

Web Database Licence – FAQs

Prices applicable as of April 1 2026 and exclusive of VAT

1. What is the NLA?

The NLA was formed in 1996 by the UK’s newspaper industry to make it easier for organisations to reproduce articles with permission. A licence from the NLA gives organisations access to and/or permission to share content from 1,400 newspapers and more than 1,100 newspaper websites. NLA has also added a wide range of magazines to the WDL repertoire.

2. What is a WDL?

The NLA introduced a WDL in 2010 for organisations that copy/scrape/index newspaper website content for the supply of commercial aggregation services. The WDL applies to anyone holding a database or index of UK newspaper website content for the purpose of providing paid-for services i.e. it applies whether a company scrapes content or sources feeds from a third-party, like Moreover.

3. Which websites are covered by the WDL?

Details of the websites covered by the WDL can be found on the [NLA website](#).

4. How much is a WDL going to cost me?

Newspaper:

Clients	Licence Fee (per annum)
Up to 20	£4,056
21 to 50	£8,400
51 to 100	£12,768
101 to 150	£17,112
151 to 250	£21,420
251 to 750	£25,800
751 to 1250	£30,108
1251 to 1750	£34,488
1751 to 2250	£38,808
2251 to 2750	£43,188
2751 to 3250	£47,508
3251 to 3750	£51,852
3751 to 4250	£56,208
4251 to 4750	£60,552
4751 to 5250	£64,844
5251 to 5750	£69,216
5751 to 6250	£73,548
6251 to 6750	£77,880
6751 to 7250	£82,224
7251 to 7750	£86,556

Magazine:

Clients	Licence Fee (per annum)
Up to 20	£600
21 to 50	£1,152
51 to 100	£1,704
101 to 150	£2,280
151 to 250	£2,832
251 to 750	£3,408
751 to 1250	£3,960
1251 to 1750	£4,524
1751 to 2250	£5,088
2251 to 2750	£5,868
2751 to 3250	£6,240
3251 to 3750	£6,804
3751 to 4250	£7,368
4251 to 4750	£7,944
4751 to 5250	£8,532
5251 to 5750	£9,120
5751 to 6250	£9,696
6251 to 6750	£10,284
6751 to 7250	£10,872
7251 to 7750	£11,448

Please note that all NLA fees are invoiced on a monthly basis and the annual licence fees quoted above are likely to change in the near future.

5. What about fees for the web content I have supplied to my clients?

MMOs may elect to pay for the first Link (with or without a Text Extract) sent to the first Permitted User. If MMOs choose not to pay for the first Link sent to the first Permitted User, the client will need to pay for all Links received, under their WEUL.

6. What are the rules regarding prospective clients?

You may offer a trial for an initial period of 30 days, during which the NLA will not contact the prospective client. If the prospective client does not take out a WEUL in the 30 day period the trial may be extended for a further 30 day period, during which period the client must be notified of the requirement to take out a WEUL.

7. How does the WDL address client confidentiality?

The WDL confidentiality provisions have been extended to provide further comfort that the NLA shall not use Confidential Information for any competitive commercial activities. In the event that the Licensee suspects misuse of Confidential Information it may inspect the NLA's records.

8. What are the WDL reporting requirements?

A monthly return must be emailed to the NLA (by no later than the seventh day following the end of each month) for the preceding calendar month, showing the number of Links sent to a Permitted User, by website and by Client. It must also show the average number of Permitted Users for each Client in that month. The MMO is still obliged to report to the NLA the identities of any overseas clients to whom it delivers website content included in the NLA repertoire.