

IoL Member Survey - Review of the Gambling Act 2005 (Jan 2021)

1. Introduction

The Culture Secretary has launched a wide ranging review of the current gambling legislation to consider online stake and spend limits, advertising and marketing rules and the powers of the Gambling Commission.

Objectives of the Review

The review of the Gambling Act (2005) is intended to ensure our regulatory framework can protect children and vulnerable people, prevent gambling related crime, and keep gambling fair and open in the digital age. Through this Review, the government's objectives are to:

Examine whether changes are needed to the system of gambling regulation in Great Britain to reflect changes to the gambling landscape since 2005, particularly due to technological advances

Ensure there is an appropriate balance between consumer freedoms and choice on the one hand, and prevention of harm to vulnerable groups and wider communities on the other

Make sure customers are suitably protected whenever and wherever they are gambling, and that there is an equitable approach to the regulation of the online and the land based industries.

The call for evidence, **can be viewed online**. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence#call-for-evidence-question-recap>) Please ensure that you refer to the call for evidence for the detail against each question.

Please ensure that you finish the survey and submit it as otherwise we will not receive your comments.

IOL RESPONSE TO THE CALL FOR EVIDENCE

This survey will close on Friday 19th March to allow the IoL to formulate its response.

Your views are important to us, and we will use the survey report in formulating the IoL response. We will **not** share your contact details without your prior permission, but please note that the detail within your responses may be shared.

There are 45 questions within the survey which mirror the questions in the call for evidence. You do not have to answer every question - please feel free to focus on those questions which you consider most relevant to your work / knowledge.

2. About you

We are asking for contact information so that we can verify the survey responses, and in order to be able to contact you direct if we have any queries about your response. We will use the survey report but will not share your contact details without your prior permission.

Please provide your contact information *

Full names

*

Organisation

*

Email

*

Telephone number

*

Please provide a generic email address for the licensing section of your authority (e.g. licensing@). This will help us when sending out future surveys.

*

Are you a member of the Institute of Licensing?

- Yes - personal member (Associate, Individual, Fellow or Companion)
- Yes - organisation member
- No
- We would be interested in membership - please contact us with more information

What region are you based in?

- East Midlands
- Eastern
- Home Counties
- London
- Northern Ireland
- North East
- North West
- Scotland
- South East
- South West
- Wales
- West Midlands

3. Call for Evidence Questions - Online protections - players and products

The questions in the IoL survey replicate those in the call for evidence which can be viewed online (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence#call-for-evidence-question-recap>).

Q1: What evidence is there on the effectiveness of the existing online protections in preventing gambling harm?

Q2: What evidence is there for or against the imposition of greater controls on online product design? This includes (but is not limited to) stake, speed, and prize limits or pre-release testing.

Q3: What evidence is there for or against the imposition of greater controls on online gambling accounts, including but not limited to deposit, loss, and spend limits?

Q4: What is the evidence on whether any such limits should be on a universal basis or targeted at individuals based on affordability or other considerations?

Q5: Is there evidence on how the consumer data collected by operators could be better deployed and used to support the government's objectives?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q6: How are online gambling losses split across the player cohort? For instance what percentage of GGY do the top and bottom 10% of spenders account for, and how does this vary by product?

Q7: What evidence is there from behavioural science or other fields that the protections which operators must already offer, such as player-set spend limits, could be made more effective in preventing harm?

Q8: Is there evidence that so called 'white label' arrangements pose a particular risk to consumers in Great Britain?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q9: What evidence, if any, is there to suggest that new and emerging technologies, delivery and payment methods such as blockchain and crypto currencies could pose a particular risk to gambling consumers?

Q10: Is there any additional evidence in this area the government should consider?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

4. Call for Evidence Questions - Advertising, sponsorship and branding

The questions in the IoL survey replicate those in the call for evidence which can be viewed online. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence>)

Q11: What are the benefits or harms caused by allowing licensed gambling operators to advertise?

Q12: What, if any, is the evidence on the effectiveness of mandatory safer gambling messages in adverts in preventing harm?

Q13: What evidence is there on the harms or benefits of licensed operators being able to make promotional offers, such as free spins, bonuses and hospitality, either within or separately to VIP schemes?

Q14: What is the positive or negative impact of gambling sponsorship arrangements across sports, esports and other areas?

Q15: Is there any additional evidence in this area the government should consider, including in relation to particularly vulnerable groups?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Details / comments:

5. Call for Evidence Questions - Gambling Commission's powers and resources

The questions in the IoL survey replicate those in the call for evidence which can be viewed online.

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence>)

Q16: What, if any, evidence is there to suggest that there is currently a significant black market for gambling in Great Britain, or that there is a risk of one emerging?

Q17: What evidence, if any, is there on the ease with which consumers can access black market gambling websites in Great Britain?

Q18: How easy is it for consumers to tell that they are using an unlicensed illegal operator?

- Easy
- Not Easy
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q19: Is there evidence on whether the Gambling Commission has sufficient investigation, enforcement and sanctioning powers to effect change in operator behaviour and raise standards?

Q20: If existing powers are considered to be sufficient, is there scope for them to be used differently or more effectively?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q21: What evidence is there on the potential benefits of changing the fee system to give the Gambling Commission more flexibility to adjust its fees, or potentially create financial incentives to compliance for operators?

Q22: What are the barriers to high quality research to inform regulation or policy making, and how can these be overcome? What evidence is there that a different model to the current system might improve outcomes?

Q23: Is there evidence from other jurisdictions or regulators on the most effective system for recouping the regulatory and societal costs of gambling from operators, for instance through taxes, licence fees or statutory levies?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q24: Is there any additional evidence in this area the government should consider?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

6. Call for Evidence Questions - Consumer Redress

The questions in the IoL survey replicate those in the call for evidence which can be viewed online.

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence>)

Q25: Is there evidence of a need to change redress arrangements in the gambling sector?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q26: If so, are there redress arrangements in other sectors or internationally which could provide a suitable model for the gambling sector?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q27: Individual redress is often equated with financial compensation for gambling losses. However, there may be risks associated with providing financial lump sums to problem and recovering gamblers, or risks of creating a sense that gambling can be 'risk free'. Are there other such considerations the government should weigh in considering possible changes to redress arrangements?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q28: Is there any additional evidence in this area the government should consider?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

7. Call for Evidence Questions - Age limits and verification

The questions in the IoL survey replicate those in the call for evidence which can be viewed online.

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence>)

Q29: What evidence is there on the effectiveness of current measures to prevent illegal underage gambling in land based venues and online?

Q30: Is there evidence of best practice, for instance from other jurisdictions, in how to prevent illegal underage gambling?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q31: What, if any, evidence is there on the number of 16 and 17 year olds participating in society lotteries?

Q32: What, if any, evidence is there to show an association between legal youth engagement in society lotteries and problem gambling (as children or adults)?

Q33: Is there comparative evidence to support society lotteries and the National Lottery having different minimum ages to play?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q34: What are the advantages and disadvantages of category D slot machine style gaming machines being legally accessible to children?

Q35: Is there evidence on how the characteristics of category D slot machine style gaming machines (for instance whether they pay out in cash or tickets) factor into their association with harm in childhood or later life?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q36: What, if any, is the evidence that extra protections are needed for the youngest adults (for instance those aged between 18 and 25)?

Q37: What evidence is there on the type of protections which might be most effective for this age group?

Q38: Is there any additional evidence in this area the government should consider?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

8. Call for Evidence Questions - Land based gambling

The questions in the IoL survey replicate those in the call for evidence which can be viewed online.

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence>)

Q39: What, if any, changes in the rules on land based gambling would support the government's objectives as set out in the document? Please provide evidence to support this position, for instance how changes have worked in other countries.

Q40: What evidence is there on potential benefits or harms of permitting cashless payment for land based gambling?

Q41: Is there evidence that changes to machine allocations and/ or machine to table ratios in casinos to allow them to have more machines would support the government's objectives?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q42: What is the evidence that the new types of casino created by the 2005 Act meet (or could meet) their objectives for the sector; supporting economic regeneration, tourism and growth while reducing risks of harm?

Q43: Is there evidence on whether licensing and local authorities have enough powers to fulfil their responsibilities in respect of premises licenses?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q44: Is there evidence that we should moderately increase the threshold at which local authorities need to individually authorise the number of category D and C gaming machines in alcohol licensed premises?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments:

Q45: Is there any additional evidence in this area the government should consider?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Detail / comments: