

GAMBLING COMMISSION

IN STRICT CONFIDENCE

15 March 2021

Oliver Dowden MP
Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport
Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport
100 Parliament Street
London
SW1A 2BQ

Dear Secretary of State,

Confidential - departure of Gambling Commission Chief Executive

As Chair of the Gambling Commission, I am writing to advise you that our Chief Executive, Neil McArthur, will be leaving the organisation after nearly 15 years. [REDACTED]

We will shortly begin the process of recruiting a Chief Executive for an 18-month interim period. My term as Chair of the Commission ends later this year and I believe that it is important that my successor has an opportunity to lead the appointment of a permanent Chief Executive. While that recruitment process is ongoing, Deputy Chief Executive Sarah Gardner and Chief Operating Officer Sally Jones will jointly become Acting Chief Executive. We have also requested that officials in your department make arrangements to designate Sarah Gardner as Accounting Officer during this interim period.

Our priority will be to ensure that the Gambling Commission continues to deliver its vital work in making gambling safer and fairer for consumers and the wider public, working with the Department on the Gambling Act Review and delivering a successful fourth National Lottery Licence Competition. The Board are confident that we have a strong management team and that Neil's departure will not impact the effective operation of the organisation.

We will be announcing this news to our staff and to stakeholders later on today.

Your sincerely,

[REDACTED]

William Moyes
Chair

Copy to: Rt Hon John Whittingdale OBE MP, Minister of State for Media and Data, DCMS



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