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Your ref

20 April 2015

Dear Sirs

Large Casino Competition

As you know, we represent Grosvenor Casinos Limited (“Grosvenor”) and write in response to your letter of 16 April 2015. Please treat this letter as written submissions on Grosvenor’s behalf in advance of the Licensing Committee meeting scheduled to take place on 30 April 2015.

We have considered the decision of Southampton’s Licensing Committee following the hearing held on 9 April 2015, postponing the closing date for the Stage 2 Large Casino Competition until 10 July 2015, and subsequent correspondence between Southampton City Council and Global Gaming Ventures (“GGV”).

In relation to the contentions advanced in GGV’s recent correspondence, Grosvenor would merely observe that, of course, it is for the Licensing Committee to manage and control the Casino Competition timetable, subject to the provisions of Schedule 9 to the Gambling Act 2005, the 2008 Competition Regulations and the 2008 Code of Practice issued by DCMS. Further, Grosvenor considers that the Committee was not precluded at the 9 April meeting by the setting of its agenda from considering the question of whether to grant, or from subsequently granting, an extension to the Stage 2 deadline. In so saying, we bear in mind that the only two parties who might conceivably oppose such an extension (GGV themselves and Hammerson) were either present at that hearing or had made written representations to the Committee. Finally, Grosvenor takes the view that the Committee was under no obligation to follow precisely the same procedure as that followed when the question of an extension was considered in December 2014 or, indeed, to arrive at the same conclusion.

For Grosvenor’s part, as stated at the meeting on 9 April, it believes three months to be necessary to prepare a competent Stage 2 bid, taking into account the suggestion by RPW, only very recently advanced in its letter of 31 March 2015, of a basement location for the casino, and the subsequent decision of the Licensing Committee, published on 10 April 2015, as to what the permitted footprint for the casino is to be.

Accordingly, Grosvenor supports a closing date for Stage 2 of the Competition of 10 July 2015 and believes this to represent a sensible, pragmatic solution which is likely to bring about the greatest benefit for the people of Southampton. However, as set out above, Grosvenor acknowledges that the management of the casino timetable, and thus the fixing of the Stage 2 deadline, are entirely matters for the Committee. As it stressed at the 9 April meeting, Grosvenor is ready to submit what it considers to be an extremely

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strong Stage 2 bid for the alternative Leisureworld site in any event, and will comply with such deadline as the Committee shall see fit to impose.

Grosvenor does not propose to attend the hearing scheduled to take place on 30 April. No discourtesy to the Committee is intended.

Yours faithfully

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