

GBG The Gambling Business Group

Gambling Business Group Meeting Held on Wednesday March 7th 2018 at 11.00am.

At the offices of TLT LLP, Gresham St, London.

In attendance; Nick Harding - Chair Peter Hannibal – GBG Adam Rivers – KPMG Simon Levingston – RCPA Donal McCarthy – Ladbrokes Coral Susanna FitzGerald - OEC Law Patrick Kerr– John Gaunt & Partners Lee Morton – SG Gaming	Cont; Tony Boulton – Project Games Graham Roberts – Inspired Gaming Tez Field – William Hill Simon Barff – Blueprint Gaming Guests; Marc Etches – Gamble Aware
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1. NH welcomed everyone to the meeting with a particular welcome extended to Marc Etches, CEO of Gamble Aware who was our guest.
2. The first main item on the agenda was an update from Marc on the activities and progress being made by Gamble Aware. Particular points noted were;
 - a. Although Gamble Aware, the GC and RGSB are saying that the industry is in favour of a levy, this is not unanimous in reality.
 - b. It was noted that the problem gambling rhetoric keeps changing. Initially the main challenge was to address problem gambling, then it moved on to reducing gambling related harm, and now the new term of 'safer gambling' has been being introduced.
 - c. Demos will soon be reporting on PHSE reform regarding 'Secondary School children and the risks of gambling'.
 - d. It was noted that the relationship with PHE is with Kate Lampard
 - e. Regarding the non-funding of YGAM, ME said that they are undergoing self-evaluation in two stages; the second is being done currently.
 - f. Scalability is an issue with smaller charities such as YGAM and Betknowmore. GambleAware want to provide low cost high volume solutions and won't fund initiatives that cannot be scaled up.
 - g. The Gambling Commission may be taking a greater ownership of the National Responsible Gambling Strategy.

- h. One member pointed out that it was fundamentally wrong not to encourage operators to fund treatment and prevention in their own communities.
 - i. There is a joint initiative agreed to fund a 'gamble responsibly' TV campaign costing between £5m & £7m over the next two years;
 - i. £1.7m from Senet
 - ii. £2m in air time donated.
 - iii. The balance of cost from the industry, although the RGA are not participating from following a change in the control of the project.
 - j. Marc Etches offered to attend as many GBG meetings as required as it is a helpful industry liaison for Gamble Aware as they can speak direct to operators.
3. Items brought forward from the previous meeting;
- a. Point 3b. Machines games features and technical standards. This had been discussed in the MSG meeting and the pragmatic view is that we should not pursue an outcome whilst the government's response to the Gambling Review was outstanding. It was therefore agreed that (principles based) machines technical standards should be left alone and back off any pressure for a machine games features outcome.
 - b. Point 4. Tracked play for category B products. The Praesepe half of the information has been provided to BACTA. PH to chase up with John White regarding the provision of the complete information.
 - i. NH suggested speaking with Simon Thomas at the Hippodrome regarding the work they are doing with AML.
 - ii. It was also pointed out that publicly, no-one wants to introduce 'forced ID cards' of any sort and any industry response to 'tracked play' should take this line. The meeting noted the problems caused in Austria where 'tracked play' had reduced revenues by 20% and players use multiple cards to avoid being tracked.
4. Gambling Commission;

- a. The meeting noted that Neil McArthur is now interim CEO of the Gambling Commission. It was agreed that the GBG should arrange a meeting to discuss on-going matters and get a sense of what to expect in the future.
 - b. The GBG letter to Bill Moyes (Chair of the GC) was discussed and the fact that he hadn't agreed a meeting date or replied to NH's chasing email.
 - c. GC penalties. This now totals some £26.7m since 2014 and it was felt that there should be a review of how effectively this money had been deployed. Before doing this we should check the revised GC powers in this matter as per the consultation in 2016/17.
5. Other matters. The meeting also discussed and exchanged views on the following;
- a. The Gambling Review. Announcement expected April/May.
 - b. New advertising requirements.
 - c. Gamstop – online sector self-exclusion.
 - d. RGSB advisory group meeting, PH has arranged a meeting with Kate Lampard. PH to circulate a briefing note following.
 - e. RGAs good practice guidelines on Behavioural Analytics.
 - f. The Fundraiser's Code, and where Gamble Aware may be at odds with the Code.
6. AOB;
- a. New banking arrangements for GBG; PH advised that GBG is looking at setting up independent GBG banking facilities and suggested the Trustees of the account should be Amanda Fry and Peter Hannibal with two signatures required for withdrawals. PH asked for approval of this by members and this was agreed. PH will speak to AF to progress this.
 - b. Dates of next meetings were as per the agenda list and will continue to alternate between conference calls and face to face. Amanda Fry to identify meeting venues;
 - i. Wednesday 16th May 2018 – Conf Call
 - ii. Thursday 18th July 2018 – venue tbc
 - iii. Tuesday 25th September 2018 – Conf Call
 - iv. Tuesday 20th November 2018 – venue tbc