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QUALITY AMUSEMENTS LTD

To whom it may concern

Fruit machine Tie

I understand from within the trade press etc that the AWP tie may, or is up for government review.

We as a company have concerns that it will change the whole structure of a business that has been well regulated and stable since the gaming act of 1968 came into force.

Listed below are some of the concerns we have and the effect that that any changes may have on all parties.

- Removal of the tie may result in tenants using the machines as a change machine and therefore the cash removed may not be declared to HMRC.
- The result of the above will without question result in loss of income for HMRC, as well as the machine operator, as tenants will not want to pay a rental for newer machines.
- Without the tie tenants would seek lower rental machines, having a knock on effect of lower MGI being collected as generally newer machines with higher rents take more money.
- There is no doubt in our experience of operating within the free trade estate, site owners do not take meter readings weekly if at all, and the money declared could not actually be the money counted from the machine.

Without regulation of some sort by the site owner we feel that it could well open the door to unregulated machines creeping into the estate with the sole aim of defrauding HMRC of MGD revenue.

This would be like going back to the days before the gaming act of 1968 and could lead to organised crime installing machines in city centre locations and growing outwards over a period of time.

We feel a relaxing of the AWP tie can happen as long as its still regulated by the following methods.

- The site owner to have a NOMINATED supplier list using a supply criteria to make sure standard of service is maintained
- A small percentage income share for the site owner to enable monitoring of income and to give advice on maximising income.
- Collected machines to have an industry standard collection receipt as currently used.

Maintaining income for the tenants, and revenue to HMRC can and will be harmed if we do not self regulate should the machine tie disappear.

Kind regards

Paul Valente
Director

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