

## CASINO ADVISORY PANEL

### NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE TO EXAMINATION-IN-PUBLIC PROCESS AND ISSUE OF REVISED GUIDANCE

The Casino Advisory Panel (the Panel) will be holding examinations in public (EiP) of proposals that have been shortlisted by the Panel with respect to the location of a regional casino. On 12<sup>th</sup> July 2006, guidance on the EiP process was forwarded to the 8 local authorities whose proposals have been shortlisted.

As stated in the Panel's Project Outline of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2006, the Panel may, at times, find it necessary to adapt or modify the previously published programme in the light of workload and other considerations. In order to meet the schedule set for the EiP, the Panel consider that it is necessary to amend the EiP guidance issued on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2006. The purpose of these amendments is to ensure that the EiP are efficient, expeditious and allow a thorough discussion of the matters selected by the Panel for further consideration in public. The revised guidance is attached. Shortlisted local authorities and all other interested parties are asked to note the following **important changes to the guidance**:

1. The short-listed local authorities will be required to provide a brief written statement to the Panel by **4 p.m. on 10 August 2006** at the latest. This short statement should summarise the key merits of the local authority's proposal with reference to the Panel's remitted criteria and the key lines of enquiry. The statement should also outline the local authority's response to any objections to the proposal of which it is aware. The Panel has requested that this statement be no longer than 1500 words (see paragraph 14 of the revised guidance).
2. Any person (other than official representatives of the relevant local authority) who wishes to participate in any EiP must send to the Panel a written statement setting out the reasons why they should be invited to participate in the EiP. The Panel requests that this statement is no longer than 1500 words. The statement must be sent to the Panel by **4 p.m. on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2006** at the latest (see paragraph 17 of the revised guidance).
3. On 19<sup>th</sup> July 2006, questions were e-mailed to each local authority by the Panel and answers to those questions were recently requested to be sent to the Panel by 18<sup>th</sup> August 2006. The questions asked were specific to each local authority's proposal. The revised guidance shortens this deadline to **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2006** in order to allow sufficient time for the Panel to consider what matters it considers should be selected for discussion at the EiP and to notify local authorities and participants so they have time to prepare in advance. (see paragraph 13 of the revised guidance).
4. The Panel will select the matters that will be discussed at the EiP. The matters selected by the Panel will be notified to each local authority in advance of the EiP and the Panel will endeavour to do so by **21<sup>st</sup> August 2006** (see paragraph 15 of the revised guidance).

**There are other more minor changes to the guidance and local authorities and potential participants are encouraged to read the whole of the attached guidance in detail. In particular, further clarification of the conduct of the EiP has been added in paragraphs 34 and 35 (key spokesperson and opening statement respectively).**

**2<sup>nd</sup> August 2006**