

**At an extraordinary meeting of the LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE held remotely on MONDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Fletcher in the Chair

Councillors P. Gibson, Heron, Howe, Lawson, D. MacKnight, O'Brien, A. Wilson, D. Wilson and A. Wood.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Bewick, Johnston, Leadbitter and D. Snowdon

**Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Principles**

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods submitted a report (copy circulated) which advised the Committee of the requirement on the Council to carry out a review of the Council's Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005 and to carry out a consultation exercise as prescribed under Section 349 of the Act and sought the Committee's approval of the Licensing Section undertaking this consultation exercise.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Steve Wearing, Principal Licensing Officer, presented the report and advised that the statement of principles needed to be reviewed every three years and that the existing statement had been approved by Council on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2018; published on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2018 and came into force on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2019. Under the statutory procedures of the Act the new statement of principles would need to be published by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021 and in force by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

Councillor P. Gibson commented that when the casino on High Street East had first opened a site visit had been undertaken by Members. He referred to the policy that children should not be able to see into the casino and recalled that the entrance was next to the cinema entrance and that children would be able to see in as a result. Councillor A. Wilson stated that this was her recollection as well however she understood that the entrance had changed since. Mr Wearing advised that he would look into this to ensure that the entrance was in compliance with the policy.

Councillor A. Wilson referred to the automatic entitlement for premises licensed to sell alcohol to have two gaming machines and queried whether there were checks done to ensure that premises complied with this limit. Mr Wearing confirmed that checks were carried out to ensure that premises were complying with this limit.

1. RESOLVED that the report be noted and approval be given to the Licensing Section undertaking a consultation exercise on the Council's draft Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005.

#### **Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006**

2. RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it was considered likely to include the disclosure of exempt information relating to an individual and the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the Authority holding that information). (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1 and 3).

(Signed) J. Fletcher,  
Chairman.

#### **Note:-**

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items during which the meeting was open to members of the public.

Additional minutes in respect of further items are included in Part II.