

## **ANNEX 1**

### **Background**

In 2006, SCC made an application to the Casino Advisory Panel for a Regional Casino. If the proposal for the regional casino was unsuccessful SCC indicated that their fall back/second proposal was for a large casino licence.

In this application SCC indicated that a preferred location had been identified. This was the waterfront site at Royal Pier.

By virtue of the Gambling (Geographical Distribution of Large and Small Casino Premises Licences) Order 2008, SCC was one of eight licensing authorities who were permitted to issue a large casino premises licence.

In March 2013 SCC issued a "Procedure Note" in relation to the Competition.

Within the "Procedure Note" a provisional timetable for the Competition Process was set out as follows:

- 1 April 2014: Start of Stage 1
- 1 July 2014: Closing Date for Stage 1 applications
- 1 Sept 2014: Decision at Stage 1
- 6 Oct 2014: Invitation to participate in Stage 2 (subject to any Appeals).
- 6 Jan 2015: Closing date for submission of Stage 2 applications.
- March 2015: Draft recommendation of Advisory Panel issued.
- April/May 2015: Decision of Authority at Stage 2 and award of casino licence/  
provisional statement.

The Stage 1 process started on the 1<sup>st</sup> April in accordance with the provisional timetable.

Applications for provisional statements at Stage 1 of the Competition Process were lodged by GGV(RP)Ltd and GGV(S)Ltd relating to proposed premises at the Royal Pier and Watermark sites respectively.

These applications were lodged in accordance with the timetable as set out above.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2014 SCC Licensing Committee considered the applications for provisional statements lodged by GGV(RP)Ltd and GGV(S)Ltd along with applications lodged on behalf of Aspers Universal Limited, Genting Casinos UK Limited, Grosvenor Casinos Limited and Kymeira Casino Limited in respect of the Royal Pier.

An application for a provisional statement was also lodged by Grosvenor Casinos Limited in respect of their existing casino situated at Leisureworld, West Quay Road, Southampton, SO15 1RE.

Following hearings of each of the Stage 1 applications, all of the applications were granted.

Confirmation of this was provided to each of the applicants via email from Martin Grout, Locum Licensing Officer of SCC, on the 5<sup>th</sup> September.

In the same email, Mr Grout invited each applicant "to have a look at the Stage 2 documentation...and let (him) have any comments by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September."

Applicants were **not** invited to comment on the proposed timings of the commencement of Stage 2 of the Competition.

In the same email Mr Grout also advised that "(SCC) propose to commence Stage 2, subject to any appeal on the Stage 1 decisions, on 6<sup>th</sup> October (being the date given in the provisional timetable as set out above) with a closing date of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014, Martin Grout contacted those instructed on behalf of GGV(RP)Ltd and GGV(S)Ltd advising that "two of the applicants have enquired about the Council postponing the commencement of Stage 2 and I should say that the Council are minded to agree this. We will be in a position to confirm this hopefully by the end of the week and would be looking to commence Stage 2 in April 2015. We have been in discussion with the developer and understand that reasons why a delay should be implemented."

Instructing solicitors were asked to confirm whether GGV(RP)Ltd and GGV(S)Ltd would be in agreement with the proposal to delay the start of Stage 2 of the Competition by 6 months.