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LACORS
promoting **quality regulation**

Gambling Bill Responsible Authorities Seminar 31st January 2004

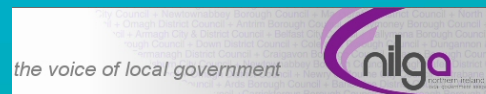
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Policy Officer, LACORS

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LACORS

- Local Authorities Coordinators of Regulatory Services
- A national organisation funded by 'top slice' local government funding from central government
- Work areas decided by the local government associations (LGA, NILGA, WLGA, COSLA) to support local authority regulatory and related services e.g Trading Standards, Food Safety, Health & Safety, Animal Health & Welfare, Registration Services etc.



LACORS

- Accountable to elected members (Councillors) via its Board of Directors & Management Committee
- 37 staff based in London + Wales & Scotland Officers
- Wide network of local authority advisors (e.g. licensing, planning, legal)
- LACORS' Policy Forums e.g. Licensing Reform Policy Forum / Gambling Reform Policy Forum

LACORS Vision

“To make a major contribution to the development of high quality, consistent and coordinated local authority regulatory and related services across the UK”

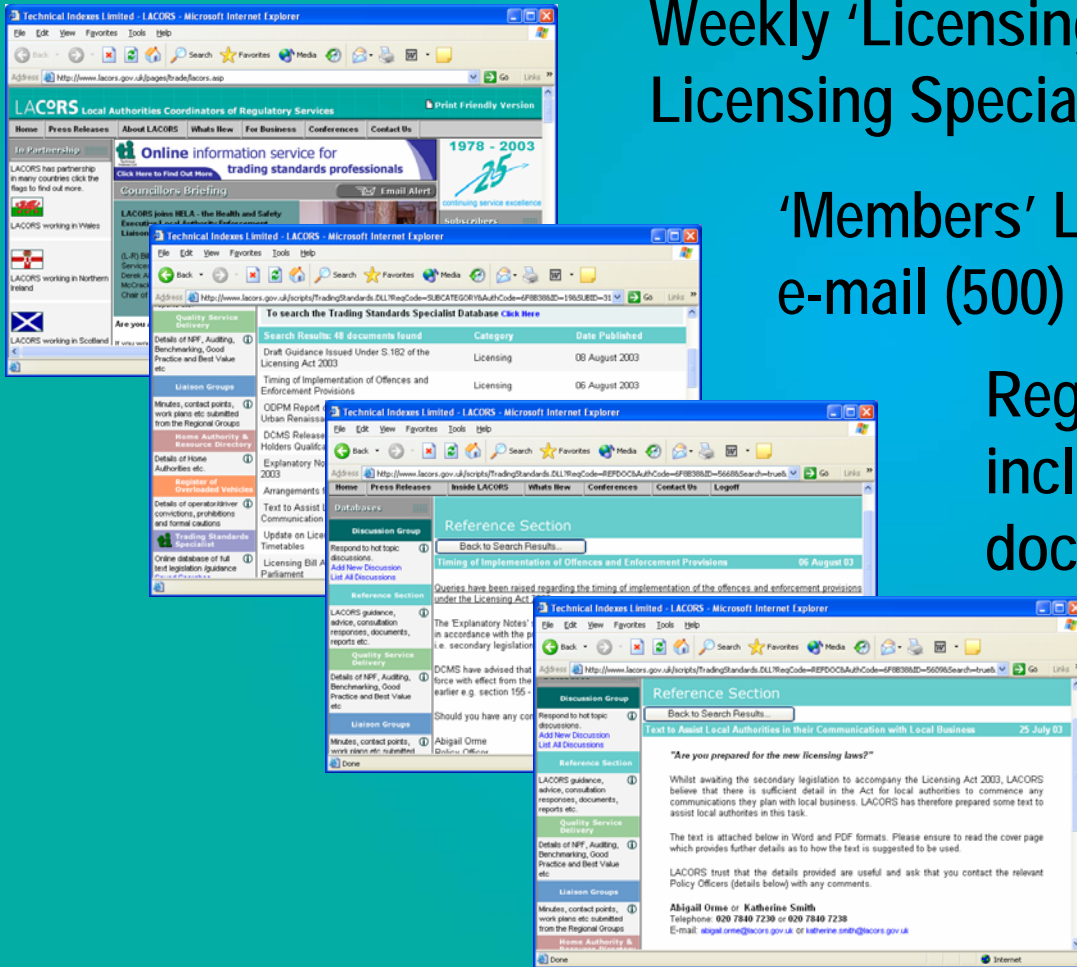
LACORS website & e-mail service

Weekly 'Licensing – What's New?'
Licensing Specialist e-mail (500)

'Members' Licensing Bulletin' via
e-mail (500)

Regular website updates
including advice and guidance
documents

LACORS query form
available via specific
queries from local
authorities



Gambling Bill

The Responsible Authorities

Defined in Section 148 Gambling Bill:

- Licensing Authorities
- Gambling Commission
- Fire Authorities
- Planning Authorities
- The Council
- Environmental Health
- Child Protection
- Customs & Excise
- Others?

Also, Section 196 Gambling Bill:

- Marine Agencies

What can Responsible Authorities do?

- Make representations on:
 - Gambling Premises Licence Applications
 - Provisional Statement Applications
 - Apply to the Licensing Authority for a review of the Premises Licence
- ... based upon?

Gambling Premises Licences

- Casino Premises Licence
- Bingo Premises Licence
- Adult Gaming Centre Premises Licence
- Family Entertainment Centre Premises Licence
- Betting Premises Licence

What can Responsible Authorities do?

- Commission, Policy and HMCE *only* may raise objections on:
 - Temporary Use Notices
 - ...based upon the Licensing Objectives
- Police to be consulted on:
 - Family Entertainment Gaming Machine Permits
 - Prize Gaming Permits
- Commission & Police may object to:
 - Club Gaming Permits and Club Machine Permits

Differences from the Licensing Act 2003

- The Licensing Authority is a responsible authority too!
 - Gambling Bill Section 148 “a licensing authority in whose area the premises are wholly or partly situated”
 - Licensing Act Section 69 (g) “any licensing authority (other than the relevant licensing authority) in whose area part of the premises is situated”
- The Licensing Authority can therefore make representations
- Representations are not limited to the Licensing Objectives (although the Licensing Authority, at hearing, is restricted in terms of the basis for its decision)

Differences from the Licensing Act 2003

- The Licensing Authority can add conditions (Section 160) or exclude conditions (Section 160 & 159)
- The Licensing Authority can decide not to hold a hearing if the representations “will certainly not influence the authority’s determination of the application” (Section 153 (3)(c) – human rights law?!) or “Will certainly not influence the review” (S.187)

Differences from the Licensing Act 2003

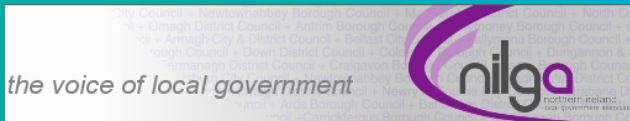
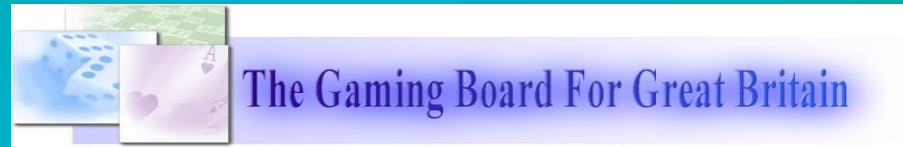
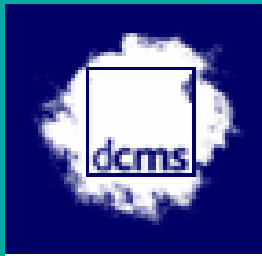
- The Licensing Committee cannot attach conditions to the licence; it can only grant or refuse the licence (can attach / exclude conditions upon Review though)
- The Licensing Authority must provide a response to the Responsible Authority(-ies) on its/their representations (Section 155(2)(c)) if the licence is granted

Key outstanding information

- Will the applicant need to copy the whole application to the Responsible Authorities? If not, how will they be notified? Who will check whether they have been notified?
- Time period for making representations
- Fees for responsible authority costs

LACORS Work

Develop effective partnership working with key stakeholder organisations

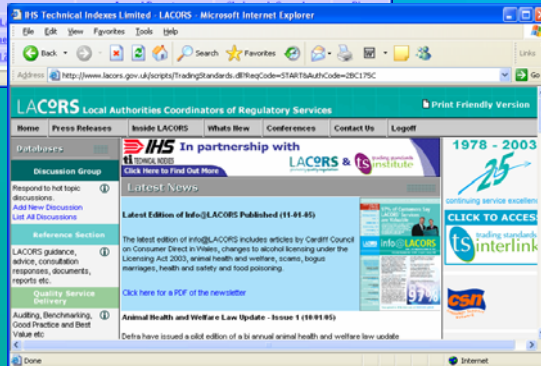
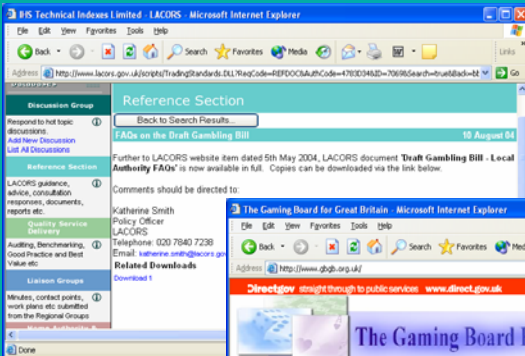


Current work

Gambling Bill Local Authority FAQ's

Gaming Board / Local Authority Liasion Group

Gambling Reform Policy Forum



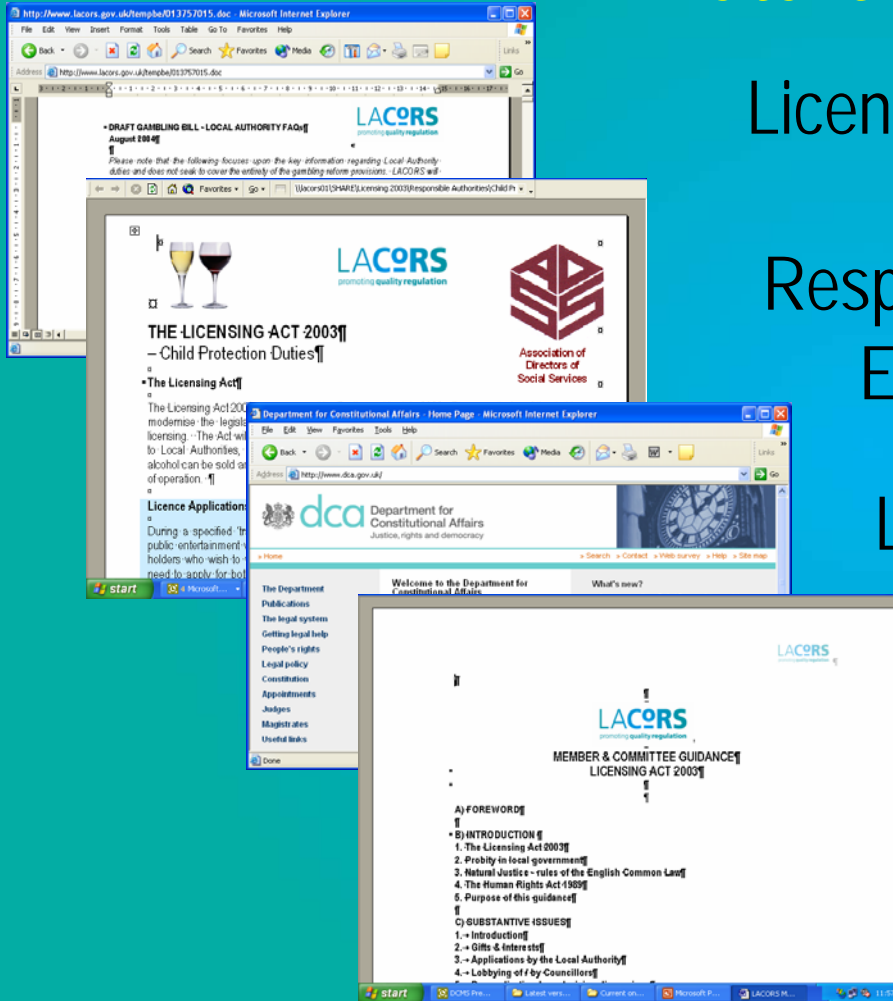
Future work

Licensing Policy Framework

Responsible Authority Guidance / Enforcement Protocols

Liaison with the Courts

Elected Members' & Committees' Guidance



Guidance & Communication

- Agree working practices:
 - Where does the application go to for advice / guidance? – the licensing authority or the responsible authority?
 - How will representations be made to the licensing authority? A form / e-mail etc.
 - How will objections be made?
 - Process for Application for Review

Guidance & Communication

- How will hearings / appeals be dealt with / resourced?
- What provision for mediation / discussion?
- Inspection / enforcement protocols
- Licensing Policy Statement and Statements of Principles? (Machine Permits) – to be discussed?

Website Links & Contacts



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LGA

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