

## Affinity GROUP

A guide to Cannabis Regulation

& Licencing in the Isle of Man



#### The Isle of Man



The Isle of Man has approved the cultivation, production, manufacturing, importation, and exportation of Cannabis under an issued Isle of Man licence.

The newly passed legislation has exposed the Island to new opportunities in producing a variety of medicinal and industrial derived cannabis products.

Industries that can benefit from the new sector are Construction, Agriculture, Nutrition, Medical, Manufacturing, Renewable Energy, Transport and Technology.



### Regulation



The selected Regulator, the Gambling Supervision Commission (GSC) is recognised as a first-class regulator in the eGaming sector, offering a gold-standard licence.

The GSC holds experience in implementing a successful licensing regime, built upon stringent compliance and legislation.

Applying a tested framework, the GSC will regulate the Isle of Man Cannabis sector by conducting thorough risk analysis and stringent controls.

#### Licenses

#### Affinity

There are multiple licenses available that propose different opportunities and fee structures.

- Industrial Hemp Licence
- High THC Cultivation Licence
- Import/Export Licence
- Manufacturing and Extraction Licence
- Analysis Licence
- Research and Development
- Transport and Storage Licence

The variety of licenses available cover the whole 'seed to shelf' supply chain. Separate licenses and fee structures provide flexibility and boosts employment opportunities. A capped fee for multiple licenses attracts larger investments.



# The Benefits of the Isle of Man



**Safety / Security:** Isle of Man is a stable, safe and secure jurisdiction for cannabis businesses.

**GSC Relationships with Government:** The GSC is an experienced licensing regulator and works closely with the Island's Government.

**Taxation:** The Island has a favourable tax regime with a 0% corporate tax rate & low income tax.

**IOM being in UK Customs Union:** The Island offers the import/export of goods without tariffs.

**Export without importing into UK:** Using the Island as a base allows exportation without the challenges of the UK Home Office.



### **Affinity Group**



Our experience in eGaming has led it to be our fastest growing sector and we hold a 100% success rate in eGaming license applications on the Isle of Man.

Our familiarity in the licensing regime and existing relationship with the GSC supports our position in the cannabis sector.

As with all our sectors, we provide boutique services that encompass a personal approach to meet unique client circumstances.



#### **Our Services**



- Cannabis Consultancy
- Business plan assistance
- Licence application compilation
- Assistance with government grant applications
- Establishment of bank accounts
- Liaison with regulators, lawyers and auditors
- Local employment assistance and guidance
- Company incorporation and administration
- Provision of directorship services
- VAT registration
- Completion of VAT returns
- Provision of company Directors and Secretary



Alex Fray
CEO of Grow Labs Organics

#### **Testimonial**

#### Affinity

"The legal cannabis industry is highly regulated and exceptionally complex. As the first license holder in the Isle of Man, and one of the first in the British isles, we are walking a largely untrodden path and as a result our business requirements are diverse and often time critical.

Working with Affinity feels like a partnership as they go above and beyond to deliver for us. They took the time to understand our unique business model and provided bespoke structuring to meet our needs. The team are committed to our success and are technically strong, professional and personable.

I can highly recommend Affinity's services."



#### Affinity

#### **Roxy Sheeley**

Director

Roxy joined the Affinity Isle of Man team in September 2021 after 12 years in the Corporate Services sector. She holds extensive experience in the administration of a wide portfolio of trusts and companies, with a focus on Cannabis, eGaming and Compliance. Roxy is a full member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practioners (STEP) and International Compliance Association (ICA).



#### Affinity

#### Eliza Rayner

**Business Development Executive** 

Eliza's role involves developing the Group's Cannabis, eGaming and Commercial Property business across our jurisdictions, the Isle of Man, Malta and Cayman Islands.

In addition to our current portfolio, Eliza is tasked with establishing relationships and opportunities for growth across new and emerging sectors.



### ATTINITY

If you have a unique enquiry and are looking for some expert advice, or if you would like some further information on our services, talk to any member of our team.

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#### Contact Us



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