

• eGAMBLING REGIME IN ALDERNEY

It is exciting times for the eGambling regime in Alderney at the moment with all the changes to the regulatory practices in various other jurisdictions coming into play. Alderney is used to leading the way in respect of eGambling. The Alderney Gambling Control Commission ("AGCC") introduced progressive regulation and legislation over the last 10 years in respect of eGambling and has moved and evolved even quicker than the ever changing eGambling industry ever since.

The AGCC developed an innovative licensing package with a high level of regulatory control and governance to give players and operators alike the essential level of protection they require. Given the radical changes that some countries are introducing to their local markets it is gratifying for the AGCC to watch other jurisdictions adopt regimes similar to a system that has been in place in Alderney for some time in respect of this ever-changing sector. Alderney's policies are well regarded for strict conditions of licence, well-defined technical and operational requirements, rigorous due diligence and their forward thinking approach.

It is widely accepted that the remote gaming industry will be highly regulated in most EU Member States by 2012. This is a positive step forward, provided these regulations are implemented properly and with a full appreciation and understanding of the industry as a whole. There is a fear that regulators are under significant pressure to regulate the industry in their home country for various reasons (player protection is the preferred rationale but also to protect the home market and for fiscal purposes in order to retain the revenue streams and have control over them) and are introducing legislation quickly that will govern an area over which they may not yet have a full or complete grasp.

With the implementation of the new 2009 legislation by the AGCC earlier this year, the regime is well placed to adjust to the changing environment around the globe. The legislation was introduced in anticipation of a shake-up of the industry and is the most progressive regime in place in terms of flexibility and practicality of operations.

Alderney has a robust regulatory system which is up to speed with the demands of the modern market. As such, the rules and legislation governing remote gambling in Alderney are unlikely to change substantially in the short to medium term and it will be "business as usual". This offers a level of comfort to existing and potential licensees of the AGCC. In these uncertain times, it is reassuring for existing licensees and potential licensees of the AGCC to know that a licence regime is tried and tested and that the AGCC has over ten years experience of regulating the eGambling sector in Alderney.

Alderney has set a high standard within the remote gaming sector for over 10 years. During this time the regulation and legislation has proven to be of a top-tier standard. The experience gleaned by the AGCC in regulating the industry has led to a deep-rooted understanding of the sector that cannot be picked up overnight. It would be foolhardy for regulators to isolate such well regulated jurisdictions from their licensing regimes without a proper understanding of the value that they add to the industry.

For us at Collas Crill, we are proud to work with AGCC licensees as we appreciate the calibre of entity they must be in order to have obtained a licence with the AGCC in the first instance. eGambling regulation will rely on a complex web of relationships at the regulatory level and Alderney is and continues to be at the forefront of this strategy. We look forward to a continuity

of co-operation between us, AGCC licensees and other industry members for a long time into the future.

JANUARY 2011

This article was originally published in alderneygambling.com - efocused, Winter 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:



SUSAN O'LEARY

ASSOCIATE

t: +44 (0)1481 734246

e: susan.oleary@collascrill.com

Collas Crill Guernsey

Gategny Court, PO Box 140,
Gategny Esplanade, St Peter Port,
Guernsey, GY1 4EW

t: +44 (0) 1481 723191

f: +44 (0) 1481 711880

e: guernsey@collascrill.com

w: www.collascrill.com