Title: Prohibition on Betting on EuroMillions

IA No:

RPC Reference No: RPC-3538(2)-DCMS-GC

Lead department or agency: DCMS Other departments or agencies:

Impact Assessment (IA)

Date: 21/07/17

Stage: Final

Source of intervention: Domestic

Type of measure: Secondary

Contact for enquiries: Vicky Smith vicky.smith@culture.gov.uk or Oli Dyer

oliver.dyer@culture.gov.uk

**Summary: Intervention and Options** 

**RPC Opinion: Green** 

Cost of Preferred (or more likely) Option						
Total Net Present Value	Business Net Present Value	Net cost to business per year (EANDCB in 2014 prices)	One-In, Three-Out	Business Impact Target Status		
-£43.25m	-£43.25m	£4.5m	Yes	22.5		

#### What is the problem under consideration? Why is government intervention necessary?

Section 95 of the Gambling Act 2005 prohibits a holder of a betting licence from offering a bet on the outcome of a lottery which forms part of the National Lottery. However, some gambling operators in the UK currently offer a bet on the outcome of EuroMillions draws occurring in other European countries (i.e. bets offered on, for example, the Spanish EuroMillions draw). Government intervention is necessary to close this loophole, clarify the distinction between betting and The National Lottery, and in doing so, take precautionary action to protect returns to good causes and prevent consumer confusion.

#### What are the policy objectives and the intended effects?

We believe that betting on EuroMillions draws outside the UK is clearly contrary to the spirit of the s.95 provision, which seeks to preserve a distinction between betting and The National Lottery, and poses a potential threat to good cause returns. We therefore recommend that action should be taken on a precautionary basis before the market is able to grow larger. A ban will regularise the position in a way that is consistent with the intention of s.95.

What policy options have been considered, including any alternatives to regulation? Please justify preferred option (further details in Evidence Base)

**Option 0 (Do nothing)**: The Gambling Commission have undertaken a number of non-legislative measures to clarify the distinction between gambling products and lotteries, however, there is still some confusion amongst consumers when differentiating between EuroMillions betting products and participating in the EuroMillions game.

**Option 1 (Preferred Option)**: Impose a new licence condition using the power in s.78 of the Gambling Act 2005 to prohibit operators holding a licence from the Gambling Commission from offering bets on EuroMillions in countries other than the UK. It will not go as far as to reclassify or ban all betting on lotteries.

Will the policy be reviewed? It will be reviewed. If applicable, set review date: /

Does implementation go beyond minimum EU requirements?	N/A			
Are any of these organisations in scope?	<b>Micro</b> No	Small No	<b>Medium</b> No	<b>Large</b> Yes
What is the CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent change in greenhouse gas emissions? (Million tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent)		Traded:	Non-ti	raded:

I have read the Impact Assessment and I am satisfied that, given the available evidence, it represents a reasonable view of the likely costs, benefits and impact of the leading options.

	Jacey Cach		
Signed by the responsible :	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Date:	30 November 2017

# **Summary: Analysis & Evidence**

Policy Option 1

**Description:** 

#### **FULL ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT**

Price	PV Base	Time Period				
Base Year 2017	Year 2017	Years 10	Low: -51	High: -35.5	Best Estimate: -43.25	

COSTS (£m)	Total Tra (Constant Price)	<b>nsition</b> Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Cost (Present Value)
Low	0.2		4.1	35.5
High	0.2		5.9	51
Best Estimate	0.2		5	43.2

#### Description and scale of key monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

The key costs are transition costs (which includes familiarisation with the legislation) for the Gambling Commission (£4,600) and operators (£213,884). Operators will incur costs from updating their websites so that these bets are no longer offered. Operators will also face annual costs (lost profits) with £4.1m being the lower estimate, £5m the best estimate, and £5.9m being the upper estimate.

#### Other key non-monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

N/A

BENEFITS (£m)	<b>Total Tran</b> (Constant Price)	<b>Years</b>	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	<b>Total Benefit</b> (Present Value)
Low	Optional		Optional	Optional
High	Optional		Optional	Optional
Best Estimate	0		0	0

Description and scale of key monetised benefits by 'main affected groups' N/A

#### Other key non-monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

Banning bets on EuroMillions draws occurring outside the UK brings these draws into line with the law for UK draws, as it is illegal to place bets on the UK EuroMillions. The Gambling Commission advise that there is a latent risk that consumer spend may be diverted from true lottery products, resulting in a decline in money to good causes. This measure clarifies the distinction between The National Lottery and gambling products, and

Key assumptions/sensitivities/risks Discount rate	3.50
impacting on business.	
may offer some protection to the funds for good causes raised by The National Lottery without significantly	ly
good daddes. This measure claimes the distinction between the National Lottery and gambling products,	

The main difficulty with the data was monetising the annual costs which are the lost profits to operators from not offering overseas EuroMillions products. The Gambling Commission advised us that only a small proportion of profits come from betting on these products. Based on responses to the consultation we have decided to include three estimates 5%, 15%, and 25%. We have also made assumptions on the costs to operators from updating their websites and of additional staff time required during the transitional stage.

#### **BUSINESS ASSESSMENT (Option 1)**

Direct impact on business (Equivalent Annual) £m:			Score for Business Impact Target (qualifying provisions only) £m: 22.5
Costs: 4.5	Benefits:	Net: -4.5	provisions only) £m. 22.5

#### **EVIDENCE BASE**

#### PROBLEM UNDER CONSIDERATION

Betting on the outcome of lotteries has been offered legally for many years. In contrast, The National Lottery occupies a unique status, and is protected by Section 95 of the Gambling Act 2005. Section 95 prohibits a holder of a betting licence from offering a bet on the outcome of a lottery which forms part of the National Lottery. This includes the UK EuroMillions.

However, some gambling operators in the UK currently offer a bet on the outcome of EuroMillions draws offered abroad (for example, a bet on the outcome of the Spanish EuroMillions draw). This is because EuroMillions is a lottery run in partnership between several lottery operators in European countries and is, technically, a separate game in each participating country despite being the same draw.

In 2015, Camelot made a series of recommendations to the CMS Select Committees Enquiry on Society Lotteries. They suggested that under s.95 there should be no ability for operators to offer bets on EuroMillions, regardless of whether it is in the UK or abroad. They also proposed that this ban should be extended to all UK licensed lotteries to preserve the distinction between lotteries and gambling or that all such bets should be reclassified as 'lotteries'. The Committee recommended that Camelot's proposals should be examined further.

Following advice from the Gambling Commission, we consider that betting on EuroMillions draws occurring abroad should be prohibited in the UK, consistent with the position for UK draws, as it could result in customer confusion, and may also risk the amount that can be raised for UK good causes by The National Lottery in future. This is particularly pertinent as some bets are offered at a lower price than the current cost of a EuroMillions ticket, and noting the growing trend for online participation in lotteries, where the risk of confusion is arguably greater. We ran a consultation on this issue from March 6 to May 2 2017.

We note that betting on lotteries generally (i.e. including bets on other national lotteries) is a relatively small market, representing just 2% of the Gross Gambling Yield accounted for the betting sector. In view of this, and ongoing work by the Gambling Commission to increase clarity between betting and lottery products, we consider that extending the ban to all lotteries or reclassification would be disproportionate.

#### RATIONALE FOR INTERVENTION

While there is no evidence that betting on EuroMillions draws abroad currently harms returns to good causes, we believe that it is clearly contrary to the spirit of the s.95 provision which seeks to preserve a distinction between betting and The National Lottery. We therefore recommend that action be taken on a precautionary basis before the market is able to grow. A ban will regularise the position in a way consistent with the intention behind s.95.

#### **Customer Confusion**

We think that it is right to act now because these bets appear to be muddying the 'clear blue water' between betting and The National Lottery.

23 consultation respondents out of 44 who responded considered that there was potential for customer confusion.

In research submitted to the CMS Select Committee in 2014 conducted in relation to a EuroMillions betting product, only 14% of respondents understood that it was a betting product while 61% thought it was a way of participating in the EuroMillions Lottery. 1

New analysis was submitted to the consultation by a betting operator (Lottoland) in relation to their betting product. The results of their survey suggested that 28% of consumers surveyed did not know the difference between betting on EuroMillions and playing the EuroMillions lottery.

Differing methodologies mean that the surveys are not comparable. However, consultation responses confirmed that there is still a level of consumer confusion regarding betting on EuroMillions. Betting operators own figures suggest almost a third of consumers remain unable to distinguish between the two products, despite steps taken to increase marketing clarity, e.g.changing the word 'play' to 'bet'. Operators are able to exploit the 'life-changing' prize levels offered by The National Lottery without necessarily returning funds to good causes. The Gambling Commission advise there is a risk that consumer spend may be diverted from National Lottery products (via EuroMillions sales), resulting in a decline in good cause returns. This cannot be quantified as there is insufficient evidence available.

There is anecdotal evidence of lottery players switching to betting sites. One online betting operator told us that they received 'a huge influx' of EuroMillions players during recent weeks of very large jackpots due to the National Lottery site crashing or being slow at peak times. Post-consultation, this operator provided us with results of further research with their players (June 2017).

We note that the Advertising Standards Authority upheld a complaint on 1 February 2017 regarding betting on a EuroMillions radio ad, concluding that as the ad implied that participants would be playing in a lottery, rather than in a gambling game, it was was misleading. The ASA considered that references to "bet" did not make it clear that consumers would be "gambling on the outcome of a lottery rather than actually participating in it, and consequently, did not dispel the impression given by the voice-over's references at the start of the ad that a lottery was being promoted" In June 2017 the Gambling Commission fined Lottoland £150,000 in relation to this case, finding their advertising to be misleading to consumers.

The European Union Trademark Authority has also refused the registration of a betting operator's (Lottoland's) EuroMillions logo as a European trademark. When challenged by the SLE (the administrative Board of EuroMillions), the Board of Appeal of the EU Intellectual Property Office found that due to near identical verbal elements there was a likelihood of confusion on the part of the average consumer.

6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Para 80, Camelot research noted CMS Select Committee Report Society Lotteries 2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.asa.org.uk/rulings/eu-lotto-ltd-a16-357523.html

Finally, Camelot submitted additional anecdotal evidence indicating customer confusion when the EuroMillions ticket price was increased from £2.00 to £2.50 in 2016:

'Why am I being charged £2.50 for Euro[Millions] lottery tickets, when it says in the papers and billboards that the price is still £2.00';

'It said on radio still £2.00 and there was a full page in The Sun saying still £2.00 so I'm totally confused';

'I have been asked to enquire, why Lottoland.co.uk can advertise tickets for tonight's £112 million jackpot at £2.00 whilst everyone buying a ticket from a Camelot outlet or on-line via Camelot have to pay £2.50 per ticket. How do you explain this?'

#### Returns to Good Causes

The current evidence base is not able to support or refute a hypothesis concerning any impact on lottery revenues (and therefore, the returns to good causes) attributable to betting on lotteries.

Of the games in The National Lottery portfolio, Lotto and EuroMillions offer the highest returns to good causes. Lotto returns approximately 30% of sales to good causes through the retail channel and 35% through the non-retail channel. EuroMillions (with a prize pay-out of 50%) currently returns approximately 27% of sales to good causes through the retail channel and 33% through the non-retail channel. In comparison, scratchcards return between 4% - 17% and interactive instant-win games theoretically return between 10% - 22% depending on the particular game. The actual return of each game will fluctuate from week to week. In contrast, betting operators can advertise the same jackpots (a key sales driver), at lower prices, without any obligation to return a percentage to good causes.

Evidence from one betting operator submitted in response to the consultation suggests that at present, their betting on EuroMillions products does not have a statistical impact on EuroMillions sales. However, were betting on EuroMillions to expand and become widespread amongst other operators, there is a risk that EuroMillions sales, and consequently National Lottery good cause returns, may decrease. Given the lack of available data on probable impact, we cannot conclude that this would be inevitable, however the Gambling Commission see this as a potential growth market for gambling operators. The Gambling Commission note the increased profile of operators offering this product, and we are aware that some operators put considerable resource into marketing their betting on EuroMillions products. Camelot note that as a result they have incurred significant costs in order to defend key brand terms, funds which would otherwise have been spent on marketing initiatives to increase good cause revenues. For example, the cost of the National Lottery site coming up first on a Google search has increased significantly due to advertising spend by companies that offer bets on lotteries.

## **POLICY OBJECTIVE**

The policy seeks to prevent the undermining of the clear distinction that s.95 seeks

to achieve between the National Lottery and gambling, and prevent potential negative impacts on National Lottery good cause returns. The regulation would bring European EuroMillions draws into line with the UK draw. UK operators would no longer be able to offer bets on any National Lottery game to Great British consumers. This would not affect offers on other international lotteries or offers on non-UK EuroMillions to non-UK customers.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

#### Option 0 (Do nothing)

The Gambling Commission have taken steps to improve the clarity of marketing between betting, lotteries and The National Lottery, and taken steps to reduce customer confusion between bets on EuroMillions and the EuroMillions game, however, there is still some confusion amongst consumers between the EuroMillions game and EuroMillions betting products.

#### <u>Distinction between betting, lottery, and National Lottery products</u>

Work by the Gambling Commission has included including issuing a note to industry, and follow-up compliance work. The Gambling Commission have published:

- <u>advice to operators</u> in relation to openness and transparency i.e. that it
  must be made clear to consumers what type of gambling they are
  being offered in this case, making clear to consumers that the
  product is a betting product and that they are not entering a lottery;
- <u>information for consumers</u> to explain the difference between betting on lotteries products and lottery products.

The Gambling Commission have noted changes to how a number of products are promoted as a result of this work. In addition a group of operators have developed a voluntary industry code, although the Gambling Commission note take up has been poor.

#### <u>Distinction between Betting on EuroMillions, and EuroMillions Lottery Products</u>

In oral evidence to the CMS Select Committee, the CEO of the Gambling Commission at the time considered that the Gambling Commission's existing powers were sufficiently wide to ensure that the licensing objectives (including player protection) were upheld. However she noted that there were difficult areas to address with regard to customer confusion, such as the ability to bet on EuroMillions draws outside the UK<sup>3</sup>.

The Gambling Commission monitor compliance with S95 Gambling Act 2005 to make sure that operators are not offering bets on lotteries which form part of the National Lottery.

However, where operators offer bets on non-UK versions of EuroMillions, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Para 83, pg. 33 Society Lotteries, CMS Select Committee Report

Gambling Commission can only require operators to be transparent with consumers about the nature of the product. This includes asking operators to make clear to consumers that they are offering a bet on a non-UK EuroMillions game, and that they are not entering EuroMillions in the same way as they would by buying a ticket from the National Lottery (retail or online). This is an important distinction, as a EuroMillions bet does not entail a proportion of the ticket price going to good causes whereas playing the EuroMillions does. In this way while many may consider playing a lottery a form of betting, for the purposes of this IA we make a distinction between playing a lottery (e.g. with Camelot) or betting on a lottery (with a private betting operator).

We are aware that a number of betting operators have worked closely with the Gambling Commission and taken steps to improve marketing clarity. As noted in consultation responses, this has included 'What is Lotto betting?' and FAQ's on the website, and changing wording from 'play' to 'bet'.

In practice, the Gambling Commission are concerned that the distinctions here are subtle or technical and therefore capable of being lost on the average consumer. They remain concerned that consumers are being misled, even where operators are technically compliant with the law.

In the case of EuroMillions, the Gambling Commission consider the risk of confusion is arguably greater, given the prominence of the EuroMillions brand and its association with the National Lottery as a game which forms part of the National Lottery portfolio.

Indeed, the strength/distinctiveness of the brand name influenced the refusal of the European Trademark Court in 2016 to permit Lottoland to register their EuroMillions logo as a recognised trademark<sup>5</sup>.

# Option 1 (Preferred Option): Use powers under s.78 Gambling Act to impose a licence condition prohibiting operators holding a licence from the Gambling Commission offering bets on EuroMillions in countries other than the UK

Based on their assessment of licensed remote betting operators who offer bets on lotteries, the Gambling Commission has estimated the impact of a ban on betting on EuroMillions on UK gambling operators to be relatively low in relation to other betting products.

Operators offer bets on a range of international lotteries, such as the Irish Lotto and New York State Lottery, and their ability to do so will remain unfettered. As the licence condition will mirror wording in the Gambling (Licensing and Advertising) Act 2014, operators will retain the ability to offer bets on EuroMillions to non-UK customers. As National Lottery products (including EuroMillions) are only available to UK and Isle of Man residents, the risk of confusion for consumers abroad is lower,

5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Camelot have noted that one operator's entry mechanic for EuroMillions lottery bets was the same as the normal entry mechanic for lottery EuroMillions game e.g. picking 5 main numbers and two lucky stars.

and there is no impact on returns to good causes.

DCMS asked the Gambling Commission to explore two other proposals for wider regulatory action, as per the CMS select Committee recommendations, including:

- Banning all bets on lotteries;
- Reclassifying all 'bets on lotteries' as lotteries. This would mean any bet on a lottery would be subject to the regulatory framework governing society lotteries i.e. a prize cap at £400,000, and a minimum 20% return to good causes.

As lotteries may only be offered by non-commercial societies, commercial companies would need to change the nature of their business, or set up a non-commercial arm to carry out these transactions. The Gambling Commission consider that both options would result in effectively prohibiting operators from offering these products, and as a consequence, reduce customer choice.

With the regulatory work already undertaken, and the lack of evidence on returns to good causes, we feel it would be disproportionate to introduce the measures above. This was supported by responses received during the course of the DCMS Call for Evidence (December 2014 - March 2015). The majority of respondents from across the lottery and betting sector supported a clear distinction between society lottery, betting, and National Lottery products. However very few supported an outright ban or reclassification of bets on lotteries as society lotteries, with the exception of a number of lottery beneficiaries, Camelot, and the World Lottery Association. Further details from respondents are available at **Annex A**.

#### **COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS**

#### Option 1 - prohibit betting on EuroMillions outcomes (preferred option)

#### Market growth in the counterfactual

Under the counterfactual scenario, we are unable to provide a robust estimate of the potential growth in this market for the following reasons:

- The Gambling Commission do not collect data from operators broken down by products offered so we are unable to accurately quantify the proportion of operators' profits that are due to EuroMillions betting products. In the monetised costs section, based on Gambling Commission advice, we have assumed that the best estimate of this proportion is currently 15%.
- We do not have data on how this proportion is likely to change in the next few years. Consultation: Of the 5 respondent organisations which currently offer bets on EuroMillions, 3 indicated that 15% or more of their profits were due to EuroMillions products. Where specified this was placed at 25 or 50%. Additionally, 2 specified that 15% or more of their profits derived from EuroMillions products offered to UK customers.
- Looking to the next 5 years, three operators considered that the proportion of their profits due to betting on EuroMillions would decrease, if betting on EuroMillions games was not prohibited as their product offer expanded. One operator considered that the proportion of their profits due to betting on

EuroMillions products would increase by 3% or more but less than 6%. A further operator was unsure of whether profits would increase or decrease over the next years.

• Due to insufficient historical data we are unable to estimate the future growth rate of the remote gambling market.

#### Transition costs

#### Gambling Commission

The Gambling Commission provided us with information on transition time and costs outlined below (this also includes familiarisation costs which is the time taken to read and understand the new legislation):

- Remote sector specialist manager grade: 1.5 days per week for 8 weeks to include internal prep, lines, answering direct calls from operators, policy work, guidance notes, internal briefings.
- Communications manager grade: 2 days in terms of preparing lines, updating website etc.
- Licensing Officer grade: 7.5 days in total (across all LOs) in terms of call centre etc.
- Exec director grade: 1 day to cover all exec briefing etc.

To calculate the total cost, we will use the average salary from the Gambling Commission across all roles instead of the actual salary for each of the each of the individual roles for confidentiality reasons (the Gambling Commission have confirmed that this gives us a costing similar to using the actual salary for each of the different roles). This is an hourly rate of £21.66 uplifted by 30 percent to cover non-labour costs £28.16 per hour or £208 per day.

With a total of 22.5 days, the total transition costs to the Gambling Commission is £4.680.

#### Operators

Operators will need to familiarise themselves with the legislation and make changes to their products. Around 10 remote operators accept bets on the outcome of overseas EuroMillions draws (we are not aware of any non-remote operators offering bets on this product).

We think this will be a relatively straightforward change for the remote operators as they would just need to update their website. Based on information from the Gambling Commission through their data collection processes from operators, we estimate that it will cost each operator £5,000 to change their website. We assume that it will take two days' time for a manager to familiarise themselves with the new legislation and oversee the changes and four hours' time for a tech expert to make the changes.

Data from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2015 shows that the median hourly wage for a corporate manager and director is £21.00 uplifted by 30 percent to cover non-labour costs £27.30. If we assume one working day is eight hours, two working days will cost £436.80.

The median hourly wage for an Information Technology and Telecommunications professional is £20.46 uplifted by 30 percent to cover non-labour costs £26.60. Therefore, four hours will cost £106.39

Estimated total cost per operator: £5,543

Of the 10 operators who will be affected by this, 2 provided us with their estimates of transitional costs, the others we assume incur costs in line with the gambling commission's advice. Total cost to all operators is £213,844

Total transitional costs: costs to Gambling Commission + costs to operators =£4,680 + £213,844 = £218,524

#### Annual costs

By prohibiting operators from offering bets on the outcome of EuroMillions products, operators will see a decrease in their gross gambling yield (GGY) which we will use as a proxy for profit. We do not know the size of the remote market (non-remote operators do not offer this product so will not be affected) for betting on EuroMillions as there is no regulatory data available on the proportion of operators' sales and profits that result from products on EuroMillions outcomes. The Gambling Commission have advised us that the only meaningful participants within this market are those that offer betting on the outcome of lotteries as their primary business model

We are only able to obtain data on 2015 GB turnover and GGY for these businesses. However, they are not split out by individual product. We were advised by the Gambling Commission prior to consultation that betting on the outcome of EuroMillions accounts for a small portion of the businesses in question. This was an assumption made by the Gambling Commission based on experience of the market. Given the consultation responses we have revised our central estimate.

Below is a table showing a spread based on values between 5% and 25%. We believe given limited consultation responses that 15% is likely to be the best estimate for the whole market. We will use this assumption to form our best estimate, with the 5% forming our low estimate and the 25% assumption forming our upper estimate. For the 8 operators who did not provide more information about the proportion of their revenue or profits related to betting on the non-UK EuroMillions we will use the below percentages. For the operator that included their estimate we will add that onto the percentage based estimate to get the below table. However, given growth in the market, and consultation responses, we believe the market is larger than it was in 2015 and therefore we consider the figures given to us during the consultation to be an accurate reflection of the size of the market.

GB customers	5%	15%	25%
	(low)	(Central)	(High)
Profits (GGY)	£4,102,400	£5,007,200	£5,912,000

Sensitivity analysis has been carried out below to see the effect of varying the assumption of operators' profits that contribute to EuroMillions.

Proportion of business due to EuroMillions betting (%)		EANDCB (£m)	Total NPV (£m)
5	4,102,400	3.7	-35.5
15	5,007,000	4.5	-43.25
25	5,912,000	5.3	-51

#### Non-monetised benefits

Banning bets on EuroMillions outcomes abroad brings those draws into line with UK draws on which it is illegal to place bets under s.95 of the Gambling Act 2005. This will maintain the distinction between National Lottery products and betting products in the manner intended by the Act, and will reduce customer confusion in this area.

We do not have sufficient evidence to quantify lost returns, as to gather the evidence required would involve a considerable amount of research and associated cost. However, the Gambling Commission advise that there is a latent risk that consumer spend may be diverted from true lottery products, resulting in a decline in money to good causes. This argument is compelling when you consider the effect price has on demand for a lottery product. Given that betting operators, due to not giving money to good causes, can offer a EuroMillions bet for £2 instead of £2.50 it is easy to see how this could be more attractive to the consumer.

Betting operators can offer bets on EuroMillions that can exploit the 'life-changing' prize levels offered by The National Lottery, without necessarily returning funds to good causes. This measure may therefore offer some protection to the funds for good causes raised by The National Lottery, without significantly impacting on business. We are unable to monetise the benefits of the avoidance of future loss of good cause returns to these bets due to insufficient evidence.

# **Proportionality**

We consulted the Gambling Commission on the transition costs to their organisation and the operators, the number of operators that will be affected, and the annual costs to operators. On the annual costs to operators under the preferred option, we made assumptions on the proportion of operators' profits that are due to EuroMillions betting products as the Gambling Commission do not collect information from operators on a product by product basis. We felt it would be overly burdensome to

contact each individual operator to find out this information as the overall proportion of EuroMillions betting was not significant in magnitude. During the consultation, we asked operators for details on the costs they will face.

#### Risks and assumptions

- Proportion of businesses who are offering bets on EuroMillions products we did some sensitivity analysis on this which forms the low and high estimates.
- Assumptions made on cost to operators cost of updating website, time taken for staff to update these changes.
- Time taken for Gambling Commission staff through the transition stage.
- In regards to non-monetised benefits we assume there is some substitution between betting on the euromillions and playing the euromillions however, due to time and resources constraints we are unable to commission the scale of research needed to establish the substitution between the two products.

#### Small and Micro Business Assessment (SaMBA)

Small and micro businesses will not be exempt as given the nature of this regulation and the number of operators in this market we consider it impossible to achieve the desired outcome without including these businesses.

Therefore, under our preferred option, some small and micro businesses will be affected. According to the Gambling Commission there are ten operators who provide betting on non-UK EuroMillions to UK consumers. Of these ten, five responded to the consultation and of these four of the operators are small or micro businesses. Therefore, at least four small and micro businesses will be affected by this regulation. We can attempt to estimate a proportion of the costs associated with the SaMBA businesses we identify in the IA (4) however, because we do not know the size of 5 of the operators (the ones who didn't respond) any estimate of the effect on Small and Micro businesses may not be particularly robust. Assuming that four SaMBA businesses is the lower bound (following the proportion of businesses that answered small or micro for the consultation).

Assuming that 4/10 operators are SaMBA the cost to these businesses will be £1.7m.

8/10 operators are SaMBA the cost will be £2.38m.

# SUMMARY AND PREFERED OPTION WITH DESCRIPTION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

We propose imposing a licence condition prohibiting betting on EuroMillions draws in other European countries, using the power in section 78 of the Gambling Act. The intention is that this condition will mirror s.95 of the Gambling Act 2005 which prohibits betting on the outcome of the National Lottery. This includes EuroMillions UK draws.

We intend that this be extended to include betting on <u>all</u> EuroMillions draws including those held in other European countries. Consistent with s.95 the condition will apply to:

- a general betting operating licence;
  a pool betting licence; and
  a betting intermediary licence.

#### DCMS Lotteries Call for Evidence December 2014 - March 2015

The DCMS Call for Evidence 2014 explored the distinction between The National Lottery, society lotteries, and betting products, and whether there was sufficient clarity to distinguish between these products. A number of betting and lottery operators and wider stakeholders responded. The overwhelming view was that it was important that products were clearly marketed, and that consumers knew what they were purchasing. Few operators commented on the size and scale of their business, other than the Association of British Bookmakers. We will seek to collect more of this type of information through the consultation.

#### **Betting Operators/ Industry Representatives**

The RGA Remote Gambling Association (largest online gambling trade association in the world) noted that "domestic licensing of all online betting in Great Britain means that no gambling on the UK National Lottery is now permitted". The RGA did not consider that there was any evidence that numbers-based betting products were damaging to the National Lottery, but did feel it was important that "Consumers ... understand the product that they are gambling on". The RGA noted that while betting customers must understand they are betting, not participating in The National Lottery, that this also extended to National Lottery customers, who must understand they were not gambling (noting in particular the presence of a Bingo style product on the TNL website.)

This position was supported by **The Bingo Association** who stated that "such a distinction [between a lottery and a betting product] should be made transparent and is a principle of the licensing objectives." The Association noted "differences between National Lottery products and other forms of commercial gambling are increasingly indistinguishable to the customer." - and considered this detrimental to their commercial gambling offer.

The **Association of British Bookmakers (ABB)** is a trade association for licensed betting offices in the UK. Members include major operators William Hill, Ladbrokes, Coral and Paddy Power, along with around 100 smaller independent bookmakers.

The ABB highlighted the importance of the environment in which bets on lotteries are played, and disagreed with the idea that there was customer confusion "as to whether betting in a lottery in a bookmakers is the same or different to playing in a lottery." They noted that "betting shops provide a safe environment in which people can bet on a range of products, and although lottery products make up only a small proportion of most shops' turnover, they play an important part in allowing shops to offer customers variety and choice."

MyLotto24, a operator which offers bets on lotteries submitted separate written evidence to the CMS Select Committee. This operator offers bets on lotteries, with

varying percentages returned to selected charities. Betting on EuroMillions forms a part of its portfolio, however this is not made available to UK customers. In their submission, the organisation did not consider itself to be a competitor to The National Lottery or other lotteries, and felt their model was a valid fundraising tool.

## **Lottery Operators/ Industry Representatives**

Lotteries Council: The Lotteries Council (an industry body whose stated aim is to present unified voice for lottery fundraising) believed that it should remain illegal for betting products to allow bets on National Lottery numbers, to best protect and maximise the income of the National Lottery brand. The Council saw no reason to intervene to prevent betting on other Lottery draws, other than to ensure a "clear demarcation of a product that is profit driven and a Society Lottery product that is prohibited from seeking commercial gain."

**World Lottery Association**: The WLA recommended that "the UK Government takes appropriate measures to clarify the lottery marketplace and to restore the clear and traditional distinctions between the National Lottery, society lotteries, and the for-profit gaming sector. Possible measures could include retaining current limits on draws and prizes for society lotteries; and prohibiting bets on all lotteries under UK law."

#### **Lottery Beneficiaries**

A number of lottery funded bodies supported Camelot's recommendation to ban all bets on lotteries, or subject them to the same regime as society lotteries.