



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
21 June 2004

Concerns Remain

Members of The Bingo Association have received the Government's response to the Pre-legislative Scrutiny Committees' Report with mixed views.

Sir Peter Fry, Chairman of the Association said:

"Social responsibility is the prime purpose of regulation and in its response it is clear that Government has moved some way forward in addressing this issue more thoroughly. While some operators will not welcome some of the more restrictive measures outlined, a considerable number will feel relieved that bingo's social position, at the softer end of the gaming spectrum, has been retained.

"Government's decision to put a limit on the number of machines does not come as a surprise, however, the continued lack of clarification on the strength of Local Authority guidelines for licensing is surprising and a cause for concern.

"While this response moves some way towards acknowledging the need to protect the vulnerable, it does not fully acknowledge the potential for increased problem gambling. An issue that some quarters wish to deny, despite the ever increasing weight of research to the contrary."

- 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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