

LICENSING COMMITTEE: 2 June 2009

Report of the Chief Strategic Planning and Environment Officer

GAMBLING ACT 2005 – SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 2008/2009

1. **Background**

This report has been prepared to provide summarised details for the information of the Licensing Committee on the work undertaken in respect of the Gambling Act 2005 by the Licensing Service during the year from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

2. **Gambling Act 2005 Premises Licences.**

- 2.1 The Gambling Act 2005 was implemented during the year 2007/08 with a transition period being from 30 April 2007 to 31 August 2007. From then all premises licences within Cardiff had to obtain a licence from the authority. The number of licences held is detailed in the following table.

| Type of Premises                     | Total<br>31/03/2008 | Total<br>31/03/2009 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Converted Casino Premises            | 3                   | 3                   |
| Bingo Premises                       | 4                   | 4                   |
| Betting Premises                     | 63                  | 61                  |
| Track Betting Premises               | 0                   | 0                   |
| Adult Gaming Centre                  | 13                  | 11                  |
| Licensed Family Entertainment Centre | 0                   | 0                   |
|                                      |                     |                     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         | <b>83</b>           | <b>79</b>           |

- 2.2 During the year nine applications were received. Three applications were received for the grant of a licence for Betting Premises, two applications were received to vary the licence conditions, two applications for the issue of a duplicate licence, one application for transfer and one application was received for the provisional grant of a licence. During the year three Premises Licences in respect of betting premises and two licences in respect of an Adult Gaming Centre were surrendered.
- 2.4 One application in respect of a Casino Licence for Cardiff Thistle Hotel was received in respect of a licence which had previously been refused by the Magistrates and which were appealing against the decision. The appeal is ongoing and the applications can only be determined by the authority when the appeal process is completed. A similar application in respect of the Stanley Casino at Millennium Plaza was withdrawn. The following table details the changes during the year.

| Premises                        | Type of Licence     | Licence Details. |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Escal Amusements, 228 City Road | Adult Gaming Centre | Surrendered      |
| Agora, 26 St Mary Street        | Adult Gaming Centre | Surrendered      |

|   |                              |                                    |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Agrobet, 26 St Mary Street  | Betting Premise              | Grant                              |
| Coral, 189 Burnham Crescent   | Betting Premise              | Surrendered                        |
| Ladbrokes, 16 Meteor Street   | Betting Premise              | Surrendered                        |
| John Lovell Racing  | Betting Premise              | Lapsed/Surrendered                 |
| John Lovell Racing, 160 Greenway Road                                 | Betting Premise              | Grant                              |
| Club 3000 Bingo (Prev:Gala Cardiff Electric Casino), Mary Ann Street. | Converted Casino             | Variation and Transfer             |
| Grosvenor Casino, Atlantic Wharf                                      | Converted Casino             | Variation                          |
| Ladbrokes, Unit A, The Pod, Capital Retail Park                       | Betting Premise              | Provisional Grant / Grant Release. |
| Stanley Casino  | Provisional Converted Casino | Withdrawn                          |

2.3 Thirty Six Premises Inspections were carried out by Licensing Enforcement Officers. Ten of premises had satisfactory inspections with the remainder having technical discrepancies which were subsequently corrected.

### 3. Permits and Registrations.

2.4 The Gambling Act 2005 has also transferred the responsibility from Magistrates to Licensing Authorities in respect of the receipt of notifications and consideration of a number of different permits. During the year 76 applications were received, 59 were licensed premises notifications, 10 licensed premises permits and six in respect of club machine permits. The following table provides details of the numbers of permits held.

| <b>Type of Permit</b>                                 | <b>31/03/08</b> | <b>31/03/2009</b> |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|
| Existing Section 34 Permit converted to GMP           | 147             | 126               |
| Existing Club Registration Part III                   | 42              | 42                |
| Club Gaming Permit                                    | 0               | 0                 |
| Club Machine Permit                                   | 5               | 9                 |
| Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Notification         | 30              | 92                |
| Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit               | 10              | 16                |
| Prize Gaming Permit                                   | 0               | 0                 |
| Unlicensed Family Entertainment Gaming Machine Permit | 2               | 2                 |
|   |                 |                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>236</b>      | <b>287</b>        |

2.5 The licensing authority is also responsible for the registration of Small Societies wishing to conduct a lottery. At the end of the year there were 224 small societies registered with the authority a 3.2% increase on the 217 permits held at the end of the previous year.

### 4. Performance Indicators.

4.1 The Licensing Service has adopted performance indicator targets to enable the performance of the service to be measured.

|   | Target | No. | Achieved |
|---|--------|-----|----------|
| <b>No. of gambling premises applications received determined within two months.</b> |        |     |          |
| No. of applications received  |        | 7   |          |
| No of applications determined within 2 months                                       | 100%   | 7   | 100.00%  |

**5. Financial Implications**

The licensing service is required to be self financing with the majority of expenditure being met from licence fees and charges which are set within bands which on a national basis. Permitted fees have been established to cover the cost of providing the licensing service functions required by the Gambling Act so that the service is provided at no cost to the authority. The fees are reviewed annually and were last increased on 1 April 2009. No financial implications arise directly from this report.

**6. Legal implications**

This report is for information purposes only and, as such, there are no legal implications arising directly from it.

**7. Recommendation.**

That the report be noted.

**SEAN HANNABY**

**24 April 2009**

**CHIEF STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT OFFICER**

This report has been prepared in accordance with procedures approved by the Corporate Management Team.

Background