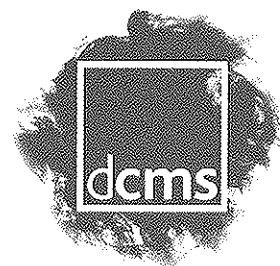


CMS 59973/DC

Councillor Geoffrey Theobald, OBE
Chairman
LACORS
Local Government House
Smith Square
LONDON
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27 January 2007



department for
culture, media
and sport

Dear Geoffrey

GAMBLING ACT: TRANSITION TIMETABLE

As you know, in light of the lessons we have learned from the Licensing Act 2003, I am determined to give licensing authorities enough time to prepare to take on their new responsibilities under the Gambling Act.

I am writing to inform you of some minor adjustments to the timetable for finalising the local authority related premises licence regulations. All of these will be laid no later than 21 February, and most before then. To preserve the commitment to a three month period between laying the relevant regulations and the date licensing authorities begin to receive applications, I have decided to move the date for submission of advance applications from 30 April to 21 May.

I know your officials and mine are working closely together to ensure that the new procedures will work well in practice. We are also committed to leaving as much as we can to the discretion of the licensing authorities. We have benefited from an outstanding level of support from licensing authorities who have given up a lot of time to come to our consultative meetings to help us test the various proposals. I am most grateful for that.

You will be aware that we have also developed some further training materials dealing with permits. We are ready to hold more workshops for licensing authorities once the regulations are finalised. I hope we can continue to work closely together to ensure the smooth implementation of the new regime.

*Yours ever
Richard*

RT HON RICHARD CABORN MP
Minister for Sport