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07 August 2006

Nick Paul
Chairman

NP/HL/sam/705

Professor Stephen Crow
Chairman
Casino Advisory Panel
2-4 Cockspur Street
London
SW1Y 5DH

Dear Professor Crow

Re: Regional Casino in the West Midlands

You will know that Advantage West Midlands took the opportunity to provide additional evidence to your Panel by the 28 June deadline. We are aware of submissions from Solihull and Coventry also.

Although it appears that your recent announcement regarding the shortlist of successful proposals is only directed to Local Authorities, I take this opportunity to re-send our submission dated 28 June for your consideration. The Agency's Board still firmly stands by its position as reflected in our submission and – whilst we fully recognise and appreciate the validity and the benefits of the Coventry bid - we deem the Solihull proposal to be of greater significance at regional level.

I feel I must share with you the concern we have with regards to the transparency and clarity of the process to date. The lack of detailed information on the website and the consistent delays in on-line updates means that much information has been obtained by different stakeholders in telephone contact with the secretary to the Panel. This has caused confusion and tension which could have been avoided. I very much hope that on-line and written communication is used more consistently by the Panel in the future.

*Yours sincerely
Nick Paul*

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