

## **JERSEY GAMBLING COMMISSION**

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### **Consultation planned on gambling changes**

Islanders will be asked for their views on changes to gambling rules later this year as the process of modernising gambling regulations continues, according to the head of the Jersey Gambling Commission.

Dr Jason Lane, the chief executive of the JGC, says that full public consultations on changes to rules on poker clubs and the use of gambling machines are all planned for the coming months.

His comments come as the commission's annual report for 2012 is presented to the States. The report includes the commission's accounts for the year, which was the last to include a grant from the States. The commission is now funded entirely by licence fees.

'The old gambling law that dated back to the 1960s was restrictive and unpopular,' said Dr Lane.

'Since the new law came into force in January, we have rolled back the bureaucracy for charities that want to hold raffles or similar events to raise money, and that has allowed us to focus our attention on commercial gambling.

'We have done a good job of living within our means now that our States grant has ended, and we will be under pressure to be prudent with our pennies going forward.'

**For further information, please contact Ben Queree at Direct Input on 715414.**

### **About the commission...**

The Jersey Gambling Commission was established in September 2010 and is funded by licence fees, not the taxpayer. Its remit covers the regulation of gambling in the Island and advising the Economic Development Minister, Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel and the States on policy and legislation. It also operates a dedicated gambling therapy service for Jersey residents at [www.gamblingtherapy.je](http://www.gamblingtherapy.je). The commission works to three guiding principles enshrined in law, namely that gambling services should be conducted responsibly and with safeguards necessary to protect children and vulnerable people; that they should be regulated in accordance with generally accepted international standards to prevent fraud and money laundering, and should not be permitted to be a source of crime; and that they should be verifiably fair to consumers of those services.