



PRACTICE NOTE

PN28/2024 Date: 09 January 2024

SUBMISSION OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP INFORMATION TO THE ISLE OF MAN DATABASE OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

This Practice Note has been issued to assist with changes made to the Beneficial Ownership submission process.

A new submission process has been introduced to improve the quality of information held in the database and are intended to streamline the process for submitted and updating beneficial ownership information.

Key Changes

- The Nominated Officer will now be required to search their existing beneficial owners ahead of a new submission, to avoid a duplication of information in the database.
- The introduction of a specific declaration for instances where there are no registrable Beneficial Owners.
- The introduction of a new international address finder.
- The introduction of new automated reminders to assist the Nominated Officer with the timely submission of Beneficial Ownership information.
- The ability for 'further information requests' to be made and resolved directly through the Nominated Officer's online service account.

This practice note includes some screenshots using test date to visualise the new processes. It is intended as a general guide only and must be read in conjunction with the relevant legislation (Note 1). It should not be relied upon as a substitute for legal advice.

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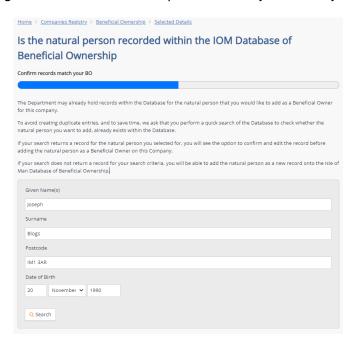
- 1. How to add a beneficial owner using the new search function
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Access to Isle of Man Beneficial Ownership Database

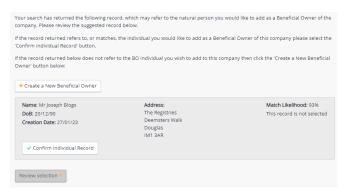
Access to the Database is restricted to the enrolled Nominated Officer. The Nominated Officer (if not already enrolled) would need to request an enrolment code from Companies Registry to link a company to their Isle of Man Government online services account.

1. Add a Beneficial Owner using the search function

To avoid duplication, before adding a new Beneficial Owner, the Nominated Officer is required carry out a search against existing Beneficial Owners of companies that they are already responsible for.



The system will return details of matches and close matches.

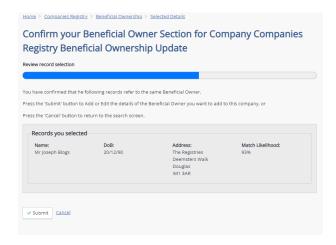


If this is the correct person, the Nominated Officer will select 'confirm individual record' and then 'review selection' to link the new appointment to the existing person. The Nominated Officer will then need to confirm this and submit the information, see screenshot on next page.

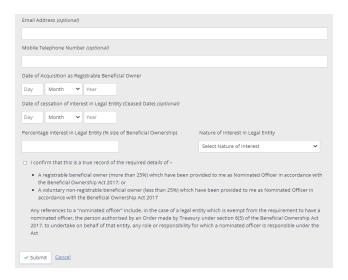
If the search result displays a Beneficial Owner that has been added previously with an abbreviated name, which does not match the information displayed on official government-issued documentation, this should not be chosen.

In this event, the Nominated Officer would need to select 'Create New Beneficial Owner' and enter the Beneficial Owners details ensuring that the name is consistent with official government-issued documentation. The Nominated Officer would then need to cease the abbreviated version of the Beneficial Owner on each associated company and add them correctly by selecting 'Add Beneficial Owner'.

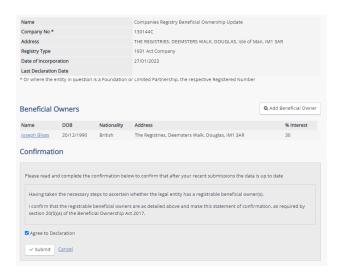
Below screen shot allows the Nominated Officer to confirm that the information is correct and submit the information to the database.



The name, address and date of birth details of the person will be carried through to the submission form. The remaining required details for the Beneficial Owner will then need to be added by the Nominated Officer.

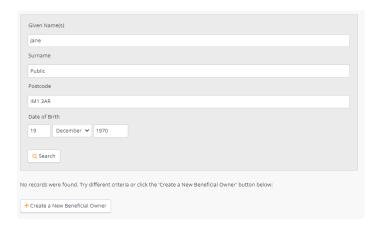


Once the submission form is complete, the Nominated Officer will be asked to confirm that the beneficial ownership information is accurate and up-to date. If there are multiple changes that need to be made against a particular company, this confirmation can be completed once all of the changes are submitted.



2. What if no results are returned?

Where the person search results do not find an existing Beneficial Owner's details, the Nominated Officer will be able to 'create new Beneficial Owner'.

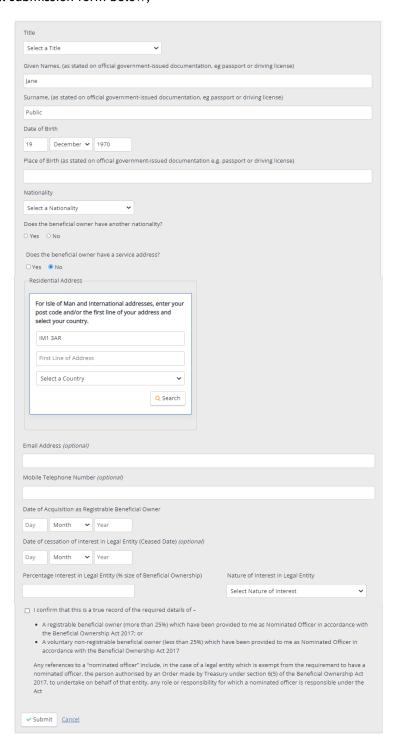


The Nominated Officer will enter the required details for this new Beneficial Owner on the submission form. Should this new person have any future beneficial ownership interests with this Nominated Officer for other legal entities, their details will be returned in the person search results.

A copy of the complete submission form is on the next page.

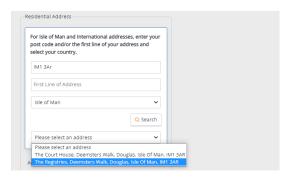
The Nominated Officer must ensure the full legal name is entered as displayed on official government-issued documentation.

Please see the full submission form below;



3. Using the new international address finder

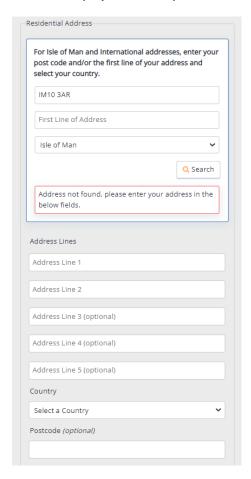
The submission form has been updated to include a new global address finder. When entering the address details for a Beneficial Owner, the Nominated Officer will be required to search for the address using the new finder. Providing the address exists within the new address finder, the Nominated Officer will be able to quickly select the address in the correct format from the verified address source.



Where an existing Beneficial Owner has multiple listings under a single Nominated Officer, once the details of the Beneficial Owner have been matched, any change of address will be applied across all of the legal entities to which the Nominated Officer is appointed.

If the address is not recognised by the address finder, a message will advise the Nominated Officer that they will need to enter the address manually.

The required address fields will then be displayed for completion.

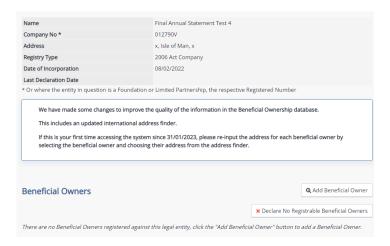


Please note: The Central Registry uses the international address finder to verify the address of each submission to the database. Where a submission is made without using the international address finder, or where the returned address has been amended, the information is likely to be reviewed by a member of the team and supporting documentation may be requested to validate the information submitted to the database (see part 7 below).

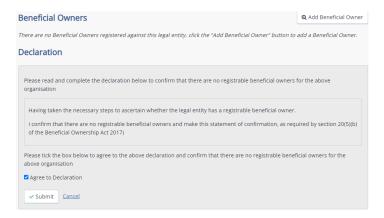
4. What if there are no registrable beneficial owners?

The Nominated Officer must make a specific declaration confirming that there are no registrable Beneficial Owners.

This button will only be displayed if there are no Beneficial Owners listed against the company.



Once this has been declared, this will inform Companies Registry that the legal entity does not have any registrable Beneficial Owners.



5. Annual Statement Reminder

Nominated Officers will receive a reminder notification to make the annual statement. The reminder will be sent to the Nominated Officer two weeks ahead of the date by which the annual statement must be made.

The reminder will be sent to the Nominated Officer's email address, linked to their Isle of Man Government online services account, providing the Nominated Officer has enrolled for the beneficial ownership service.

If the legal entity does not have a Nominated Officer or the Nominated Officer has not enrolled to an Isle of Man Government online services account, a letter will be issued to the registered office address of the relevant legal entity. This will advise that there are failings in relation to compliance with the beneficial ownership obligations and that the legal entity must take the appropriate steps to either appoint a Nominated Officer or ensure that their Nominated Officer enrols for beneficial ownership and meets their obligations to submit beneficial ownership information and to make the annual statement of compliance to the database.

If there are no Beneficial Owners registered for the legal entity, the annual statement cannot be completed until either a declaration has been made confirming the entity does not have any registrable Beneficial Owners or, a Beneficial Owner is added. See screenshot on the next page.



Providing the beneficial ownership information has been maintained throughout the year and no further changes to the information are required, the Nominated Officer can select 'make annual statement' to confirm the information is accurate and up-to date.

6. Incorporation Reminder

To help meet the timeliness obligations, a Nominated Officer will receive a reminder to advise that they need to update the beneficial ownership database if information has not been added within 14 days from the date on which the legal entity was created.

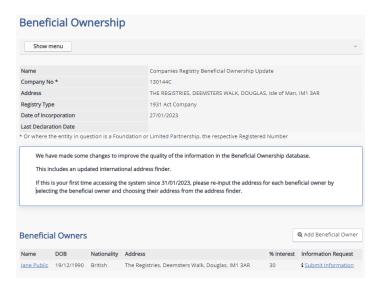
The reminder will be sent to the Nominated Officer's email address, linked to their Isle of Man Government online services account, providing the Nominated Officer has enrolled for the beneficial ownership service.

If the legal entity does not have a Nominated Officer or the Nominated Officer has not enrolled to an Isle of Man Government online services account, a letter will be issued to the registered office address of the relevant legal entity. This will advise that there are failings in relation to compliance with the beneficial ownership obligations and that the legal entity must take the appropriate steps to either appoint a Nominated Officer or ensure that their Nominated Officer enrols for beneficial ownership and meets their obligations to submit beneficial ownership information and to make the annual statement of compliance to the database.

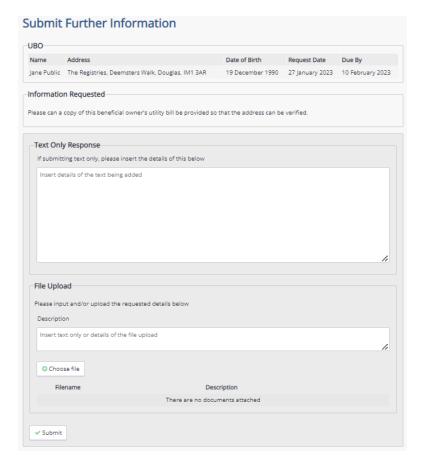
7. Further information Requests

The Companies Registry will be able to raise queries relating to the information submitted to the database, directly with the Nominated Officer via the submission portal.

If the Nominated Officer has enrolled the legal entity to their online account, an email will be sent to the address that is linked to that account. The Nominated Officer can then login to their account and the information request will be shown against the Beneficial Owner.



If the Nominated Officer selects 'submit information' the request will be visible and the Nominated Officer can then respond with text, by uploading an image of any requested document, or both.



If the legal entity does not have a Nominated Officer or the Nominated Officer has not enrolled to an Isle of Man Government online services account, a letter will be issued to the registered office address of the relevant legal entity. This will advise that there are failings in relation to compliance with the beneficial ownership obligations and that the legal entity must take the appropriate steps to either appoint a Nominated Officer or ensure that their Nominated Officer enrols for beneficial ownership and meets their obligations to submit beneficial ownership information and to make the annual statement of compliance to the database.

COMPANIES REGISTRY

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Website: www.gov.im/categories/business-and-industries/companies-registry