

Clifton: Give Rhodes a chance to reform



Share this article

Licensing expert David Clifton of Clifton Davies believes Andrew Rhodes, CEO of the Gambling Commission, has taken a “proper chance” to improve the regulator’s relationship with the industry.

With criticism of the Commission coming thick and fast over the last 12 months and a betting and gaming parliamentary committee more of it, Clifton cautions that too much criticism could end up with unintended consequences. Instead, he suggests a sense of balance, highlighting the CEO’s step in the right direction with his recent declaration that “gambling is not a vice”.

“That I should find that statement from the industry’s regulator so refreshing to read is an indication how far the anti-gambling focus of the gambling reform debate in the last couple of years,” wrote Clifton. “What is clearly needed, both in the proportionate and effective regulation of the industry, is a proper sense of balance. In this respect, I believe Andrew Rhodes’ recognition of this.”

Clifton added that Rhodes’ public pronouncements to date give the impression that he genuinely intends to improve his collaborative relationship with the industry”.

“I think the industry should give him a proper chance to do so,” concluded Clifton.

Share this article
