

**COUNCIL**

**GAMBLING ACT 2005  
STATEMENT OF GAMBLING LICENSING POLICY  
2019– 2022**

**30<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**Report of Director for Communities and the Environment**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To seek Council's approval of the Council's Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy for 2019-2022.

**THIS REPORT IS PUBLIC.**

**Recommendations**

**Council is requested to approve the draft Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy 2019-2022 appended to this report for publication in accordance with the requirements of the Gambling Act 2005.**

**1.0 Report**

- 1.1 Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 provides that each licensing authority shall, before each successive period of three years, prepare a statement of the principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Act during that period, and, publish that statement. The function of approving the statement of policy is a function of full Council and cannot be delegated.
- 1.2 The policy was last updated in January 2016 and is, therefore, due to be updated in January 2019.

**2.0 Details of Consultation**

- 2.1 The Act provides that, before determining the policy, a Licensing Authority must consult with:-
- The Chief Officer of Police for the area

- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the authority's area
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authority's functions under the Gambling 2005.

2.2 Lancaster City Council have consulted directly with the following;

- All holders of gambling premises licences and permits issued by the Council
- All premises licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 where gaming machines are provided
- All members of Lancaster City Council
- All Parish councils within the Lancaster City Council area
- Lancashire Constabulary
- Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service
- Lancashire Safeguarding – Adults and Children's Board
- Lancashire County Council - Children's Integrated Services
- Lancashire County Council - Public Health
- H M Revenues and Customs
- Lancaster City Council - Regeneration and Planning
- The Gambling Commission
- British Beer and Pub Association
- British Institute of Inn-keeping
- Disability Rights Commission Helpline
- Equity Head Office
- Gamcare
- Gamblers Anonymous
- Money Advice Trust
- Stepchange Debt Charity

2.3 The consultation on a revised draft Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy was held from 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 until 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019. In addition to the consultation as outlined above, the following steps were taken to ensure the consultation has been as effective as possible:-

- The revised draft Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy was made available on the Council's website
- Copies of the above document were made available at the Council's offices.

2.4 No responses to the consultation were received on the review of the Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy. Therefore, no further amendments have been made to the draft Policy.

### 3.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

3.1 The Policy has been drafted in accordance with legal constraints and Gambling Commission guidance. Not to approve a policy is not an option, as it is a statutory requirement that a policy be in place in January for the next three years.

#### 4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 Council is requested to consider the draft Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy, and to approve the publication of the new policy to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019, in accordance with statutory timescales.

#### **CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support to crime is one of the statutory licensing objectives, and this is reflected in the draft Policy, as is the requirement that all cases should be considered on their individual merits.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Council's statutory obligations as Licensing Authority are reflected in the report.

#### **OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

**Human Resources:**

**Information Services:**

**Property:**

**OpenSpaces:**

#### **SECTION 151 OFFICERS COMMENTS**

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

#### **MONITORING OFFICERS COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

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