

AGENDA NO

STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE

24 SEPTEMBER 2024

**REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
REGULATORY SERVICES AND
TRANSFORMATION**

**REVIEW OF THE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR GAMBLING PREMISES IN
STOCKTON-ON-TEES**

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform the Statutory Licensing Committee of the statutory public consultation on the revised Gambling Statement of Principles.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Members note the content of the report.
2. Members comments are received on the proposed Gambling Statement of Principles.

DETAIL

1. The Gambling Act 2005 requires licensing authorities to publish a Statement of Principles, every three years. The current statement was published in January 2022 and as such, a new statement is due to be published in January 2025.
2. The statement includes three objectives, which support the role of the Gambling Commission and the local authority. These are:
 - Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder, or being used to support crime.
 - Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.
 - Protecting children and other vulnerable people from being harmed or exploited by gambling.
3. There have been no legislative changes since 2022, as such there have been no material changes to the proposed statement. The statement has had a refresh regarding look, ease of use and updated information about the Borough, gambling participation and gambling harms.
4. The statement does not include web-based, online gambling or any aspects of advertising or promotion as these are the responsibility of the Gambling Commission.
5. The draft statement was published for statutory consultation. The consultation included the public and stakeholders such as the Gambling Commission, trade associations, licensees, children's services, responsible authorities including police and public health, and all members.
6. The consultation and how to comment was also published on the website and within all public libraries. No further comments on the draft statement have been received.
7. In 2023 the Department for Culture, Media and Sport conducted a public consultation relating to the land based gambling sector and new regulations have been proposed. Once implemented, these will be incorporated into the new statement

8. As well as the Gambling Act 2005, the Gambling Commission Guidance for Local Authorities details how the local authority should exercise its functions when licensing premises for gambling. More information can be found at:
www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-to-licensing-authorities
9. The current review will conclude with the revised statement coming into effect on the 31 January 2025 following consideration by Cabinet and Council.

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Financial Implications:

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 statement of principals was in effect from 31 January 2022 and is now due for review. The adoption of the statement of principals 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