

AGENDA NO

LICENSING COMMITTEE

02 October 2018

**REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATION, DEMOCRATIC AND
ELECTORAL SERVICES**

**REVIEW OF THE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR GAMBLING PREMISES IN
STOCKTON**

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for the Licensing Committee to consider the revised Gambling Statement of Principles following the consultation on the draft Gambling Statement of Principles.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Members give consideration to the proposed revised Gambling Statement of Principles.
2. Members agree to the proposed changes to the draft for consideration by Cabinet on 15 November 2018 and Council on 12 December 2018.

DETAIL

1. Following the committee meeting on 10 July 2018 the draft Gambling Statement of Principles was published for consultation. The consultation included stakeholders such as the Gambling Commission, trade associations, licensees, children's services and a local residents group. The consultation was published on the website and a notice was placed in the public notice board in the customer service centre. A copy of the document can be found at:
<https://www.stockton.gov.uk/media/1584476/draft-gambling-policy-january-2019-v3.pdf>
2. During the consultation process comments were received from the Regional Compliance Manager at the Gambling Commission regarding Primary Authority schemes detailed within the statement stating that these schemes no longer exist as described.
3. It is suggested therefore that as Primary Authority schemes can change during the length of the statement, it would be better to omit the detail of the schemes and instead provide a link to the Gambling Commission site where up to date information can be found.
4. The Gambling Commission also commented that local area risk assessments which are completed by the licensee should be held on the premise for inspection.
5. In addition it is suggested that sight of local area risk assessments should be incorporated into the inspection criteria and requested during annual inspections.

6. Members will be aware that the current Statement of Principles was adopted in January 2016 and Licensing authorities are required to prepare and publish a statement of principles every three years when exercising their functions under the Gambling Act 2005.
7. The gambling policy has been reviewed in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 and the revised statement reflects legislative changes and those comments received during consultation.
8. The current review will conclude with a revised Policy coming into effect on the 1 January 2019 following consideration by Cabinet in November and Council in December.

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Financial Implications:

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The cost of licensing gambling premises and issuing gaming permits and lottery registrations will be met from the fees paid by applicants. The fee structure, in terms of the application / renewal fees to be charged, will be determined with a view to full cost recovery.

Environmental Implications:

None

Legal Implications:

The Gambling Act 2005 requires the Licensing Authority to prepare a statement of principles every three years. The Council's current Policy statement was in effect from 31 January 2016 and is now due for review. The adoption of the Policy will assist members and officers when considering applications and businesses intending to submit applications. It will give a clear outline of the Authority will consider when assessing applications. A Statement of Principles can be challenged by way of judicial review.

Community Safety Implications

The administration and enforcement of the licensing regime should assist in reducing crime and disorder.

Human Rights Implications

None

Background Papers

None

Ward

Not ward related