

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to take part in this consultation. I responded online, focussing on questions related to FOBTs. I am a member of the All-party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on FOBTs which received and heard a significant amount of information about the horrendous consequences of FOBT play over several months, and which is summarised in our report:

<http://fobt-appg.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/FINAL-FOBT-APPG-REPORT.pdf> .

In light of the evidence we received, in my mind the case for a stake reduction to £2 for FOBT machines is absolutely unanswerable. Any lesser reduction would be hugely disappointing and would not, to my mind, reflect the environment in which these machines are being played, or the consequences of problem play for gamblers, their friends and family, government and society. All of this is evidenced in our report and in other research.

I look forward to the government's response as soon as possible – action is long overdue!

Yours sincerely,

Stuart McDonald
**MP for Cumbernauld,
Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch East**