

REVIEW OF GAMBLING POLICY

Committee	Full Licensing Committee
Officer Contact	Sharon Garner
Papers with report	First Draft of the Statement of Gambling Policy review, changes highlighted in red and strike through.
Ward(s) affected	All

SUMMARY

The Gambling Act 2005 requires the Council, as the Licensing Authority, to review its statement of gambling licensing policy every 3 years. This is the second review since the implementation of the Act in 2007. The Council will need to approve and adopt the revised policy which will be effective from 2013 to 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee approve the draft version of the policy for consultation

INFORMATION

In May 2012, a working party was convened to carry out the first review of the Council's Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy. The working party was made up of the following officers:

- Stephanie Waterford, Licensing Services Manager
- Sharon Garner, Licensing Officer
- Sarah White, Licensing Lawyer
- Natasha Dogra, Democratic Services
- Sgt Ian Meens, Police Licensing Sergeant
- Paul Hewitt, Local Safeguarding Children Board

The working party agreed that the current gambling licensing policy has worked well since its implementation in 2007 and has not been subject to any challenge. It was therefore agreed by the working party not to change to content or format to any great degree, however some minor changes to the law have been noted and amendments made. The consultation period will be between 18^h June 2012 and 30th July 2012.

Consultees will include:

- Elected Members
- Gambling trade representatives
- Responsible Authorities
- Neighbouring local authorities
- Local residents associations and local community groups
- Licensing Solicitors

- Licensed premises

Once the consultation period has ended the working party will re-convene to discuss the responses and the policy will be amended accordingly.

Approval process and time-line

- Consultation period 18th June – 30th July 2012
- Draft policy to be approved by the full licensing committee (27th September 2012)
- Draft policy to RESPOC for scrutiny (15th November 2012)
- Draft policy to Cabinet for approval (20th December 2012)
- Draft policy to full Council (10th January 2013)
- Policy comes into force until 2016

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

If required

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Gambling Act 2005
Gambling Commission Guidance to Licensing Authorities