

GBG NEWSLETTER – 26 JUNE 2026



MGD & SOCIAL HARM

As advised in the last newsletter, the trade bodies met to discuss the forthcoming Social Market Foundation [panel session](#) on MGD. Peter and others are due to attend the session next week as observers. The trade bodies agreed to reconvene after the session has reported its views. In the meantime, DCMS officials stated that the advice given to Treasury last year on MGD remains unchanged.

DCMS WANT YOUR IDEAS TO REDUCE ADMIN BURDENS

As previously advised, last year the Government committed to [cutting the administrative burden of regulation](#) by 25% by the end of the Parliament.

Treasury subsequently established a baseline for the administrative burden of regulation on businesses of £22.4bn a year, which means that the Government's target is to reduce the annual administrative burden of regulation **by £5.6bn** by the end of Parliament.

The direct administrative burden of regulation includes the time businesses spend filling in forms related to regulation and other administrative activities in order to

comply with information obligations that are imposed through central government regulation. (NB it does not include behaviour change or cooling effect of regulation admin burdens).

The DCMS team is keen to hear of examples where the Gambling Commission could reduce the admin burden on the sector. **Please submit your suggestions to Charlotte with an indicator of what the saving value might be.**

TRANSCRIPT FROM RECENT LORDS COMMITTEE

The [transcripts are available for](#) those who were unable to listen live to the recent Session on the Social and Economic Impact of the Gambling Industry. Here are a few quotes of note from the DCMS/Commission session:

Baroness Twycross:

“I have been open about the fact, and I would like to clarify, that we would like to see a regulated, licensed sector grow at the same time as we work really hard, across the piece, with industry, bodies such as the ASA and some of the social media platforms to make sure that we do not see people pushed from the licensed, regulated, taxed sector through to the illegal sector.”

“I am concerned about illegal gambling, as it hurts consumers and the licensed sector, and by default it hurts the Exchequer, because of tax returns. The Illegal Gambling Taskforce, which includes an illegal advertising subgroup, brings together government, industry, platforms, regulators and payment providers. We have the next ministerial meeting taking place next month, where the subgroup will report back, which will identify areas in which we want to go further. The subgroup’s work has included tackling the issue of paid for illegal adverts on social media platforms, such as Meta.”

Sarah Fox, Deputy Director DCMS :

“We are looking at bringing in a consultation very soon on banning unlicensed sponsorship.”

APPLY TO ATTEND MARTYN'S LAW ROADSHOWS

The Home Office is inviting organisations to apply to attend a series of in-person roadshows focused on the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, which will be held across the UK in Sept & Oct 2026.

The intended audience for the Martyn's Law Roadshows is individuals who oversee premises or events which will fall under the scope of the Act. You will be asked to confirm that you meet this eligibility criteria as part of the application process.

[Applications](#) close on 17 August, with successful applicants notified in early September. They have requested that the roadshows are NOT promoted via social media – but details can be shared rough internal networks.

JOIN US AT THE IoL's NATIONAL TRAINING EVENT

The GBG has been invited again to present at the IoL's annual conference, which is attended by over 400 licensing officers from around the country. Held in Stratford-upon-Avon, the gambling-focused breakout sessions will take place on Thursday, 19 November.

[If you are interested in being involved in the GBG session, please contact Charlotte.](#)

WELCOME TO BETTER CHANGE

We are delighted to have Better Change on board as GBG Members. Many of you know Rob and Dave from their Level 4 Apprenticeship in Regulatory Compliance. They recently produced [an article on working in the gambling industry](#) in the IoL's LINK magazine.

Dave will be speaking at the Members' meeting on 8th July about **Positive Play Player Zone**, a dedicated platform providing impartial, non-judgemental advice and education to empower customers to make informed decisions about their play. The agenda for that meeting will be circulated shortly.

If Members wish to speak about new projects or initiatives at future meetings, then please contact Charlotte.

