



GOVERNMENT OFFICE  
FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS

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Dear John,

**REGIONAL CASINO SHORT LISTING ANNOUNCEMENT**

Thank you for your letter of 24 May (also sent to John Edwards and Mark Abrams, Advantage West Midlands) about the recent announcement by the Casino Advisory Panel of a provisional short-list of successful proposals for a regional casino, and large and small casinos - which did not include Coventry's proposal - and your intention to make further representations to the Panel.

You have asked if you might meet with us and AWM to seek our views.

I would be pleased to meet with you. However, I must stress that it would be not be appropriate for the Government Office for the West Midlands to provide views to either yourself or other interested parties on either individual casino proposals or the Casino Advisory Panel's provisional short-list. As I am sure you are aware, the Panel which has been asked to provide its recommendations to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport by the end of 2006 on the location of the new casinos permitted under the Gambling Act 2005 is independent of Government.

May I suggest that you arrange to meet separately with Advantage West Midlands.

I am copying this letter to Jane Bransby, Secretary to the Casino Advisory Panel; Stella Manzie, Chief Executive of Coventry City Council; John Edwards, Chief Executive of AWM; Mark Abrams, AWM; Cllr Ken Taylor and Cllr David Arrowsmith, Coventry City Council.

TRUDI ELLIOTT