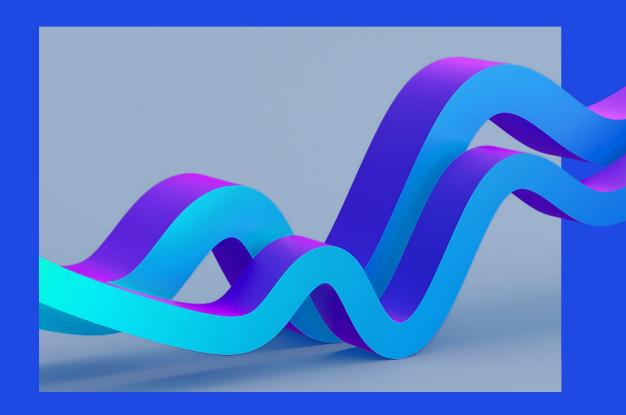


# Monetary Limits for AML and Safer Gambling

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# Introduction

### **Structure of this presentation**

- 1. Background to limits and thresholds
- 2. Basis of thresholds
  - 5 constituent elements of limits
  - The parameters on which these elements should be considered for AML and safer gambling
- 3. The application of these elements and parameters to the Gambling Act Review White Paper
- 4. Impact of the single customer view

# **Background to monetary limits**

What do we mean by monetary limits?

Do we need monetary limits at all?

Should limits be mandatory or discretionary?

# **Target of limitation**

**Total stakes Gross deposits Net deposits AML** Money laundering Laundering Spending of of illicit funds illicit funds Transfer of In account funds layering **External** Chip hedging dumping Laundering vs spending Gross deposits for spending and internal layering Net deposits for transferring funds internally or externally

Losses

**Product stakes** 

- Safer gambling = affordable gambling
- Measuring affordability, not liquidity
- Net deposits and losses for affordability
- Product-specific stakes for extra protections

	Primary threshold target	Secondary threshold target	
AML	Gross deposits	Net deposits	
Safer gambling	Net deposits	Product stakes	
	Losses		

# **Extent of limitation**

### **Hard limits**

- Prohibits further activity at defined limit
- Implemented when deposits and losses exceed risk appetite

### Soft thresholds

- Performs further checks at defined threshold
- Implemented when risk appetite exceeded unless checks to mitigate

### **Voluntary limits**

- Prohibits further activity at selfselected limit
- Implemented when customer's own risk appetite is exceeded

### **AML**

- Mostly soft thresholds
- Hard limits (in theory):
  - Risk appetite exceeded / impact of ML is too high
  - Undercutting other operators
- Soft thresholds:
  - Further information required

	Primary threshold extent	Secondary threshold extent	
AML	Soft thresholds	Hard limits	
Safer gambling	Hard limits		
	Soft thresholds		
	Voluntary limits		

- All three types used (as well as combinations of them)
- Hard limits:
  - Risk appetite exceeded
  - Undercutting regulatory requirements on soft thresholds (commercial)
- Soft thresholds:
  - Further information required
- Voluntary limits:
  - Self-recognised (largely ineffective)
  - Pre-empting enforced action (commercial)

# **Result of limitation**

SoF check

SoW / SoI check

## Background checks

# Guidance / Further restrictions

Reporting obligations

- Origin of funds in the account
- Must be effected via outreach
- Alignment of activity with expectations and affordability
- Outreach or opensource
- Adverse media / sanctions / PEP/ credit / occupation
- Open-source or screening software
- Help with gambling and signposting
- Interaction or outreach
- Marketing blocks, targeted blocks on activity
- Internal controls
- Reporting of activity to government agency
- Internal controls

### **AML**

- SoF key for identifying actual laundering
- Background checks and SoW / Sol for building suspicion
- Reporting obligations often initiated at a threshold
- Further restrictions likely unless light touch
- Action taken should match enforcement in the jurisdiction

- Customer interactions to provide information and guidance
- Sol, or SoW if windfall, non-recurring, recycled winnings
- Open-source information for verification
- Further restrictions if documents requested
- Hard and voluntary limits to lead to further checks too

	Primary threshold result			Secondary threshold result		
AML	SoF check	Further restrictions	Reporting obligations	SoW / Sol check	Background checks	
Safer gambling	Guida inform		N / Sol heck	Background checks	Further restrictions	

# Timeframe of limitation

Lifetime

365 days

90 days

30 days

7 days

24 hours

Sub-24h

Volume

**Velocity** 

### **AML**

- Less concerned with velocity, but still urgency involved
- Short-term for SoF and background checks
- Longer-term for SoW and Sol
- Lifetime less relevant

- Mostly velocity due to binge gambling
- Short-term for interactions and further restrictions
- Longer-term thresholds to cover edge cases and SoW / Sol
- Sub-24hr checks rare but useful

Primary threshold extent			Secondary threshold extent		
AML	30 days	7 days	24 hours	365 days	90 days
Safer gambling	7 days	24 hours	Sub-24h	<b>365 days</b> 90	days 30 days

# **Value of limitation**

- To be applied after consideration of all other elements
- Value should not necessarily flex proportionately depending on the other elements in play
- Key is matching the value with spending power of customers (will vary by jurisdiction)

### **AML**

- No obvious starting point as criminal proceeds vary
- For SoF, undercut other known thresholds (including cash)
- Benchmark against ML cases (accounting for structuring)
- Key to benchmark SoW / Sol checks against discretionary income

- Benchmark SoW / Sol against discretionary income
- Could be discretionary income or a percentage

# Gambling Act Review White Paper limits: how the evidence stacks up

- 1. Amounts customers currently spend on gambling:
- Patterns of play:
  - 3% lost £2k pa with 36% subject to any SG interaction and 0.8% subject to a phone call
  - 60% lost <£200, 13% lost £200 £1k, 5% lost £1k to £5k,</li>
    1% lost >£5k
- 2. Population level information about discretionary income:
- FCA survey 24% low financial resilience
- YouGov discretionary income (54% <£250 pm, 73% <£500 pm, 89% <£1k), other ONS data</li>
- 3. Problem gambling rates and other information about harms:
- Regulus / Ian McHale 19.2% sometimes too much, 4.4% usually too much, 8.9% financial difficulties
- 37% National Gambling Treatment Service users £1k previous month
- 70% National Gambling Helpline callers with debt/hardship
- 22% with annual losses over £700 PGSI problem gamblers1 year later
- 2018 Health Survey 5.8% moderate risk, 4.2% problem

Three "key information points"

Five building blocks

Target: Net deposits (high gambling spend overrepresented among harm)

Extent: Soft (self-certification not thorough enough,

Result: "Light checks" (financial vulnerability), "more detailed checks" (binge or sustained losses)

Timeframe: Various but defined (binge or sustained)

Value: Various but defined (no rationale)

### **Key White Paper Proposals:**

- £125 per month and £500 per year net deposit "light checks"
- £1k per day and £2k per 90 day net deposit "more detailed checks"
- £2-£15 slot stake limits
- Consultation on player-centric controls

Stake and voluntary limits

- 1. Slots stake limits:
- High concentration of spend, highest average losses, longest sessions, highest binge gambling product %
- Most commonly used product (38%) for National Gambling Treatment service
- 4% of stakes >£2, 1% >£5
- High risk customers overrepresented among high stakers (e.g. high/medium risk 37% of stakes <£10)</li>
- 2. Voluntary deposit limits:
- Consult on options ranging from entirely voluntary to default measures to mandatory to participate

	Target	Extent	Result	Timeframe	Value
Defined	✓	✓	×	✓	✓
Rationale	×	✓	✓	(✓)	×

# **Single Customer View**

### Intra-group:

- Immediately in play
- Short-term impact on the "long tail"

### **Cross-operator**

- Potential increase in unregulated activity
- Potential impact on the "long tail"

# Questions?