

Odds against new law on gambling

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Further to my comments in your in-depth feature on gambling deregulation, I would like to point out that mass deregulation is going ahead despite the lack of research into the social impact of gambling. The government has recommended that the multi-billion pound industry put aside £3m a year to aid research and treatment of problem gambling. To date, the industry has managed to raise only £800,000 (and this is to cover an 18-month period).

Given the 300,000 problem gamblers in the UK, the situation is clearly inadequate and the government must carry out their threat of a statutory levy if the industry does not respond to what will be a growing problem.

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