

GBG NEWSLETTER – 29TH NOVEMBER 2023



LEVY CONSULTATION

The GBG Exec attended a Chatham House rules DCMS led Levy Q&A session yesterday, where there were certainly more questions than answers! They want hard evidence to back up responses that disagree (or agree) with the proposals, with the consultation closing on 14th December. We have already been asking members if they can start providing evidence that supports the case for land-based product and service providers NOT being hit with a 0.4% Levy. If we are to be successful with this, then your evidence is going to be critical – please get in touch.

OMBUDSMAN

Following a very helpful discussion with Members last week we have shared an anonymised summary of the feedback, comments and concerns with the BGC. Please send any further views, particularly in relation to the proposed financial scope, to [Charlotte](#) as we continue to liaise with them over the draft code of conduct. We are also liaising directly with the DCMS on elements of this as they are keen to ensure that everyone has a meaningful input into the process.

THE COMMISSION'S REVIEW OF THE GMTS

As per the presentation at the last All Members meeting the Commission has started pre consultation engagement on its proposals to review the Gaming Machine Technical Standards.

We will be discussing this with the GBG Machines Group but views and evidence from all Members are welcomed about any standards that need amending or new standards added. The Commission also proposes:

- To consolidate the 12 GMTS into one document
- To align the land based GMTS with the RTS' aim, requirement and implementation guidance format
- To phase out legacy machines over time
- To align with the remote sector and introduce a Security Audit for non-remote gaming machines ; implement a non-remote games register and implement a non-remote annual games testing audit

IOL ENGAGEMENT

The GBG's Exec held two well received sessions at the IOL's national training event last week - many thanks to Andrea Rushworth from Crown who joined Peter/Charlotte in talking about the benefits that land based operators and businesses bring to the community and our high streets.

All delegates at the event received a flyer about the GBG/IOL partnership day for local authorities at ICE and we already have licensing officers signed up to attend GBG's Land Based Hub. Contact [Amanda](#) if you want an electronic copy of the flyer to share with your licensing contacts.

Many thanks also to Game Nation's Adam Hodges for contributing to the latest [Link magazine](#) (page 6) which is circulated to all LA licensing officers in Great

Britain. Please get in touch if you are interested in featuring in a future article.

MEMBERS' COMMUNICATION SURVEY

Following up on a short survey we undertook a year ago, we will shortly be sending out a survey to help us ensure that we are meeting Member's communication needs. Many thanks in advance for sparing just 5 short but important minutes of your time to complete the brief questionnaire.

MEMBERS AREA OF WEBSITE

Members are reminded that the minutes and papers from GBG meetings along with responses to consultations can be found in the Members' area of the [GBG website](#). This area of the website is not just a home for the many protocols and standards we have produced. If you have yet to register for access, click on the "Members Area" box in the top right-hand corner of the website and follow the instructions to register, which is sent to Amanda who will then approve your registration and access.

SOME KEY DATES IN DECEMBER

4 December – GBG MSA Group meeting

12 December – ICE planning meeting

14 December – Closing date for Levy consultation submissions

20 December – GBG Exec bi-monthly catch up with the DCMS land based gambling team

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