

TRACEY CROUCH MP  
Minister for Sport and Civil Society  
Department for Digital, Culture, Media  
and Sport  
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Please ask for:	Licensing Team
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Our reference:	BLR/17/2
Your reference:	

22 January 2018

Dear Madam

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## **DCMS – Consultation on proposals for changes to Gaming Machines and Social Responsibility Measures**

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Further to your published consultation ending 23 January 2018, these issues have been debated and considered at a meeting of the Babergh District Council Licensing and Regulatory Committee on 8 December 2017. The Committee agreed a collective response, and this is submitted below:

Question 1 – The Committee felt that Option 4 was the best option to achieve the Government's balanced objective of a sector that can grow and contribute to the economy, and one that is socially responsible, however the Committee ask the Government to also consider at the same time to increase the spin speed time from 20 seconds and to restrict the maximum amount that you could put into the machine at any one time.

Question 2 to Question 7 – The Committee agreed with the Governments proposals to keep the status quo on gaming machine categories B1, B3, B3A, B4, C and D.

Question 8 – The Committee agrees with the Governments proposals to increase the stakes and prizes in line with industry proposals. Although the Committee agrees with the Governments increase proposals, Committee requests that this is kept under regular review.

Question 9 to Question 14 – The Committee agrees with the Governments proposals on Questions 9 to 14, the Committee feels that much more should be done to reduce free betting and to curtail advertising from for example Sports, Social Media, tv before the "Watershed" and family shows.

Question 15 – The Committee agrees with the Governments assessment of the current powers being available as currently being sufficient.

Question 16 – The Committee has no additional relevant issues to raise in respect of the Gambling Act 2005.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Ridley', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Nick Ridley  
Chair of Babergh District Council  
Licensing and Regulatory Committee