



**GBG Zoom Meeting held on
Friday 26th June 2020 at 1.00 pm**

In attendance

Peter Hannibal (GBG)
Amanda Fry (GBG)
Joanne Craig (Blueprint Gaming)
Mark Edmundson (GeWeTe)
Andy Bullock (Innovative Technology)
Graham Roberts (Inseinc)
Lee Jefferson (Inseinc)
Wayne Forster (Moto)
Paul Comer (Moto)
Nigel Kelly (Novomatic)

Amanda Kiernan (Praesepe)
Anthony Boulton (Gauselmann)
Steve Brownlow (Reflex Gaming)
Brian Jamson (Roadchef)
Tracy Baitup (Roadchef)
Lee Morton (Scientific Games)
Wayne Ellard (Scientific Games)
Dave Newman (Welcome Break)
David Lucas
Byron Evans
Graham Glanfield

		<u>ACTIONS</u>
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introduction</u></p> <p>PH welcomed everyone to the update meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Matters from previous meeting notes</u></p> <p>PH advised that regarding the Regulatory Panel Reforms the draft is finalised. There has been a welcome input from members and the final document will be submitted later on this afternoon</p> <p>There was an offer to ask Carolyn Harris any questions. There is still time to get any questions to PH for Carolyn.</p> <p>PH advised that the NEXSTART forum was asked for any feedback from Local Authorities regarding LBO openings and there was nothing to report. The LGA had nothing to feedback and neither did NALEO.</p>	Members
3.	<p><u>Updates from Government Announcements</u></p> <p>PH advised that the current status is that most of our businesses can open on 4th July with the notable exception of Casinos, Snooker & Pool Clubs and Bowling Alleys.</p> <p>In terms of Scotland – on 6th July outdoor hospitality may reopen and on 15th July holiday accommodation and indoor hospitality and tourist attractions can open. Also only Betting shops can re-open on 29th June with the usual Phase 2 restrictions with no chairs and no televisions</p>	

	<p>showing live races. Wayne Ellard advised that Scotland does not include gaming machines so for LBOs it is literally just betting</p> <p>There is no news yet on Wales</p> <p>DL advised that we have the guidance for Pubs & Restaurants and there are some things in there which are a wider remit like control of queues and how people travel to and from venues. Although this is pubs the way in which Government have produced the guidelines seem to follow a template so we may well see in the guidance for Gambling premises that there are some expectations contained in there that are wider than we anticipate. DCMS will be producing the guidance as and when that comes out</p> <p>PH advised that in terms of the NEXSTART Meeting this morning there was a lot of debate around machines in pubs. The overall conclusion is whilst there is nothing in the guidance about machines in pubs everyone is working on the assumption we can operate them.</p> <p>PH advised that Trade Associations have been developing a protocol which we have shared and we are just waiting for any further information from Government.</p> <p>PH advised that DL and some of the other people in NEXSTART have been working on a couple of documents for the licensing trade and have adapted one for Gambling which was approved for circulation this morning which advises everybody to take a pragmatic approach when trying to align Covid regulations with legislation. DL adapted the document from the NEXSTART A Group and we will circulate that over the next couple of days and will also be sent to local authorities</p> <p>PH advised that the second document we talked about relates to the 20% rule and as the GC were unhelpful in trying to accommodate the 20% rule with social distancing so NEXSTART are looking at producing guidance. for common interpretation</p>	<p>DL</p> <p>PH</p>
4.	<p><u>Machines in Pubs</u></p> <p>SB advised that he has been sent a 13 point document from an undisclosed Pub Company which he read out and he will send a copy of this to DL.</p> <p>Lee Jefferson advised that UKHospitality and BBPA have issued very clear guidance around using machines in pubs that is the opposite of what was read out.</p> <p>DL agreed to look into this.</p>	DL
5.	<p><u>The need for screens - Are these still relevant at 1m?</u></p> <p>PH advised that this question has been flagged up by a couple of members and is therefore a discussion point for the meeting. Lee Jefferson advised it is a consideration for Gamestec and it comes down to the individual risk assessment and how you manage layouts. Gamestec</p>	

	<p>are looking at it on a case by case basis. PH advised that it does depend how far apart the machines are in each location.</p> <p>Byron pointed out that some arcades may have had screens installed already – most arcades that have got the space could accommodate machines a metre apart.</p> <p>Wayne Forster advised that this is also a question for customer confidence when visiting/entering venues.</p> <p>Joanne – as long as Operators have completed the risk assessment and can talk about their evaluation of the decision not to use screens with some confidence, Authorities will then know it is not just a tick box exercise and you have put some thought into it.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Customer Registration</u></p> <p>PH advised that the categorisation of arcades and AGC's was still unclear and subsequently, there could be a requirement to track customers. Everyone should consider that it may turn out to be a requirement. As soon as we find out any more we will let you know</p>	PH
7.	<p><u>Gambling Commission</u></p> <p>PH advised he circulated the information which came out last Friday. There is a serious concern about the Gambling Commission 's introduction of experts by experience (EBEs) not because of who they are but because of the way they have been introduced and the way they are going to be advising the GC. We will wait to see what the GC's response is.</p> <p>PH advised that on the back of the Carolyn Harris Parliamentary report saying that the GC needs more resources. We wrote to DCMS setting out how the headcount has increased by 24% in the GC against the number of licensees reducing.</p> <p>The Parliamentary Accounts report came out this morning which you have all been sent a copy of. Most of the narrative is the same as the actual enquiry as televised.</p> <p>Joanne advised that the GC are off loading up to 30 of their 40 remote workers via voluntary redundancy. Byron asked how they are going to cover compliance – Joanne expects that they will take more people on in Birmingham.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Any other Business</u></p> <p>Tony Boulton advised that Gauselmann have written to the Chancellor asking if they could consider a reduction MGD if they go ahead and reduce the VAT The press have publicised that the Government might try and reduce VAT to boost trading, which does not benefit machines. So we have written to them asking if they can make the same concession on MGD for our sector. It might be helpful if other companies were to write in too.</p>	

	<p>PH asked if there is a draft letter he can share with other members? Tony advised that he can share it after removing a couple of confidential items.</p> <p>Amanda will then circulate.</p> <p><u>Date of next meeting</u></p> <p>Whilst it was agreed to be on Wednesday 1st July at 1.00 pm, it was subsequently decided that it would be more informative for the meeting to be on <u>Thursday 2nd July at 1.00 pm</u> following the NEXSTART Meeting.</p>	<p>AB</p> <p>AF</p>
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