

Report to	-	Council
Date	-	25 February 2019
Report of	-	Licensing and General Purposes Committee
Subject	-	Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Principles

The Council is asked to consider the recommendation arising from the Licensing and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 22 October 2018 as set out below.

LICENSING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 22 October 2018

LG18/09. GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director which detailed a review of the Statement of Principles (SoP) which the Council was required to produce as part of the Gambling Act 2005. The SoP detailed how the Council proposed to exercise the functions under the Act when licensing gambling premises such as casinos, adult gaming centres, betting shops, bingo halls and family entertainment centres etc. The Council's SoP was based on a nationally accepted template for issuing licences and permits in 2006 and was required to be reviewed every three years. It was last reviewed in 2015.

A consultation on the SoP would commence on 24 October to 31 December 2018. Members were advised that there were no significant changes to the regulations or guidance however, some minor amendments had been made to the SoP as highlighted in the Policy, appended to the report at Appendix A.

During discussion, the following questions and comments were noted:

- **Local Area Profile (LAP):** Completing an LAP was not a requirement for the Council (licensing authority). LAPs identified and provided better awareness of existing or developing risks e.g. saturation of multiple gambling premises in one particular area etc. It was suggested that the Council pro-actively completed LAPs. The Head of Service Environmental Services, Licensing and Community Safety advised that this would be discussed with (East Sussex County Council) as part of the consultation.
- **Local Risk Assessment (LRA):** It was clarified that LRAs were completed by the licensee.
- **Adult Gaming Centres (AGC):** B3 gaming machines were also located in betting establishments.
- **Family Entertainment Centres (FEC):** It was suggested that signs be displayed at all FECs stating that "no unaccompanied children be allowed access during school hours".
- **Test Purchasing:** Members were advised test purchasing was carried out in conjunction with the Gambling Commission.

- **Licensing Objectives:** It was suggested that the policy should make reference to protection against gambling problems and prevention of gambling addiction.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed that the draft SoP be approved for consultation and, subject to no objections being received, be recommended to full Council for formal approval and adoption. Should objections be received, a report would be presented to the Licensing and General Purposes Committee at the meeting scheduled to be held on 21 January 2018.

RESOLVED: That the draft Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles be approved for consultation;

AND

RECOMMENDED: That subject to no objections being received, be recommended to Council for approval and adoption.

(Councillor Dixon declared a personal interest in this matter as he held a personal gambling licence issued by the Gambling Commission and in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct remained in the room during the consideration thereof).

(Licensing and General Purposes Agenda Item: 5.3)

Councillor C.J. Saint
Chairman, Licensing and General Purposes Committee