

## FAQs on Abnormal or Indivisible Loads

**What is an Abnormal Load?** A load which exceeds the weight, height, width or length limit(s) outlined in the [Road Traffic Regulations \(Construction Equipment & Use of Vehicles\) Regulations 2003, S.I. 5 of 2003](#).

**What is an Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL)?** This is a load which cannot be divided or broken down (e.g. containers, large equipment etc.) and exceeds the weight, height, width or length limit(s) set out in the Road Traffic Regulations.

**How do I know if the load I'm transporting exceeds the legal limits?** Depending on the vehicle (or combination of vehicles) and their design specification, the limits differ. Please refer to our [weights and dimensions leaflet](#) which outlines the maximum legal weight, height, length and width limits for various vehicles or combinations.

**I need to transport an abnormal load. What are the steps?** You need to apply for an abnormal loads permit from either An Garda Síochána or the Local Authority, or in some cases both. The An Garda Síochána permit applies to loads not exceeding 27.4 metres in length and 4.3 metres in width on [designated roads](#) (main routes). All other abnormal loads require a local authority permit.

**Where can I find a list of designated routes/roads covered by the AGS permit?** The RSA website provides a [list](#) and [map](#) of designated routes.

**How do I know which permit to apply for?**

	Vehicle + Load	Type of permit needed
<b>Height</b>	Over 4.65m	<a href="#">Local Authority Permit</a>
	Over 4.65m – Agricultural baled* produce only	No permit needed
<b>Length</b>	27.4m or less	<a href="#">An Garda Síochána permit</a> (for <a href="#">designated routes</a> only). Local Authority Permit needed for non-designated routes.
	Over 27.4m	Local Authority Permit
<b>Width</b>	4.3m or less	An Garda Síochána permit (for designated routes only). Local Authority Permit needed for non-designated routes.
	Over 4.3m	Local Authority Permit
<b>Weight</b>	Exceeds <a href="#">max weight</a> outlined in Regs	Local Authority Permit

\*There is no height limit on agricultural baled produce e.g. hay, straw etc.

**Where can I find an application form for an abnormal loads permit?** To view/download the An Garda Síochána permit click [here](#). Application forms for Local Authorities differ from County to County, please click [here](#) for a list.

**I'm transporting an abnormal load on a designated route first but then on local roads. What happens then?** You will need to apply to AGS for the designated route (see table above for limits allowed under the AGS permitting scheme). Then you will need to apply to each Local Authority through whose area you are traveling.

**I'm transporting an abnormal load on local roads through two counties. Do I have to apply to both Local Authorities?** Currently yes, however it is planned that this system will be updated in the near future and then it should only be necessary to apply for one permit to cover both counties.

**What does an abnormal load permit cost?** AGS Permits are free of charge. Local Authority Permits vary from county to county and depend on whether it is a daily, monthly or annual permit. Please telephone the LA directly to find out the exact cost.

**What is the height limit for agricultural bales or baled produce?** There is no height limit for baled produce (e.g. hay, silage, straw etc.) however the load must not exceed the vehicle's design gross weight and/or individual axle weight limits. Please view our [Weights and Dimensions Leaflet](#) for more information on this. In addition, under road traffic law the bales must be [properly loaded](#) so that they are not liable to fall off, drag or cause danger and the load must be distributed in such a way that it is not likely to destabilise the vehicle.