

PRESS RELEASE

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Gambling Commission appoints Director of Operations

The Gambling Commission has announced the first of several senior appointments being made over the coming months.

Phillip Brear will be joining the Commission in mid-November as Director of Operations, tasked with overseeing the licensing, compliance, intelligence and enforcement functions.

Mr Brear will be joining the Commission following a 30-year career in policing with the Lancashire and West Yorkshire Police forces. He is currently Deputy Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police, a position he has held for three years.

Mr Brear has been a chief police officer since 1998 and has held national responsibilities around police performance management, changes to the criminal justice system, and the development of operational policies. In his early career he was a divisional commander for three districts, worked at the Home Office for the police inspectorate, and was involved in policy development as diverse as counter terrorism and personnel practices. As Deputy Chief Constable he undertook the inquiry into the policing of Bradford Riot, has led investigations into police malpractice and corruption, and has overseen the restructuring of the Force and many of its functions. He was awarded the Queen's Police Medal for distinguished service in January 2005.

The Gambling Act 2005, which comes fully into force in 2007, tasks the Commission with implementing and overseeing a rigorous new regulatory regime for commercial gambling in Britain, including betting and remote gambling. The Commission is currently recruiting new staff to carry out this enhanced remit, in preparation for its move to new Birmingham offices early in 2006.

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Notes to editors

For further information or to request an interview with Phillip Brear please contact Jo O'Driscoll on 020 7306 6265 or 07802 181249, email j.odriscoll@gamblingcommission.gov.uk.

The Gambling Commission regulates gambling in the public interest. It does so by keeping crime out of gambling, by ensuring that gambling is conducted fairly and openly, and by protecting children and vulnerable people. The Commission also provides independent advice to government on gambling in Britain.

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