

GAMBLING COMMISSION E-BULLETIN – ISSUE 76

27 February 2009

Welcome to the fortnightly email bulletin from the Gambling Commission (the Commission).

You have registered on our website to receive news and updates from us, and we issue this e-bulletin at fortnightly intervals to keep you up to date.

If you do not wish to receive future issues, please reply with the word 'UNSUBSCRIBE' in the subject heading.

In this edition:

- 1. Section 19 certificate holders face August deadline for personal licence application**
- 2. NatCen appointed for British Gambling Prevalence Survey 2010**
- 3. Commission assembles international expert panel on gaming machines**
- 4. Gambling Act 2005: Consultation on Premises Licence Regulations (Gaming Tables)**
- 5. The Draft Categories of Gaming Machine (Amendment) Regulations 2009 and The Draft Gambling Act 2005 (Limits on Prize Gaming) Regulations 2009**
- 6. Board members appointed to new independent Strategy Board on minimising risks from gambling**

1. Section 19 certificate holders face August deadline for personal licence application

The Commission is reminding employees in the casino and bingo industry who still hold certificates of approval, issued under section 19 of the Gaming Act 1968 (section 19 certificates), to apply for their new personal licence before the end of August 2009.

2. NatCen appointed for British Gambling Prevalence Survey 2010

Following a rigorous selection process the Commission has appointed NatCen - the National Centre for Social Research, to carry out the British Gambling Prevalence Survey (BGPS) 2010.

The survey will build on the two previous prevalence surveys published in 2000 and 2007 and will measure the prevalence of participation in all forms of commercial and private gambling, and also estimate the prevalence of problem gambling.

3. Commission assembles international expert panel on gaming machines

The Commission has assembled an international panel of experts on gaming machines research as part of our ongoing research into high-stake high prize gaming machines. The panel members were confirmed earlier this month and are considering some questions on the British regulatory approach to machines.

4. Gambling Act 2005: Consultation on Premises Licence Regulations (Gaming Tables)

A consultation was published on 23 February 2009 setting out the government's proposals for regulations to define a "gaming table" in new casinos created under the 2005 Act. The

consultation specifies the purposes, circumstances and extent of use of a gaming table if it is to be treated as being used in a casino for the purposes of the Act.

This will regulate the number of gaming tables casino operators must make available for use in order to offer the maximum number of gaming machines permitted.

5. The Draft Categories of Gaming Machine (Amendment) Regulations 2009 and The Draft Gambling Act 2005 (Limits on Prize Gaming) Regulations 2009

The draft regulations setting out revised stake and prize limits for category C and D gaming machines and prize gaming will be laid in Parliament shortly. The European Commission will be notified of the changes to the category C and D limits at the same time.

6. Board members appointed to new independent Strategy Board on minimising risks from gambling

A new independent Strategy Board will advise the Commission and, in turn, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport on research, education and treatment programmes needed to support a national responsible gambling strategy and associated funding requirements.