

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **General Purposes Committee** held in the Castle House, Great North Road, Newark, NG24 1BY on Thursday, 12 September 2024 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor J Hall (Chair)
Councillor L Tift (Vice-Chair)

Councillor N Allen, Councillor A Brazier, Councillor L Brazier, Councillor R Cozens, Councillor D Darby, Councillor R Jackson, Councillor D Moore, Councillor S Saddington and Councillor P Taylor

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor S Forde

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor S Michael, Councillor K Roberts, Councillor T Wendels and Councillor T Wildgust

29 NOTIFICATION TO THOSE PRESENT THAT THE MEETING WILL BE RECORDED AND STREAMED ONLINE

The Chair advised that due to technical issues it was not possible to livestream or record the proceedings.

30 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Councillor Jean Hall declared an Other Registerable Interest in Agenda Item No. 6 – Review of the Statement of Gambling Policy as the Manager of a Betting Shop.

31 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 FEBRUARY 2024

AGREED that the Minutes of the meeting held 29 February 2024 were a correct record and signed by the Chair.

32 FORWARD PLAN (SEPTEMBER 2024 TO AUGUST 2025)

NOTED the General Purposes Committee's Forward Plan (September 2024 to August 2025).

33 REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY

The Committee considered the report of the Senior Licensing Officer, presented by the Environmental Health & Licensing Manager which presented to Members the proposed review of the Statement of Gambling Policy prior to formal public consultation taking place.

It was reported that the Gambling Act 2005 required the Council to have in place a Policy relating to the carrying out of its functions under that Act and that the Policy must be reviewed every three years. The review process was outlined in paragraph 2 of the report with a list of the consultees set out in the appendix to the report.

In considering the report a Member raised a number of items which required amendment prior to the consultation commencing as detailed below:

- Page 6 of the Policy: the map is out of date. The Tourist Information Centre is now located at Rufford Abbey Country Park.
- Page 7 of the Policy – paragraphs 2.1.5 and 2.1.6 required updating
- Page 7 of the Policy – paragraph 2.1.7 and the bullet points therein required updating .
- Page 36 of the Policy – Delete reference to HM Customs & Excise to HMRC.

A Member commented that a great deal of gambling was done online and expressed concern that local authorities had no control over this type of gambling.

A Member requested that reference to the link between gambling and the threat of violence in the domestic environment be included.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

- a) subject to the proposed amendments noted above, the draft revision of the Council's Statement of Gambling Policy be approved;
- b) the commencement of the 6-week public consultation be approved; and
- c) the final draft Policy, after public consultation, be presented to the General Purposes Committee for approval prior to adoption at full Council in December 2024.

34 UPDATE ON PERFORMANCE AND ENFORCEMENT MATTERS

The Committee considered the report of the Senior Licensing Officer, presented by the Environmental Health & Licensing Manager, which set out the range and number of license applications received during the period April to June 2024.

AGREED that the report be noted.

Meeting closed at 6.27 pm.

Chair