as defined in ODTR doc 98/42, subject to clarification of boundary details as required.

4. Eligibility Requirements

Only holders of a General Telecommunications Licence (as defined in doc ODTR 98/44) will be eligible to apply for geographic numbering allocations.

5. Justification of Requirements

As the amount of numbers available within each numbering area is limited, each applicant will be required to provide adequate information in its application to satisfy the ODTR that the allocation sought is justified. Supporting information should include the following:

- evidence of technical capabilities for the implementation of services. This would include the existence of physical infrastructure in the relevant numbering areas, or definite arrangements for the provision of or access to such infrastructure

and/or

¹ NDC = National Destination Code

- evidence of an existing customer base, or a base of potential customers who have expressed interest in the services, in each area
- a summary of the marketing plan for the services planned including launch dates
- a forecast of expected utilisation of numbers over a period of at least one year
- any other information deemed by the applicant to be relevant to support their application

6. Allocation Procedure

The processing of applications will be initiated on a *first come first served* basis, subject to adequate information being provided in the application. Failure to provide adequate information may result in processing of the application being delayed.

7. Further Applications

Applications for additional allocations may be made at any time. In this case, the Licensee will be required to provide information regarding utilisation of any geographic numbers previously allocated to them. These applications will be processed by the ODTR using the same procedure as for the initial allocation.

8. Number Portability

The term *number portability* is used to refer to two distinct situations, i.e.

- Number Mobility - where the customer can change address without changing telephone number. Number mobility is permitted only within each numbering area boundary as defined in ODTR document 98/42
- Operator Portability - where the customer can change operator, or service provider without changing number. Operator Portability will become mandatory from 1st January 2000.

9. Allocation Conditions

Each licensee who is allocated geographic number blocks will be required to comply with all the conditions in the license, including subsequent amendments, numbering plans and numbering conventions relating to the allocation and use of numbers. In addition, specific conditions may apply to particular numbers or number ranges. These conditions will be communicated to the Licensee at the time of allocation.

At present, there is no charge for number block allocations made to licensees. This situation may change in the future. The licensee shall not charge subscribers for allocations of numbers except in accordance with any direction from the Director authorising charges.

The licensee shall comply with any directions issued by the Director relating to the allocation of numbers.

10. Submission of Applications

Applications for geographic number allocations should be made using the summary sheet attached at Annex 1, and should include relevant supporting information. Applications should be clearly marked “**Numbering Application**” and should be addressed to:

Office of the Director of Telecommunications Regulation,
Abbey Court,
Irish Life Centre,
Lower Abbey Street,
Dublin 1.

Applications may be made by e-mail to: <mailto:numapps@odtr.ie>

11. Expiry of Allocations

All numbering allocations expire on expiry of the licence under which they were issued. Numbering allocations may also be recovered before expiry of the licence, if:

- the licensee has breached a condition of allocation
- the licence has been revoked
- otherwise in accordance with the national numbering scheme or numbering conventions.

Annex 1.

Geographic Numbering Applications

Name of Licensee _____

License number _____

Summary of Application

NDC	Numbering Area	Block Size (x1,000 No.s)	Subscriber Number Length	Number of Blocks Required
1	Dublin	10	7	
1	Balbriggan	10	7	
1	Dunboyne	10	7	
1	Celbridge	10	7	
1	Greystones	10	7	
21	Cork	10	7	
21	Coachford	10	7	
21	Kinsale	1	7	
21	Middleton	1	7	
22	Mallow	1	5	
23	Bandon	1	5	
24	Youghal	1	5	
25	Fermoy	1	5	
26	Macroom	1	5	
27	Bantry	1	5	
28	Skibbereen	1	5	
29	Kanturk	1	5	
402	Arklow	1	5	
404	Wicklow	1	5	
405	Enfield	1	5	
405	Edenderry	1	5	
41	Drogheda	10	7	
41	Ardee	10	7	
42	Dundalk	1	7	
42	Carrickmacross	1	7	
42	Castleblaney	1	7	
43	Longford	1	5	

Geographic Numbering Applications

NDC	Numbering Area	Block Size	Subscriber Number Length	Number of Blocks Required
43	Granard	1	5	
44	Mullingar	1	5	
44	Moyvore	1	5	
44	Castlepollard	1	5	
44	Tyrellspass	1	5	
44	Killucan	1	5	
45	Naas	10	6	
45	Kildare	10	6	
45	Curragh	10	6	
46	Navan	1	5	
46	Kells	1	5	
46	Nobber	1	5	
46	Trim	1	5	
47	Monaghan	1	5	
47	Clones	1	5	
49	Cavan	1	7	
49	Cootehill	10	7	
49	Oldcastle	10	7	
49	Belturbet	10	7	
502	Portlaoise	1	5	
502	Abbeyleix	1	5	
503	Carlow	1	5	
503	Muine Bheag	1	5	
504	Thurles	1	5	
504	Templemore	1	5	
505	Roscrea	1	5	
506	Tullamore	1	5	
506	Clara	1	5	
507	Athy	1	5	
508	Baltinglass	1	5	
509	Portumna	1	5	
509	Birr	1	5	
509	Banagher	1	5	
51	Waterford	1	6	
51	Carrick-on-Suir	1	6	
51	New Ross	1	6	
51	Kilmacthomas	1	6	
51	Wellington Bridge	1	6	
52	Clonmel	1	5	
52	Cahir	1	5	
52	Killenaule	1	5	

Geographic Numbering Applications

NDC	Numbering Area	Block Size	Subscriber Number Length	Number of Blocks Required
53	Wexford	1	5	
54	Enniscorthy	1	5	
54	Ferns	1	5	
55	Gorey	1	5	
56	Kilkenny	1	5	
56	Castlecomer	1	5	
56	Freshford	1	5	
58	Dungarvan	1	5	
61	Limerick	10	6	
61	Scariff	10	6	
61	Shannon Airport	10	6	
61	Killaloe	1	6	
61	Adare	1	6	
61	Cappamore	1	6	
62	Tipperary	1	5	
62	Cashel	1	5	
63	Charleville	1	5	
64	Killarney	1	5	
64	Rathmore	1	5	
65	Ennis	10	7	
65	Ennistymon	10	7	
65	Killrush	10	7	
66	Tralee	1	7	
66	Dingle	1	7	
66	Killorglin	1	7	
66	Cahiriveen	1	7	
67	Nenagh	1	5	
68	Listowel	1	5	
69	Newcastle West	1	5	
71	Sligo	1	5	
71	Ballymote	1	5	
72	Manorhamilton	1	5	
73	Donegal	1	5	
74	Letterkenny	1	5	
74	Ramelton	1	5	
74	Lifford	1	5	
75	Dungloe	1	5	
77	Buncrana	1	5	
78	Carrick-on-Shannon	1	5	
78	Drumshambo	1	5	
79	Boyle	1	5	

Geographic Numbering Applications

NDC	Numbering Area	Block Size	Subscriber Number Length.	Number of Blocks Required
902	Athlone	1	5	
902	Banagher	1	5	
903	Roscommon	1	5	
905	Ballinasloe	1	5	
907	Castlereagh	1	5	
907	Ballaghaderreen	1	5	
91	Galway	10	6	
91	Gort	10	6	
91	Loughrea	10	6	
92	Ballinrobe	1	5	
93	Tuam	1	5	
94	Castlebar	1	5	
94	Claremorris	1	5	
94	Swinford	1	5	
95	Clifden	1	5	
96	Ballina	1	5	
97	Belmullet	1	5	
98	Westport	1	5	
99	Kilronan	1	5	