

Meeting of the Council – 28th February, 2022

Report of the Cabinet

Review of Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles)

Purpose

1. To consider recommendations concerning the review of the attached Statement of Principles for the Gambling Act 2005.

Recommendations

2. That the Council endorse the recommendations of the Cabinet and the Licensing and Safety Committee, namely:-
 - That the responses to the consultation and review of the Council's Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles) be noted.
 - That the revised Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles) be approved and adopted.

Background

3. The Council has in accordance with Section 153 of the Gambling Act 2005 prepared and published a Policy (Statement of Principles).
4. The Statement should include the principals the Council proposes to apply in exercising their functions under this Act whilst licensing premises and ensuring compliance with the Gaming Objectives.
5. The Gaming objectives are
 - A) Preventing gambling from being source of crime and disorder, being associated with crime or disorder, or being used to support crime.
 - B) Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.

- C) Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.
6. In accordance with Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 the Council is required to review, revise as appropriate and publish any revision to its statement of principles every three years. The last review was completed in February 2019.
7. A review of the Council's current Statement of Principals has been undertaken and revisions are indicated within the draft document in *italics*. The revisions are summarised as follows:
- Page 4. Updated information in relation to current numbers of licenced premises in the borough.
 - Page 9. Additional matters that the council recommends should be addressed by an applicant in their local risk assessment produced in accordance with the revision of the Gambling Commissions Licence Conditions, Code of Practice, Social Responsibility Code (10.1.1)
 - Page 21. Part B (Consideration of Applications) Inclusion of a section in relation to Tracks and measures to be considered to meet the licensing objectives when considering applications.
8. A copy of the revised Statement of Principles is attached at Appendix A.
9. A period of consultation has taken place, the draft policy went out to consultation between 14th September and 26th October 2021. A list of those consulted are shown at Appendix B.
10. The only response to the consultation was from the Police who stated they had no adverse comments to make and is attached at Appendix C.
11. The Licensing and Safety Committee considered this item on 8th November 2021 and resolved: -
- That the responses to the consultation and review of the Council's Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles), be noted.
 - That the Cabinet and Council be recommended to approve the revised Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles).
12. On 15th December, 2021, the Cabinet endorsed the recommendation of the Licensing and Safety Committee.

Finance

13. There are no financial implications to the Council.

Law

14. Section 349 (3) of the Gambling Act 2005 requires the review to take place.

Risk Management

15. There are no risk management implications.

Equality Impact

16. This report takes into account the Council's policy on equality and diversity.

17. The Statement of Principles Policy will impact on children and young people through their attendance at licensed premises. There has been no consultation or involvement of children or young people in the development of this assessment.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

18. There are no human resources /organisational development implications.

Commercial/Procurement

19. There are no commercial/procurement implications.

Council Priorities

20. This application falls within the Council's responsibility for licensing as a direct link to the Council's key corporate priority to support stronger and safer communities.



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Leader of the Council