

GBG NEWSLETTER – 24TH JANUARY 2025



STATUTORY LEVY UPDATE

Sharing some feedback following our discussions with the DCMS this week

- The [Gambling Levy Regulations 2025](#) are subject to the “affirmative process” of scrutiny which entails the regulations being actively approved by both Houses of Parliament . The Lords Grand Committee will debate the Levy Regulations on 12th February.
- They confirmed that the Gambling Commission would be developing FAQs/guidance for operators – particularly dealing with the transition period. There is no date yet for when that will be available, but if you have particular queries then please send them in and we will collate and forward on.
- Any voluntary payments should be made before this financial year end, in line with the current RET process

In terms of the first payment of the Levy, please note that:

- The first payment of the Statutory Levy will need to be paid by October 2025. This first payment will cover the 12-month period from April 6th 2025 through to 5th April 2026.
- The amount to be paid in the first payment in October 2025 will be determined by the actual GGY generated between the period of 1 July 2024 and end of March 2025, which will then be multiplied by 1.33 to provide an annualised figure based on actual GGY returns multiplied by your licence levy rate.
- Operators' next levy payment will fall due in October 2026 and will be determined by GGY accrued between April 2025 and March 2026, and will cover FY26/27.

Separately DCMS confirmed that they anticipate more time with Baroness Twycross on gambling matters from now on as the Football Governance Bill, which had taken up much of her time, moves over to the Commons.

FEEDBACK FROM THE dPASS STAKEHOLDER MEETING

- The Data (Use and Access) Bill is expected to receive Royal Assent in summer 2025. This legislation will allow mobile phones to be used for proof of age with age-controlled sales include alcohol sales and access to alcohol licensed premises.
- The [UK digital identity and attributes trust framework](#) set out the rules for an organisation to follow if they want to have their service certified as a trustworthy digital verification service.
- As members will know the physical PASS card is already an acceptable form of age confirmation for gambling including National Lottery Sales for 18 – 25-year-old customers.
- The PASS scheme is aiming to have its Digital PASS – “dPASS” - implemented and adopted by December 2025.
- For anyone wishing to use the dPASS to play gaming machines, the machine would need to adopt the same principles as a ‘self-service’ check out, where a camera will be used to verify that the image in the dPASS app is the person wishing to access gambling. Cameras used for this purpose will need to be approved as meeting the required standards.

We will be discussing this in more detail at the next GBG machines meeting (12 February) but welcome views from members before then

THE HIGH STREET HUB AT THE ARE EXPO

Thank you to those Members who have expressed an interest in being involved in workshops at [ARE](#) in April. So far, our proposed topics include Customer Interaction, Martyn's Law; Cashless, Facial Recognition and a session with the Institute of Licensing. Anyone else wishing to get involved please contact Charlotte.



KEY MEETINGS OVER THE NEXT FORTNIGHT

- 28 January – GBG Licensing Meeting
 - 3 February – GBG Board
 - 5 February – GBG Members meeting (Guest speaker Director of Licensing, Gambling Commission, Danielle Trigg, with an opportunity for members to ask questions about the licensing system)
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