



EMBARGOED
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Bingo business as usual, as GPT comes into effect

The new Gross Profit Tax (GPT) for the bingo industry comes into effect today, differing from that which was originally proposed as a result of industry pressure.

Gross Profit Tax (GPT) for the bingo industry was first mooted by Gordon Brown in April 2002, with the proposed structure revealed in April 2003.

The Association has worked closely with The Treasury since the initial announcement was made in 2002 and has sought to at least partially address the inequalities that exist between different gaming activities in the way that they are taxed.

Sir Peter Fry, Chairman of the Bingo Association said:

“The industry has accepted that a new tax structure is in place and that it will provide some relief from the over all burden of tax. However, this still does not fully address the issue of inequality of gaming tax structures.”

“We have been out around the country working with members and local Customs and Excise Officers to try and ensure that the implementation goes as smoothly as possible for all parties. It is within our members’ interests, and those of Customs and Excise, that they have as full an understanding as possible of the new process they will be required to work through.”

- ENDS -

Notes to Editors

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About The Bingo Association:

The Bingo Association is the trade body for the licensed bingo industry in Great Britain, representing the proprietors of bingo clubs licensed under the Gaming Act 1968. The purpose of The Bingo Association is to promote and develop the interests of the licensed bingo industry and to represent members' interests in contacts with third parties, in particular with various government departments, other trade associations and the media.

There are 110 proprietors in membership and between them they operate 538 bingo clubs. Membership profile ranges from the very large operators with well over 100 clubs, to many single unit businesses.

www.bingo-association.co.uk

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