GBG NEWSLETTER - 13th FEBRUARY 2025



GMTS CONSULTATION DOCUMENTATION

Following the first discussion about the consultation at this week's Machines Group, we have created a GMTS folder on the members area of the website. There you will find the 3 Commission consultation documents, the GBG's PowerPoint summary of the key proposals, and the GBG's response to the pre consultation exercise in 2024. Any further documentation relating to the consultation will be added to this folder.

We will hold further discussions on the condoc over the coming weeks but please continue to feed in your comments and questions.

Anyone requiring access to the Members' Area of the <u>website</u>, should click the Member's Area button on top RHS of the website, press register and follow the instructions – Amanda will then approve your access.

GBG STANDARDS AND PROTOCOLS

Members are reminded that the most current versions of the GBG Standards are available in the Members' Area, with earlier versions stored in the DropBox. Please

GAMBLING LEVY REGULATIONS 2025

During yesterday's <u>Grand Chamber debate on the Levy Regulations</u>, Government announced that the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) in the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) will take on the role as lead Prevention commissioning body for the new Statutory Levy for England, alongside appropriate bodies in Scotland and Wales – overseeing 30% of the Levy.

"OHID and appropriate bodies in Scotland and Wales will undertake necessary design work to determine the final scope of prevention activity, working closely with the research and treatment leads to ensure a joined-up approach. We will develop and provide clear and measurable outcomes for the prevention strand of the statutory levy system, as we have already done for research and treatment. However, future activity may focus on:

- Awareness-raising: building the public's understanding of the risks associated with gambling-related harm, is crucial to preventing harm before it occurs. Population level campaigns could be used to raise awareness of gambling-related harm and reduce the stigma often associated with seeking help.
- Local and regional initiatives: delivery of more upstream interventions to address harms earlier and more effectively at local and regional levels, with interventions tailored to the needs of those communities, and the development of a national approach would be a significant step forward.

Building capacity: providing investment for organisations, particularly those in frontline settings, to further understand and deliver harm reduction activities that will reduce harm for at-risk people."

WESTMINSTER HALL GAMBLING HARMS DEBATE

For those who were unable to watch it live – you can read the <u>Hansard record</u> of the Westminster Hall debate on Gambling Harms, held on 5th February. Speakers were mainly members of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Gambling Reform. The full membership of that APPG, chaired by Sir Iain Duncan-Smith is available on its website

WEBINAR INVITATION: HOW RETAILERS ARE USING AGE ESTIMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REVOLUTIONISE CHALLENGE 25

On Thursday 27 February, Innovative Technology is hosting a webinar focusing on how age estimation technology can enhance Challenge 25 compliance, protect staff, and streamline operations in the retail sector. You can register your interest in attending the 45 minute webinar (starting at 11am) via their Webinar landing page

DIARY REMINDER

The GBG's Land Based Responsible Gambling meeting will take place on $25^{\rm th}$ February.

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