

The government will wait until the end of 2014 to stop ...

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I [noticed another exchange on tax avoidance in parliament yesterday](#), this one on gambling taxation, no doubt motivated by last week's [report in The Independent in which I commented](#). It went as follows:

[Catherine McKinnell](#) (Newcastle upon Tyne North, Labour)

To ask the [Chancellor of the Exchequer](#) with reference to his Budget Statement 2012, when he intends to bring forward legislative proposals to give effect to his announced changes to the taxation regime for remote gambling.

[Sajid Javid](#) (Bromsgrove, Conservative)

Implementation of the Government's reform to remote gambling taxation is planned for 1 December 2014. The Government will legislate for the reform in a future Finance Bill.

So, the government spotted the problem in early 2012 and by late 2014 they may take action.

In the meantime nearly a billion will be lost.

Why make haste when there's only a billion to lose after all?