



**GBG Members Teams Meeting held on
Wednesday 24th January 2024 at 11.00 pm**

In attendance

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|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Charlotte Meller - Chair | Andy Bullock (Innovative Technology) |
| Steve Sharp (GBG) | Ian Shreeve (Inseinc) |
| Amanda Fry (GBG) | Evgeny Shulyak (JCM Global) |
| Howard Gant (Boomerang Digital) | Aras Kaplan (Leisure Electronics) |
| Steve Brownlow (Bpops) | Paul Monkman (Luxury Leisure) |
| Marieanne Camody Weir (Bpops) | Nigel Davis (Merkur) |
| Chloe Millington (Buzz Bingo) | Jade Gerrard (Moto) |
| Sam Moore (Buzz Bingo) | Iain Lunt (Playsafe) |
| Dean Harding (Crown Leisure) | Imogen Moss (Poppleston Allen) |
| Andrew Rushworth (Crown Leisure) | Caroline Bates (Roadchef) |
| Stuart Green (Game Nation) | Brian Jamson (Roadchef) |
| Ashley Molloy (Game Nation) | Dave Newman (Welcome Break) |
| Graham Glanfield (Game Nation) | Debbie Bollard |
| Chris Jones (GB Media) | |
| Mark Edmundson (GeWeTe) | |

		<u>ACTIONS</u>
1	<p><u>Chris Jones – GB Media (Business Editor at Coinslot)</u></p> <p>CM introduced CJ to the meeting who made the following points through a series of Q&As:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CJ gave his views on a possible incoming Labour Government • Sunik has gone from ‘asset’ to ‘anchor’ and Conservatives are in a real state • EAG was opened by Lord McNicol of West Kilbride (a Labour Peer) • Indications are that a Labour Government would be well disposed to the land based gambling industry • Current DCMS Minister has stated he has had cross party talks to ensure there is approval for the direction of travel so hopefully a Labour Government would not want to completely revisit the WP • Need to improve the reputation of the land-based gambling sector and address the negative narratives surrounding gambling • CJ paid credit to GBG in their approach for picking up false information particularly the inflated statistics on the number of suicides as a result of gambling issues. • Every planning objection refers to gambling harms and people taking their own lives. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion at an EAG Seminar with the CEO of the Night Time Industries Association, Michael Kill and nightclubs have the same negative issue. • Work coming out of the University of Nevada, in Las Vegas, talks about the concept of 'fun economy' (gambling doesn't naturally sit in the category of hospitality. CI suggested we work with like-minded organisations and re-define what we do. • GBG is trying to engage with relevant planning bodies and publications and working with the IOL to encourage better dialogue between the licensing teams and planning teams within local authorities. • In relation to the problem gambling stats and new methodology coming out of GC, GBG is part of a cross industry scrutiny group that is looking at this with Regulus Partners who are co-ordinating this for the trade bodies. The new methodology is being pre-reviewed by Professor Sturges who was appointed by GC to look at this and his report is expected within the week. GBG will share the information with members. • CM listened to a seminar run by GLA on how London councils have been trying to improve night time economy and help businesses post COVID • CJ carried out a survey amongst the EAG Exhibitors about their business confidence and got a 50% response rate: 63% more confident, 16% much more confident and 16% same as last year. • Need a review of Stakes and Prizes. GBG has written to the Minister to make sure it is high on the DCMS agenda once the current raft of consultations are completed. • Statutory levy will come at a cost to industry. • ICE leaving London after this year – High Street Hub is a good meeting place. 	Action CM
2.	<p><u>Introduction, Apologies & Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>CM welcomed everyone to the GBG Members meeting. Apologies for the meeting were noted. There were no declarations of interest.</p> <p>There were no objections to the meeting being recorded to help with the minutes.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Matters brought forward from the last meeting – 25th October 2023</u></p> <p>There were no issues to bring forward.</p>	
4.	<p><u>GBG Strategy</u></p> <p>AF shared the screen with the strategy which is attached to these minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GBG Board looked at the proposed strategy for 2024 and they agreed with the proposed goal and aims. This will be launched at ICE. • GBG Strategic Aims have been streamlined with one over-arching goal which is supported by 4 Strategic Aims which focus on: Corporate Social Responsibility, Holding Government to Account, 	Action: AF

	<p>Being the Industry point of contact for Local Regulators and being the Innovative lead on Technology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The focus of the GBG Groups will align to the relevant aim. 	
5.	<p><u>White Paper Update</u></p> <p>Current Consultations out at the moment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GC Autumn Consultation – due by 21st February covers a number of customer led tools, removal of RET requirements to align with introduction of the Statutory Levy and changes to quarterly regulatory returns instead of the current annual submission. Please continue to submit your thoughts on those proposals. • GC Consultation on financial penalties – closes 15 March – will be discussed at the Licensing Group meeting next week. • Supplementary Questions from DCMS around 80/20 changes. Three options were originally put out and DCMS have reverted with an additional two options. Proposing a 2:1 ratio for each by device type or 3:1 – maintaining Grandfather Rights as they are now. • Ombudsman - BGC had issues flagged from DCMS, GC and the Ombudsman Association. BGC have now formally responded to them and are waiting to have another meeting with DCMS and the Ombudsman Association to talk through the next steps. They are going to hold a cross industry session top update everyone on 14th February. The link and time will be shared with members once we have that. 	Action: CM
6.	<p><u>ICE 2024</u></p> <p>CM reminded members that we have an excellent variety of experts at the High Street Hub at ICE (S10 -130) including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age Verification –Tony Allen, Age Check Certification Scheme • Compliance – Howard Gant, Boomerang Digital (Smart Hub) • Data Protection – Richard Dutton, ELIAS Partnership • Licensing – David Lucas, Institute of Licensing • Responsible Gambling, AML & CFT – Kirsty Caldwell, Betsmart Consulting • Safety, responsibility and partnership working – Sylvia Oates Six till Six • Security – Jim Leitch, Link Integrated • Technical Standards – Rob Wheeler, GBG <p>On the Thursday of ICE, with IOL, we have about 12 Licensing Authority Officers coming along to talk to the experts.</p>	
7.	<p><u>General Comms Update</u></p> <p>in November we revisited our survey about how we communicate with our members and had a very low but positive response rate and thank you to those that have responded</p>	

8.	<p>Any Other Business No other business.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u> The date of the next Teams meeting is <u>Wednesday 17th April 2024 at 11.00 am.</u></p> <p>Remainder of dates for 2024 Wed 10th July Wed 23rd October</p>	

Meeting finished 1150