

## PUBLIC STATEMENT

1 May 2025

Regulatory investigation undertaken by the Isle Of Man Gambling Supervision Commission in respect of Mr. Seow Gim Shen ("Mr. Seow")

### Action

The Isle of Man Gambling Supervision Commission (the "Commission") makes this public statement in accordance with powers conferred upon it under section 19(1) of the Gambling (Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism) Act 2018 (the "GAMLA").

This action supports the Commission's regulatory objective of safeguarding the reputation of the Island.

On 6 December 2024, the Commission issued a public statement advising that it had cancelled the licence of Metagrow Solutions Limited ("Metagrow"). Metagrow was wholly owned by Mr. Seow.

The Commission had cause to assess the integrity and fitness and propriety of Mr. Seow, as a result of criminal proceedings against him in Singapore. Mr. Seow was sentenced to a term of 14 weeks imprisonment for conspiring with others to unlawfully obtain the personal data of circa 9,000 individuals. Following an investigation and allowing for due process the Commission has deemed it necessary and proportionate in all the circumstances, that Mr. Seow be prohibited under section 26 of the GAMLA from undertaking any role in the Isle of Man gambling sector.

The Commission's investigation included establishing that:

- a) The nature of the conspiracy offence for which Mr. Seow was convicted of in Singapore.
- b) The actions of Mr. Seow demonstrated a lack of integrity on his behalf and that his decision-making is not that of a fit and proper person; and
- c) He acknowledges that he acted recklessly.

Each of these matters in isolation would cause the Commission to seek to question a person's integrity.

The investigation has resulted in Mr. Seow accepting the Commission's assessment of his integrity and fitness and propriety and the facts underpinning it. The prohibition will remain in place indefinitely until such time as Mr. Seow successfully applies to the Commission to have it varied or revoked.

In accordance with section 26(5) of the GAMLA an individual commits an offence if he or she performs, or agrees to perform, a function which he or she is prohibited from performing.

Mr. Seow's acknowledgment of the facts and engagement with the Commission has allowed the Commission to conclude this matter sooner than might otherwise have been the case.

## Key Takeaways

Any controller of an entity regulated by the Commission is required to be a person of integrity at all times.

The Commission typically considers a person who lacks integrity not to be a controller will also not be a fit and proper person to perform any roles or engage in any functions within the regulated gambling sector.

In seeking to fulfil its regulatory objectives, and in seeking to protect the Isle of Man's reputation, the Commission will not hesitate to act robustly.

**-Ends-**