

# GAMBLING ACT 2005 - FOBT CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES TO GAMING MACHINES AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY MEASURES

<b>Committee</b>	Licensing Committee
<b>Officer Contact</b>	Stephanie Waterford 01895 27(7232)
<b>Papers with report</b>	Appendix 1 – DCMS Consultation Document Appendix 2 - Approved response to consultation
<b>Ward(s) affected</b>	All

## HEADLINE

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport have launched a consultation to seek views on proposed changes related to gaming machines and social responsibility.

The Cabinet Member for Community, Commerce and Regeneration has approved a response on behalf of the Council.

## RECOMMENDATION

**That the Committee note the Council's response in Appendix 2.**

## INFORMATION

In late 2017, the DCMS released a consultation document seeking views on, among other things, reducing the maximum stake from £100 to either; £50; £30; £20 or £2 across all FOBT machines. The consultation document is attached as Appendix 1.

Fixed Odd's Betting Terminals (FOBT's) are high stake gaming machines which are located in Betting Shops. Currently, Betting Shops can have a maximum of 4 gaming machines each.

FOBT's are a source of much concern due to their addictive nature and are capable of accepting up to £100 per play every 20 seconds.

The Licensing Committee will be aware of the concerns about these machines from previous presentations and discussions.

The Cabinet Member for Community, Commerce and Regeneration has been briefed on the consultation and has approved the Council's response as the portfolio member responsible. The response is attached as Appendix 2.

A further update will be presented to the Committee once the outcome of the consultation is published by the Government.

**Implications on related Council policies**

None at this stage

**Legal implications**

None at this stage

**Financial Implications**

None at this stage

**Background Papers / Further Reading Material**

None