

Gambling Business Group take industry facts to Westminster

Strategic body, the Gambling Business Group, is taking the industry's case to Westminster in a concerted campaign to correct the factual inaccuracies that underpin many of the political debates surrounding gambling regulation.

GBG chief executive Peter Hannibal, who is leading the initiative, explained: "We should all be concerned at the way that information and confirmation biased evidence are dressed up as facts. The most recent examples of this taking place in the Palace of Westminster were during April's House of Lords debate undertaken by the Social and Economic Impact of the Gam-

POLITICS

The **GBG** is on a mission to address the mis and disinformation that's punctuating political debates surrounding gambling regulation.



bling Industry Committee on Gambling Harm, when old data and the use of incomplete or partial data was left unchallenged and taken as facts.

"The use of unsubstantiated and incorrect statistics to inform political debate is highly contentious as poor evidence will inevitably result in poor legislation."

He added: "In the absence of an independent fact checker it's left to the industry to reach out to politicians and put the record straight on issues ranging from the number of problem gamblers- a basic statistic which is frequently misquoted - to the highly sensitive issue of the number of gambling related

suicides in the UK.

"To address this the GBG is involved in a continuous programme of face-to-face and video meetings with MPs and Peers in order to address the inaccuracies and correct the misperceptions. We launched the programme shortly after the House of Lords debate at the end of April and will continue after recess. If inaccuracies aren't corrected, they become the perceived wisdom which is both unacceptable and dangerous leading to bad legislation."