Minutes of The Gambling Business Group Limited Board Meeting
on Monday 12 October 2026 at 1.00 pm at
TLT LLP, 20 Gresham Street, London EC21V 7JE

Present	Steve Sharp (Chair) Peter Hannibal (Chief Executive) Charlotte Meller (General Manager)
In attendance:	Paul Terroni (Novomatic) Andrew Ludlow (Boomerang Digital) Vicky Spicer (Light & Wonder) Simon Reynolds (Buzz Bingo
Via Teams:	Nick Jackson (Welcome Break) Leo Walker (Evoke Plc) Eric Howell (standing in for Mark Jepp, Game Nation) Mark Stebbings (Inseinc)

		ACTIONS
1	**Minutes of Meeting held on 6 July 2026** There were no declarations of interest. SS noted that there were no outstanding actions from the previous meeting. Matters arising are all covered under the main agenda. SS thanked those who had amplified GBG's LinkedIn posts and requested that all Board Members continued to do so.	
2	[redacted]	

	[redacted]	**CM**
3	**Legislation and Regulation Update** ***DCMS/Gambling Commission*** GBG has written twice to Vicky Foxcroft (once to welcome and offer to facilitate site visits, and once to correct misinformation at CEGA/More in Common fringe session about reforming gambling regulation). No response to either to date. GBG wrote to welcome Ruth Evans as Chair of the Commission. Noted that the CEO post is now publicly advertised (having been previously advertised within the Civil Service) with a new CEO unlikely to be in post until the early part of 2027. Interviews being held later in October for a permanent Industry Forum Chair. ***MGD*** GBG wrote to the Treasury and produced a specific briefing about the impact of an MGD increase on Members Clubs, with a meeting with HMT scheduled for 15th October. After the initial meeting of all the trade bodies there has not been an appetite to work together, despite GBG's persuasions. ***Aim to Permit (A2P)/Gambling Impact Assessments (GIAs)/Planning Changes*** DCMS officials want to publish the response to the bingo condoc before consulting on changes to A2P, however the Minster will make that decision once briefed. GIAs still likely to happen as this power can be enacted quickly (even though they will need to change if A2P is removed). The Commission is holding off on consulting on changes to the Statutory Guidance to Licensing Authorities and any guidance on GIAs until the Minister has decided on A2P. The planning clarification to explicitly state that AGCs are sui generis will be done via secondary legislation by MHCLG.	**Exec to invite Ruth Evans to future Board**

	GMTS Graham Burgin & colleagues attended the Machines Group last week to talk through the headlines of the consultation response and respond to questions. The Commission will compile a list of all Qs raised by trade bodies and share that back out to all in due course. Points raised by the Board: • Welcome the exclusion of legacy machines • Various outstanding issues re EBTs • Casinos unlikely to be pleased by same limit settings as other B machines • Members clubs are badly hit. • Staff alerts will be key driver of costs • Suppliers need to collaborate on how systems can be integrated • Not enough time to build a new (set limit) journeys – will have to add on to existing ones. • Suggested that trade bodies liaise to coordinate similar going-live timescales • GBG will be developing protocols/standards for staff alerts • Would the Commission consider extending their deadlines if necessary? ***AML Risk Assessment*** GBG and BGC are jointly funding an independent evaluation of the relevance of the Commission's 2026 Risk Assessment.	
4	**GBG Strategy Update (paper circulated)** PH talked through the Strategy updates in detail. Discussed the Social Value and Community Impact proposal put forward by Matthew Hickey (ex-Gordon Moody CEO) and agreed to invite to a future meeting at an appropriate time.	**PH**
5	**Emerging Issues** ***Young Persons Gambling Survey*** GBG has written to the Commission expressing concern about this research (on the back of an article by Regulus Partners (RP). Board discussed whether the RP articles are having the desired impact and suggested that speak to Dan Waugh about using another channel to deliver those messages.	**PH**

	Affected Others The Commission has started to look in more detail at the impact of gambling on others, and widening the scope of those impacted. ***LA datasets*** Kings College London has published English lower tier authority gambling participation and problem gambling data which is likely to be cited by councils when considering applications (and in GIAs in future). ***GBG Facts document*** This document is regularly updated to reflect the latest Commission research.	
6	**GBG's Working Groups** SS expressed concern at the lack of attendance and contributions at some of GBG's working groups and sought views on how to improve interaction and involvement. Members suggested that circulating the details of each group and meeting dates for 2027 could help ensure that the appropriate representatives were attending. Discussed holding some of the Board meetings in Member venues. Members were encouraged to suggest potential speakers and agenda topics for Board meetings.	**CM** **Board Members** **Board Members**
7	**Any Other Business** ***APPG*** PT advised that the most recent APPG on Gambling Reform focused on MGD (no minutes produced yet). Philip Davies subsequently arranged a meeting with Sir Iain Duncan Smith, but he was accompanied by Katherine Morgan who fielded all the questions. ***Unlicensed market*** Noted that YieldSec had been appointed by the APPG to look at the unlicensed online market. Members keen for GBG to take a lead in broadcasting the illegal market implications (if tax is increased). PT has asked Euromat to produce a document on the issues faced in Europe when taxes were increased. PH to circulate the Andrew Tottenham article and try to get him more involved.	**PH**

	Player Safety Code Entain have suggested reconvening the working group once the MGD situation is known, and to simplify the loss and win thresholds used. [redacted]	**CM** **PH**
8	**Meetings for 2027** 1 February, 10 May, 2 August , 1 November	