

BLACKPOOL

Here is summary of regional representations received in relation to Blackpool Council's bid for a regional casino. The consultation period was between 24 May 2006 and 28 June 2006; the summary shows representations received up until 8 July 2006.

Support

- We have received 25 letters of representation in support of Blackpool's regional casino bid.
- Of these, five were generally supportive.¹
- Five were sent by local employers, small businesses and others reliant on the visitor economy. They stressed that hospitality and tourism form a large and vital part of Blackpool's industry, and argued that a regional casino would give the local economy a much-needed boost.²
- Six letters stressed the overwhelming support in the area, and the city's thorough preparation for the bid.³
- We received one letter from a local education institution informing us that they had created the country's first training facility for the Gaming industry.⁴
- One letter detailed the strength of Blackpool's transport links.⁵
- Seven letters argued that Blackpool's need for regeneration is unrivalled among the potential regional casino locations.⁶

¹ F Earnshaw, 7 July 2006

John Barnett MBE DL, 3 July 2006

Lesley Lloyd; Lancashire and Blackpool Tourist Board, 20 June 2006

F Earnshaw, 6 June 2006

Dennis Taylor; Lancashire Economic Partnership, 27 April 2006

² Mrs April O'Neill, 8 July 2006

Philip Brown; Blackpool Premier Holiday Association, 28 June 2006

Jon Walton; Lancashire Jobcentre Plus, 28 June 2006

Lawrence James; Seafront quality management board, 22 June 2006

Derek Ellershaw; Blackpool Hotel & Guesthouse Association, 15 May 2006

³ Peter Hampson; British Resorts and Destinations Association, 11 June 2006

Libby Raper; Culture Northwest, 7 June 2006

Steve Palmer; Learning and Skills Council Lancashire, 17 May 2006

Gordon Marsden MP Blackpool South, 10 May 2006

Rt Hon Lord McNally of Blackpool, 8 May 2006

Lord Richard Faulkner of Worcester, 7 May 2006

⁴ Pauline Waterhouse; Blackpool and the Fylde College, 26 April 2006

⁵ Steve Burd; Blackpool Transport Services Ltd, 6 June 2006

⁶ Bill Lewtas, 6 July 2006

Sir Peter Hall; ReBlackpool, 28 June 2006

City Authorities of Preston, South Ribble and Chorley, 23 June 2006

Peter Cuit, 16 June 2006

Babs Murphy; North & Western Lancashire Centre of Commerce, 14 June 2006

Jeff Ennis MP Barnsley East & Mexborough, 10 May 2006

JE Carr; Preston City Council, 22 March 2006

Objections

- We received three letters of representation opposing Blackpool's bid.
- Of these, one letter expressed scepticism of the economic and regenerative benefits associated with the regional casino bid.⁷
- Another letter suggested that organised crime is a problem in Blackpool, and that the existing transport links are inadequate.⁸
- One letter called for a public vote for the residents of Blackpool, and raised concerns that a large part of the community opposed the bid.⁹

⁷ Steven Bate, 12 April 2006

⁸ Phil Worsley, 4 April 2006

⁹ Steven Bate; Blackpool Borough Councillor, 21 February 2006