



Remote gambling changes imminent

In our article entitled *"Preparing for the proposed changes in the law under the Gambling (Licensing and Advertising) Bill"* which you will find at <http://cliftondavies.com/preparing-proposed-changes-law-gambling-licensing-advertising-bill/> we provided information designed to assist new licence applicants to prepare for the proposed legislative changes that will take effect three months or so after Royal Assent.

With the Bill now expected to receive Royal Assent imminently, following approval on 26 March by the House of Commons of a House of Lords amendment to grant the Secretary of State power to extend the horse race betting levy to offshore bookmakers, readers are recommended to read the updated Gambling Commission FAQ on the implementation of the Bill, at <http://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk/pdf/Gambling%20licensing%20advertising%20FAQs%20March%202017.03.14V2.pdf>

It covers new material, including in relation to the changes to the LCCP, the first set of which will be published at the end of March and will come into effect three months later, although the Commission has stated that the new condition requiring licensed operators to source their gambling software from Commission licensed gambling software businesses will not come into force until 1 January 2015. Further advice is awaited from the Commission on the circumstances in which a gambling software operating licence is likely to be needed. The updated FAQ document also confirms the Commission's view that the new licensing and regulatory requirements will capture gambling by a customer who is physically located in Great Britain when gambling facilities are used and refers to its recently published information note on the circumstances in which a business might apply for an *"umbrella licence"* to cover activities of group companies.

The new applications forms and associated guidance can be accessed at http://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk/gambling_sectors/remote_eg_online_gambling/about_the_remote_gambling_industry/about_remote_gambling/gambling_licensing_and_advert/prepare_for_proposed_changes_i.aspx

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