

Equality Impact Assessment Part 1: Screening Form

Title of report or proposal:
Gambling Act 2005 - Review of Statement of Principles

Department:	Place Services
Section/SIAP unit:	Licensing Unit Regulatory Services
Date:	22 nd April 2022

This report is for decision and is therefore subject to an Equality Impact Assessment. The following questions have been completed to ensure that this proposal, procedure or working practice does not discriminate against any particular social group. Details of the outcome of the Equality Impact Assessment have also been included in the main body of the report.

Equality Impact Assessment Questions

1.0 Describe in summary the aims, objectives and purpose of the proposal, including desired outcomes:

Bolton Council as the 'Licensing Authority' is required to:

- Be responsible for the licensing of premises where gambling activities are to take place by issuing *Premises Licences*
- Issue *Provisional Statements*
- Regulate *members' clubs* and *miners' welfare institutes* who wish to undertake certain gaming activities via issuing Club Gaming Permits and/or Club Machine Permits
- Issue *Club Machine Permits* to *Commercial Clubs*
- Grant permits for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines at *unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres*
- Receive notifications from alcohol licensed premises (under the Licensing Act 2003) for the use of two or fewer gaming machines
- Issue *Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits* for premises licensed to sell/supply alcohol for consumption on the licensed premises, under the Licensing Act 2003, where there are more than two machines
- Register *small society lotteries* below prescribed thresholds
- Issue *Prize Gaming Permits*
- Receive and Endorse *Temporary Use Notices*
- Receive *Occasional Use Notices*
- Provide information to the Gambling Commission regarding details of licences issued (see section above on 'information exchange')
- Maintain registers of the permits and licences that are issued under these functions

The Council carries out its functions under the Gambling Act 2005 with a view to promoting the three licensing objectives, namely:

- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime.
- Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.
- Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

Bolton Council has reviewed its Gambling Act Statement of Principles as required by the Gambling Act 2005.

Consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

2.0 Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the proposal?

The Act details the following as statutory consultees:

- The Chief Officer of Police.
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interest of persons carrying on gambling business in the Bolton area.
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interest of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of Bolton Council 's functions under the Gambling Act 2005.

It is intended that consultation will be undertaken as follows:

- The consultation and proposed policy will be published on the Councils website.
- Letters will be issued to the following advising them of the consultation and directing them to the Councils website:
 - The Chief Officer of Greater Manchester Police.
 - Local Area Forums.
 - Companies who have Betting, Bingo and Casino premises in the Bolton area.
 - Local Safeguarding Children Board.
 - Gamcare and Gamblers anonymous.
 - Area Forums.
- Elected Members will be consulted through the appropriate internal processes.

3.0 In summary, what are the anticipated (positive or negative) impacts of the proposal?

The new Statement of Principles is not anticipated to have a significant impact.

The new statement has been developed by Greater Manchester, thinking differently about gambling with a shared aim to prevent and reduce the negative impacts of gambling on individuals, families and communities.

As part of our innovative public service reform and population health agenda we are working with partners across Greater Manchester to ensure that gambling is a safe and enjoyable activity for all who choose to take part. Our priorities are:

- Developing our understanding of gambling related harms
- Improving access to high quality treatment and support
- Supporting interventions to prevent gambling from becoming a harmful activity
- Engaging with people and communities to co-design our work.

The Statement of Principles sits within the wider context of the Local Authority's duties under the Equality Act 2010. These require us to have due regard to:

- Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advancing equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.
- Fostering good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Given the above and the associated impact detailed below, it is not anticipated that the changes will affect the ability to meet duties under the Equality Act.

Impact for the business community

For the business community, the Statement of Principles outlines the procedure for applying for a licence and sets out the responsibilities of Bolton Council as the 'Licensing Authority' and business owners undertaking licensable activities.

The principles remain consistent with the current Statement of Principles and recognise the wider community impacts that the Local Authority, business community and other stakeholders must be aware of when undertaking licensing activities.

The statement recognises the need for a balance between the rights of businesses and the community of which they are a part.

Impact for the wider community

The changes proposed in the revised Statement of Principles are not anticipated at this time to impact significantly on the wider community.

4. With regard to the stakeholders identified above and the diversity groups set out below:

	Is there any potential for (positive or negative) differential impact?	Could this lead to adverse impact and if so what?	Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group, or for any other reason?	Please detail what measures or changes you will put in place to remedy any identified adverse impact
Race	It is not anticipated that the proposed Statement of Principles will have an effect on the grounds of race.	Not applicable at this time.	Not applicable at this time.	Consultation on the new Statement of Principles will be undertaken with statutory consultees, including representatives from the business community and residents.
Religion	It is not anticipated that the proposed Statement of Principles will have an effect on the grounds of faith.	Not applicable at this time.	Not applicable at this time.	Consultation on the new Statement of Principles will be undertaken with statutory consultees, including representatives from the business community and residents.

<p>Disability</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposed Statement of Principles will have an impact on the grounds of disability.</p>	<p>Not applicable at this time.</p>	<p>Not applicable at this time.</p>	<p>Consultation on the new Statement of Principles will be undertaken with statutory consultees, including representatives from the business community and residents.</p>
<p>Gender (including gender reassignment)</p>	<p>The Statement of Principles has clear links to wider social outcomes such as health and wellbeing and crime and disorder, which may manifest themselves differently in men and women. It is not anticipated that the new statement will have a particular impact on the grounds of gender.</p>	<p>Not applicable at this time.</p>	<p>Not applicable at this time</p>	<p>Consultation on the new Statement of Principles will be undertaken with statutory consultees, including representatives from the business community and residents.</p>
<p>Age</p>	<p>The Statement of Principles clearly recognises the need to protect children from harm and is therefore relevant to the borough's young people. The new</p>	<p>Not applicable at this time.</p>	<p>Not applicable at this time</p>	<p>Consultation on the new Statement of Principles will be undertaken with statutory consultees, including representatives from the business community and residents.</p>

	statement should not significantly alter how safeguarding is delivered under the policy.			
Sexuality	It is not anticipated that the new Statement of principles will have an effect on the grounds of sexuality.	Not applicable at this time.	Not applicable at this time.	Consultation on the new Statement of Principles will be undertaken with statutory consultees, including representatives from the business community and residents.
Caring status (including pregnancy & maternity)	Please see the section on age, above, for considerations around children. It is not anticipated that the new statement will have a specific impact in relation to pregnancy and maternity.	Not applicable at this time.	Not applicable at this time.	Consultation on the new Statement of Principles will be undertaken with statutory consultees, including representatives from the business community and residents.
Marriage and civil partnership	It is not anticipated that the new statement will have an effect on the grounds of marriage and civil partnership.	Not applicable at this time.	Not applicable at this time.	Consultation on the new Statement of Principles will be undertaken with statutory consultees, including representatives from the business community and residents.

<p>Socio-economic</p>	<p>The Statement of Principles has clear links to wider social outcomes such as health and wellbeing and crime and disorder, for which there may be particular considerations in areas of socio-economic disadvantage. It is not anticipated that the new policy will have a specific impact in relation to socio-economic issues at this time.</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposed policy will have an adverse impact on the grounds of socio-economic disadvantage.</p>	<p>Not applicable at this time</p>	<p>Consultation on the new Statement of Principles will be undertaken with statutory consultees, including representatives from the business community and residents.</p>
<p>Other comments or issues</p>	<p>As detailed in the report the proposed new statement of principles has been drafted in accordance with the statutory requirement to renew the Statement of principles every 3 years and has been updated.</p> <p>It is important to stress that the principles governing the Statement of Gambling policy remain consistent and continue to recognise the need to balance the rights of businesses and the communities of which they are a part.</p> <p>This is important for diversity groups such as children and young people, and for vulnerable people who may, for example, be experiencing socio-economic disadvantage. The principles also link to wider community outcomes such as crime and disorder, health and community wellbeing.</p>			
<p>Please provide a list of the evidence used to inform this EIA, such as the results of consultation, service take-up, service monitoring, surveys, stakeholder comments and complaints where appropriate.</p> <p>If you have undertaken consultation as part of the proposal, the consultation manager will upload it on to the corporate database.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing Statement of principles. • National legislative frameworks and guidance. • Engagement with key stakeholders will follow . 	

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5.a Are there any gaps in your evidence or conclusions that make it difficult for you to quantify the potential adverse impact?

Consultation is required to be undertaken with statutory consultees, as set out earlier in this EIA. This will inform the final Statement of Principles.

5.b If so, please explain how you will explore the proposal in greater depth or please explain why no further action is required at this time.

N/A

You may wish to consider undertaking secondary data analysis, further consultation or research or investigating best practice. If you are planning to undertake further consultation or research as a result of this EIA, please contact the Consultation Manager on ext. 1083.

This EIA form and report has been checked and countersigned by the Departmental Equalities Officer before proceeding to Executive Member(s)

Please confirm the outcome of this EIA:

No major impact identified, therefore no major changes required – proceed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Adjustments to remove barriers / promote equality (mitigate impact) have been identified – proceed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Continue despite having identified potential for adverse impact/missed opportunities for promoting equality – this requires a strong justification	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stop and rethink - the EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination	<input type="checkbox"/>

Report Officer

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Signature: _____
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Departmental Equalities Lead Officer

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Date and Contact No: _____