

## **GAMBLING COMMISSION E-BULLETIN – ISSUE 85**

**3 July 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.

### **In this edition:**

- 1. Update letter on high-stake, high-prize and other gaming machines**
- 2. Sports Minister appoints new sports betting integrity panel**
- 3. Revised licence condition for casino gaming reserve requirement**
- 4. Clampdown on illegal machines**

#### **1. Update letter on high-stake, high-prize and other gaming machines**

In March 2008 the Minister for Sport, Gerry Sutcliffe, asked the Commission to prioritise our work to identify what further research could be done to understand the impact of high-stake, high-prize gaming machines on problem gamblers. We reported back in July 2008 with our plans for research during that financial year and said that we would update the Minister on our further progress by the end of June 2009. Our update is set out in a letter.

#### **2. Sports Minister appoints new sports betting integrity panel**

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport announced the appointment of a sports betting integrity panel on 24 June.

The panel, which will bring together representatives from the betting industry, the police, players, fans, sports governing bodies, the legal profession and the Gambling Commission, will address issues threatening the integrity of sport and will be chaired by Rick Parry.

#### **3. Revised licence condition for casino gaming reserve requirement**

The Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP) contain a requirement that all premises-based casino operators hold a gaming reserve to enable them to meet unexpectedly large customer wins.

Following consultation, the Commission recently set out a revised formula for calculating the casino gaming reserve along with some additional text setting out the requirement for a repayment provision. The new licence condition took effect from 1 July 2009. All licensees affected by the changes will be issued with revised licences.

#### **4. Clampdown on illegal machines**

Thirteen gaming machines have been seized as a result of a recent multi-agency operation involving the Commission and its partners in Hackney.

And in another joint operation, the Commission assisted Breckland Council to target illegally sited gaming machines. A press release is available on the Breckland Council website.