

LICENSING COMMITTEE: 3 July 2018

Report of the Head of Shared Regulatory Services

REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF GAMBLING LICENSING POLICY

1. Background

1.1 Under the Gambling Act 2005 every Licensing Authority has to publish a Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy which sets out the principles that it proposes to apply in exercising its functions under the Act. The statement must be determined for a three year period in consultation with:

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

1.2 A Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy was adopted and published in January 2016. Gambling regulation is shared between licensing authorities and the Gambling Commission. The Gambling Commission has provided guidance to local authorities on the content of Gambling Licensing Policies and this has been relied upon in reviewing the existing policy statement.

1.3 The purpose of this report is to approve the draft Statement of Gambling Licencing Policy (Appendix A) for wider consultation with those consultees listed in 1.1 above. Thereafter the policy will need to be approved by the Committee and Full Council. The changes in the policy since the last review are shown as track changes.

2. Changes to the Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy (GLP)

2.1 The proposed GLP is consistent with the 2016 edition aside from the following changes:

- Reference to the Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Additional information on gaming machines

- Further explanation concerning the use of unlicensed family entertainment centres
 - Further explanation of the definition and application of small society lotteries
 - Additional information on licensing conditions and codes of practice, including information on social responsibility code provisions, ordinary code provisions, and risk assessments
- 2.2 The Council is required to consult on revisions to their Statement of Gambling Policy and to publish a new Policy before January 2019. The policy enables the authority to make clear its expectations of operators, how they will behave with regard to the young and vulnerable and to improve protections where required. The Policy is not only a legal requirement, it is one of the factors which can be taken into consideration by an authority when a gambling premises is not compliant.
- 2.3 The Gambling Commission has produced a short guide for Elected Members about the statutory requirement to review gambling *Statements of Policy* every three years. This is attached at Appendix B.

3. Achievability

- 3.1 This report contains no equality personnel or property implications.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The legal implications are explained in paragraph 1.1 above.

5. Financial Implications.

- 5.1 This report does not result in any additional financial implications and can be achieved within existing budget provision.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Committee approve the draft Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy for further consultation with those bodies listed in paragraph 1.1 above.

This report has been prepared in accordance with procedures approved by Corporate Managers.

Background Papers: None