

Isle of Man eGaming

The Isle of Man has established itself as a leading jurisdiction for the location, regulation and administration of online gaming companies.

The Island is home to many influential operators, has a significant industry cluster and represents 17 per cent of the Manx economy.

Why the Isle of Man?

- First jurisdiction to license blockchain betting products
- Skins betting permissible
- Cryptocurrency fully regulated and available for operators to offer
- Politically stable Government commitment to the eGaming sector
- Fast and transparent licensing process
- Low betting duty on Net Gaming Yield
- World-leading player protection solutions
- Government financial assistance through grants, loans and equity investment
- Double Duty Relief for EU players
- An extensive clustering of service providers and advisers
- World-class telecommunications infrastructure, bandwidth and power resilience
- An experienced and qualified workforce in ancillary activities such as marketing, software and IT providers
- Supportive legislation making the Isle of Man an ideal location for disaster recovery
- 0 per cent corporation tax, no capital gains tax, no inheritance tax, attractive personal tax rates with high tax allowances and with income tax payable per year capped at £125,000 for individuals.

The application process

The process involves gathering detailed information and documentation relating to the proposed business strategy, its management, operating structure, key service agreements, banking arrangements, player funds protection and anti-money laundering procedures.

Relevant experience in the industry needs to be demonstrated by the key individuals involved in the business. Due diligence documentation together with a detailed personal declaration form must be provided in respect of all parties involved.

A minimum of two Isle of Man resident directors are required to ensure mind and management is maintained on the Isle of Man. One of the resident directors must be capable of being appointed as the Designated Officer or the Operations Manager. The responsibilities of these roles are fairly extensive and cannot be entered into lightly.



If you intend to use an Isle of Man approved software provider exclusively, it may be possible for you to apply for a sub-licence rather than a full licence. The annual licence fee for a sub-licence is substantially less than for a full licence but the application process, with the exception of software testing and the requirements for due diligence to be carried out in respect of the software provider, is essentially the same.

Once the relevant documentation is submitted to the Gambling Supervision Commission, however comprehensive the application is, the next stage usually involves a number of communications with the GSC in response to queries arising from an initial review of the application. This precedes the setting of a date for a formal hearing with the Commission at which it is necessary for the directors and/or the local representatives to respond to additional questions needed to support the application.

Following the formal hearing the Commissioners may approve the application outright or approve it subject to certain conditions. The latter is more common and the licence will not be granted until all of conditions are met.

The application process should take approximately two months from the initial submission of the relevant documentation, through to approval (with or without conditions).

How ILS World can help

eGaming is a global high-speed industry and ILS World has developed specialist knowledge and skills to keep pace with the sector. We have a number of GSC approved directors and we are adept at dealing with new opportunities and gaining approval for appropriate licenses in the Isle of Man and elsewhere.

ILS World enjoys a strong working relationship with the GSC and the Department of Enterprise which helps facilitate and support the application process.

Our team consists of dedicated project managers, accountants, highly trained compliance officers, industry consultants and administrators.

Together, we have nurtured mutually beneficial relationships with our clients, suppliers and associates, all whilst working in partnership with governments and regulatory authorities. We extend our network of industry associates to all our clients, developing the international infrastructure necessary to launch and maintain a leading gaming business. Whether your business is a sports book, lottery messenger, casino, blockchain, crypto, bingo, or poker operator, even an ancillary provider for social gaming, payments provision, banking, software development, affiliate or land-based operations, you will find a dependable partner in ILS World.

In addition to the basic company formation, structuring and associated services ILS World can offer:

- Assistance with compiling an appropriate business plan
- Comprehensive guidance and assistance with all aspects of regulation
- Assistance with the completion and submission of the Online Gambling Regulation Act licence application and associated documentation
- Assistance with solutions for effective player protection mechanisms



- Liaison with payment solution providers, banks, computer hosting facilities, software suppliers, etc. as required
- Provision of resident, experienced directors and local operations manager
- Attendance and full local representation at formal pre and post-licensing meetings
- Guidance on anti-money laundering requirements and assisting with policy and handbook framework
- Local maintenance of statutory registers in accordance with the anti-money laundering requirements
- Provision of an experienced Money Laundering Reporting Officer
- Registration with Customs & Excise and on-going preparation and submission of Gambling Duty Returns
- General pre and post-licensing liaison with the Isle of Man Gambling Supervision Commission
- Registration under the Data Protection Act
- Liaison with auditors, lawyers, IT and other professionals as required
- Preparation of accounts
- On-going company administration and secretarial work
- Integration of cryptocurrencies and tokens as payment methods
- Record keeping.

For further information on eGaming please contact Lee Hills at lee.hills@ils.world

Please note: ILS World does not offer tax advice and would therefore recommend you obtain your own tax advice. If you require an introduction to a tax adviser we would be happy to assist.

