

GBG NEWSLETTER – 20th MARCH 2025



Land-based changes

- DCMS is on track for the (four) casino Statutory Instruments (SIs) to be laid and come into force this “summer”.
 - They are still considering whether there will be time to seek feedback from GBG and other trade bodies on the draft SIs.
 - The work on the reallocation of 2005 casino licences will be resumed once the SIs are progressed. This reallocation work is further complicated by the fact that in June 2024 Dumfries and Galloway reviewed its current Licensing Board structure and moved from four divisions (Nithsdale, Annandale and Eskdale, Stewartry and Wigtown) to a single Licensing Board for Dumfries and Galloway. Therefore, the Wigtown Divisional Licensing Board in the area of Dumfries and Galloway Council which was allocated a small casino licence no longer exists.
 - DCMS hopes that the Minister will provide clarity on the other land-based gambling elements of the Gambling Act Review, in the “coming weeks/months”.
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STATUTORY LEVY

- Concerns have been raised about the recent announcement about abolition NHS England, who are due to receive 50% of the levy funding for treatment. DCMS confirmed that the organisation's transition into the Department of Health and Social Care will take 2 years so the initial plans for NHS England to commission the treatment pathway will not be impacted and at some point in the future there will be a further transition from NHS England.
- We also reiterated concerns about the pending end of the voluntary contributions to the third sector support services– many of whom still have no guaranteed funding beyond the end of March.

GBG's HIGH STREET HUB AND INDUSTRY WORKSHOPS - ARE EXPO

We are delighted to be working with Members and Partners at next month's ARE Expo in Manchester. On Tuesday 29th April we are running 4 gambling focused workshops.

Two very topical sessions given the Gambling Commission's focus on engaging with customers :

- ***Customer Interaction*** - Betsmart Consulting
 - ***How doing the right thing should be positive*** - Better Change
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And two sessions looking at pending legislative changes that will impact on gambling and other entertainment venues:

- ***Protect Players with Age Estimation Technology and Digital Proof of Age*** - Innovative Technology and ACCS
- ***Martyn's Law*** -TLT, Elias Partnership and Link Integrated

[See the website](#) for timings and further details. We are working with the Institute of Licensing on a programme of mini talks for LAs and police licensing officers and will share more details soon.

We hope you are [registered](#) to attend this inaugural show, which already has high levels of interest from exhibitors and attendees, and we look forward to seeing you next month!

GMTS

We continue to discuss the GMTS consultation with Members with the next GBG Machines meeting scheduled for 31 March. Please keep sending in your questions/issues as you continue to consider the proposals.
