

DRAFT

Minutes of Panel Meeting
Friday 19 January 2007, 11am, at
British Waterways, 1 Sheldon Square,
Paddington Central, London W2 6TT

Present:

Professor Stephen Crow
Chris Collison
James Froomberg
Neil Mundy
Deep Sagar
Valerie Curtis
Nick Crowther
Kate Rounce

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Panel members' interests and recent activity

JF reported that, in his capacity as Commercial Director of British Waterways, he had attended a dinner with several public and private sector partners, including the CEO of Manchester City Council. The CEO of Sheffield City Council was also invited, but unable to attend. The Panel noted that this had happened after their decisions on recommended locations for casinos had been made in November and so was non prejudicial to those decisions.

NM mentioned that he was again doing some work for the North East Regional Development Agency and as part of a consultancy team, for the Government Office for the North East.

There was no change to previously notified interests of other Panel members.

3. Minutes of meetings of 6 and 8 December

The minutes of the meetings of 6 and 8 December were agreed.

4. Secretary's update on report production progress and other Secretariat work leading up to announcement day

The Secretary provided an update on production progress for the Final Report. The Panel commended and applauded the hard work of the secretariat and their outstanding service to the Panel both in organising the production of the report and more generally throughout the process.

5. Update on revised media handling strategy

Nick Crowther provided an update on media handling especially in respect of announcement day. The Panel discussed and agreed the approach.

6. Panel status post 30 January 2007 – update from Secretary on DCMS view

The Panel and Secretary discussed the Panel's status following the announcement and it was agreed to discuss this further with DCMS. It was agreed that the Panel would meet again on 23 February and invite DCMS .

7. Any other Business

None