

JOELSON WILSON

JOELSON WILSON LLP
LICENSING/GAMING TEAM

GAMBLING LAW UPDATE: 30TH NOVEMBER 2009

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- The Gambling Commission has published two advice documents concerning lotteries. One for small lotteries, which do not require a licence and one for society and local authority lotteries, which do require a licence. Both documents provide a definition of lotteries and a brief description of the different types of lottery and advice on organising and promoting them. A quick guide giving advice on running a lottery has also been produced.
- The Centre for the Study of Gambling was commissioned by the Gambling Commission to carry out a consultation to assess gambling machine related harm and identify preventative measures. The report produced gives details of how the consultation was carried out, the results of the consultation and recommendations from both British and international expert panels based on those results for a medium to long-term programme of research. The five areas identified as being priorities for long term research are: the promotion of player control using player tracking technologies; impact of surroundings and access to additional funds; impact of machine structure; the role of the socio-spatial and cultural environment and understanding the development of gaming machine related harm. Preventative measures suggested include reducing the speed of play by banning autoplay and reducing reel spin, introducing cooling off periods and restricting access to ATMs. The report states that research using player tracking technologies “should be given the highest priority”.
- The Gambling Commission also commissioned GfK NOP Social Research to conduct qualitative research into British machine gamblers. The aim of the research was to provide an insight into players’ motivations and to look at the impact of gaming machine features on gamblers, both problem and non-problem, in Britain. This report also makes recommendations for future research including using a larger sample (only 43 gamblers were used for this research).

Need to know more?

Ask us. “Truly proactive practitioners, well versed in licensing law, greatly knowledgeable and utterly dependable in fighting its clients’ battles ...” – Chambers Guide to the UK Legal Profession 2008. For information/advice on alcohol or entertainment licensing matters, gaming, betting, lotteries or remote gambling, please contact:

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