

## GBG The Gambling Business Group

**Gambling Business Group Meeting Held on July 18<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 11.00am.**

**Venue; Gordon Dadds Offices, Agar Street London.**

In attendance; Susanna FitzGerald – Chair Peter Hannibal – GBG Simon McCarthy – BetCom Games Nick Arron – Poppleston Allen Will Hawkey - KPMG Graham Roberts – Inspired	Elizabeth Speed – Novomatic UK Simon Levingston – RCPA Ray Stone – RS Modelling Tony Boulton – Project  Apologies; Nick Harding – Chair
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1. Welcome, introductions & apologies for absence. Susanna welcomed everyone and explained that she was standing in for Nick as Chair for this meeting as he is unable to attend. All other apologies were noted.
2. All points to bring forward from the last meeting are on the agenda. No other matters were raised.
3. Gambling Commission;
  - a. Gambling Commission's suggestion/request for 'Tracked Play' on all Cat B machines. Peter updated the meeting on where the industry was; a) regarding the cost of such a suggestion and b) in terms of proposing alternatives. This is very much work in progress but important that the industry works together.
  - b. Response to challenge on lack of transparency on penalties & RET funds. Peter shared the replies received from Jonathan Watkin at the Gambling Commission. We now await a response from Tracy Crouch.
  - c. The meeting discussed the changes at the Commission with Stuart McPhee moving on. Concerns about the disappearance of machines knowledge and experience were weighed up against the benefits of dealing with and designing to a 'black and white' interpretation of the regs.
  - d. Measuring Gambling Related Harm – A framework for action. PH brought the meetings attention to this report that attempts to set out a framework for the identification of gambling related harm. Whilst this is a welcome move on from the blunt and clumsy PGSI system, the industry needs to be alert to its course of direction and to make sure it does not become partisan.

- e. Annual; assurance statements, now moving onto the 'best practice workshops' stage. A discussion was held around the likelihood of the threshold for this requirement being lowered to smaller operating companies.
4. Government;
- a. Gambling Review & implications. The meeting discussed the content of the outcome of this review, particularly the way in which the DCMS has given the Gambling Commission a wide scope to bring in any new responsible gambling regulations it sees fit to. It was agreed that all new proposals for regulatory changes should be examined carefully and responded to accordingly.
  - b. Remote Gaming Duty changes. There was nothing to add to the rumblings around a potential increase at the next budget.
  - c. Debit card and credit card usage. Proposals to prohibit the use of credit cards for all forms of gambling activity were not unexpected and would be difficult to resist.
  - d. What next for the Industry? This is a question for the GBG to consider. Is now the time for the industry to leave its pre-gambling review baggage behind and start pulling together, to take back some control of the social responsibility agenda, and therefore our reputations and futures?
5. The Gambling Expert Group. Issues to take forwards. PH concerned that there are not enough issues and agenda items being raised to justify the regularity of the meetings. PH requested that new matters are brought to this meetings attention for consideration for taking to the expert group. Action – ALL
6. Social Responsibility;
- a. GBG/Gamcare accreditation. Now back as a 'live' project. GamCare are attending the next GBG meeting to present an update.
  - b. YGAM Gambling Industry Apprenticeship. GBG members are supporting this excellent development. More will be shared as plans evolve.
  - c. Gamble Aware allegedly not replacing Industry Trustees. This was discussed and that the GBG offer of help was acknowledged by Kate Lampard, but not acted upon.
7. AOB;
- a. GBG Financial supports. PH gave a short summary update.
  - b. Date of next meeting Weds October 10<sup>th</sup> at Gordon Dadds