

Report to: Licensing & Environment
Regulation Committee acting as
the Gambling Act 2005
Committee

Date: 12th March 2019

Report of: Director of Place

Report No: LER/08/2019

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Report Title: **Gambling Act 2005 - Review of Statement of Principles**

Non-Confidential:

This report does not contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the press or members of the public.

Purpose:

1. To invite the Licensing & Environmental Regulation Committee acting as the Gambling Act 2003 Committee (the Committee) to consider the responses to the consultation on the draft Statement of Principles.
2. To ask the Committee to recommend to Full Council that the draft Statement of Principles are approved and replace the current Bolton Council's Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles 2016 to 2019.

Background Doc(s):

Bolton's Councils Gambling Act 'Statement of Principles 2016 - 2019

Appendices / Attachments

Appendix 1 – List of consultees
Appendix 2 – Copy of responses
Appendix 3 – Equality impact assessment
Appendix 4 – Draft Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles 2019 – 2022.
Appendix 5 – Summary of main changes

Recommendations:

Following the consultation period, the Committee is asked to consider the responses to the draft Statement of Principles. Then to recommend to Full Council that the draft statement is approved replacing the current statement.

Summary:

1. The Council is required by statute to review and publish its Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles every three years.
2. The most recent Statement of Principles was published in 2016.
3. Following consultation the Committee is asked to consider the responses and then recommend to Full Council that the draft statement is approved and replaces the current Statement of Principles 2016-2019

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Outlined in section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 is a requirement for the Council to review, consult and publish a Statement of Principles every three years.

1.2 The Council published the current Statement of Principles in 2016.

1.3 The current proposals amend the existing statement taking into consideration legislative changes and revised guidance from Government and the Gambling Commission, and to generally tidy up the format of the document.

2. CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL

2.1 The Committee approved consultation on the draft Statement of Principles at a meeting held on the 18th December 2018.

2.2 The draft statement was made available to the Responsible Authorities, representatives from gambling businesses in Bolton, support groups (GAM-CARE and Gamblers Anonymous) and residents, etc. The document was also placed on the Council website. A full list of consultees is attached to the report at **Appendix 1**.

2.4 The consultation period ended on the 22nd February 2019. The Council has received three responses. One from HMRC in relation to a change of address and two further responses from the Gambling Commission and GamCare. The responses from the Gambling Commission and GamCare are attached to the report at **Appendix 2** and are summarised below:

1. Gambling Commission - risk assessment documentation to be held on the licensed premises.
2. GamCare:
 1. Development of a risk map of the local area
 2. Consider that proposals for new gambling premises, near identified premises, are likely to adversely affect the licensing objectives
 3. Risk assessment for venue pertinent to the environment immediately surrounding the premises as well as the wider local area
 4. Specific training programme for staff to identify children and other vulnerable people and appropriate action
 5. Adequate number of staff and managers
 6. Layout, lighting and fitting out of the premises designed not to attract children and vulnerable persons
 7. Consider promotional material associated with the premises and if it encourages the use of the premises by children or young people

2.5 The draft statement has been amended to reflect the request from the Gambling Commission (see 28.2 of the draft statement).

2.6 Further to the factors outlined by GamCare, the review of the Statement of Principles, together with requirements contained in the Licence Conditions & Codes of Practice and the Social Responsibility Code, plus the requirement to have individual risk assessments for licensed premises support the factors summarised. (see Part D of the draft statement).

2.7 The final Equality Impact Assessment is attached to the report at **Appendix 3**. No major impacts have been identified.

2.8 The draft statement is attached to the report at **Appendix 4** and a summary of the main changes is outlined at **Appendix 5**.

2.9 The draft statement needs to be adopted by Full Council as it is part of the Council's Policy Framework under the Scheme of Delegation.

3. RECOMMENDATION

Following the consultation period, the Committee is asked to consider the responses to the draft Statement of Principles. Then to recommend to Full Council that the new statement is approved replacing the current policy.