



GBG NEWSLETTER 13 AUGUST 2024

GC'S PRE CONSULTATION ON GMTS PHASE 2 REVIEW

At a recent meeting with the trade bodies the Commission started a pre consultative process by presenting its proposals for changes to the GMTS.

There is no set date yet for the formal consultation as this is dependent on DCMS' and new government's next steps in relation to the Gambling Act Review. However, the Commission indicated that there would be at least 11 months for the new GMTS requirements to take effect from the date of publication of the full consultation. Additional changes to the GMTS may also be required to reflect the Government's decision in relation to cashless.

The current GC proposals can be summarised as:

- Require active choice between customer set or default time & monetary limits with at least 30 second breaks in play when either are reached
 - Customer set limits must not exceed 60 mins or £450 deposited sums
 - Default limits must be no longer than (every) 20 mins and no more than (every) £150 deposited sums
 - Staff alerts must explain what type of limit have been reached and detail sessional information in relation to elapsed time, value of deposited sums and net position. Staff to act on alerts appropriately & in a timely fashion
 - Gaming Machine sessions must be clearly displayed on request. The net position and elapsed time for the session no further than one action (such as a screen tap or button press) away
- Limit Setting*
Cat A to B4
- Display of net position & elapsed time*
Cat A to B4

Safer Gambling (SG) messaging
Cat A to B4

- SG messaging ONLY may be provided throughout 30 second (limit reached) breaks in play
- SG messaging can include potential sources of info/allows customers to end their session (and collect any residual sums) or reset limits/explains the limit reached /provide sessional info in relation to elapsed time, value of deposited sums & net position.

Awards below the Stake Size
Cat A to C*

To rest on RTS 14F

- The gambling system/machine must not celebrate a return which is less than or equal to the total stake gambled

Prohibiting Player led "spin stop" features
Cat A to C*

To rest on RTS 14E

- The gambling system/machine must not permit a customer to reduce the (spin) time until the result is presented.

* GC seeking feedback as to whether Cat C should be in scope.

Note : Terminals/tablets that contain games of a different category, will be required to comply based on the highest category of game offered, and GC are also considering a definition of "session" in the GMTS.

Proposed implementation of proposals

- Definition of implementation to be confirmed by GC but they currently suggest that it would be from the date of the final external test house report date (B3 and above) or the internal sign off by PML date (B4 and below).
- New games - 6 months .
- Existing games – 18 months. NOTE they are not minded to exempt legacy machines or 2007 + machines that may not be capable of the software updates required for any proposal. (**NB** The GBG has already challenged the legacy inclusion.

The trade has been asked to provide feedback by 30th September, and so we will be discussing this in detail with Members at the Machines Group meeting on 4th September – please contact Amanda if you want to be involved.

BI-LATERAL MEETINGS WITH TRADE BODIES

We have initiated a standard agenda with common issues as the main focus of our regular bilateral engagement with BGC, BACTA and BA chief executives, which include:

- Government & legislation
- GC and regulation
- Responsible Gambling Initiatives
- Research & fact checking
- Cross Industry cooperation/working
- Current affairs such as Ombudsman & Levy/LA Statements of Principles

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS (PQs)

Please see the [written response](#) from the Minister Baroness Twycross, to recent PQs raised by the Lords about gambling revenue.

IOL ARTICLE "PROTECTING OUR EMPLOYEES"

Whilst the primary driver of this article in the [IOL's Journal](#) is public safety events, Members may be interested to read about challenges of protecting employees and visitors and the benefits of psychological safety (pages 26-28).

KEY FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

- GBG MSA Group – 19 August
 - GBG Exec bi-monthly meeting with DCMS land-based gambling team – 21 August
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- Cashless Cross Industry Group – 2 Sept
 - GBG Machines Group – 4 September
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