

LICENSING COMMITTEE

5 AUGUST 2008

Present: County Councillor Bridges (Chairperson)
County Councillors Cox, Ford, Grant, Goddard, Kelloway,
Macdonald, Elgan Morgan and Smith

Apology: County Councillor Griffiths, Holland and David Morgan

L10 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 May 2008 were approved by the Committee as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

L11 : GAMBLING COMMISSION CONSULTATION ON SPLIT PREMISES AND PRIMARY GAMBLING ACTIVITY

The Chief Strategic Planning & Environment Officer presented a report on a consultation document issued by the Gambling Commission as a result of concerns expressed by Licensing Authorities on the problem of assessing applications for the sub-division of licensed premises.

Gambling operators have been proposing that existing premises should be sub-divided into separate premises thus enabling them to provide a greater number of higher payout gaming machines, which ordinarily are restricted to four in each premises.

The Gambling Commission's current guidance to Local Authorities sets out its interpretation of how premises should be defined and the principles which should be applied by Licensing Authorities. Many Authorities have requested advice on the question of what amounts to a single premises.

As a result of these concerns the Gambling Commission wishes to strengthen the advice given to Local Authorities. In June 2008 they issued a consultation document providing details of their interpretation of the law on this issue and making recommendations on suitable amendments.

The Committee received a copy of this consultation document and were asked to agree the Authority's response.

RESOLVED – That the response to the Gambling Commission Consultation Document outlined in appendix B to the report be approved for submission to the Gambling Commission.

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Chairperson