

LICENSING COMMITTEE – 29 JUNE 2009

GAMBLING ACT 2005 STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Report of the Director of Community and Cultural Services

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1** To brief Members upon the requirement to carry out a consultation exercise upon the Council's draft Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005.

2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

- 2.1** Members are requested to note the contents of the report and give their approval that the Licensing Section undertakes a consultation exercise upon the Council's draft Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005.

3. Introduction/Background

- 3.1** Section 349 of the Act requires all Gambling Act Licensing Authorities to prepare and publish a statement of principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Act.

- 3.2** The current statement of principles was agreed at a meeting of the Council on 22 November 2006 and was published on 3 January 2007 (this date being specified by legislation). The Act requires that this statement is reviewed by the Council every three years. The Act further requires that any revision of the statement is subject to a consultation exercise. The parties who must be consulted are:

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

Current Position

- 4.1** Officers have completed a review of the current statement of principles and have prepared a revised draft. This draft is based upon the 3rd Edition of the Guidance to Licensing Authorities published by the Gambling Commission and a template statement provided for the use of Licensing Authorities by the Local Authorities Coordinators of

Regulatory Services (LACORS). At this stage, the draft statement is wholly in line with the national advice. However, the Council is obliged to consider any responses received and these may prompt a revision of the draft. A copy of this draft is attached to the report as Appendix 1.

Reasons for the Decision

5.1 To facilitate compliance with legislation.

6. Alternative Options

6.1 None submitted.

Relevant Considerations/Consultations

7.1 None

Glossary

8.1 No acronyms or abbreviations have been used in this report.

List of Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Draft copy of the Council’s Statement of Principles

Background Papers

Gambling Act 2005

Gambling Commission’s Guidance to Licensing Authorities (3rd Edition)

These will be available at the meeting

Appendix 1