

Report to: Licensing Committee Meeting – 12 December 2024

Director Lead: Matthew Finch, Director – Communities & Environment

Lead Officer: Narelle Plowright, Senior Licensing Officer

Report Summary	
Report Title	Review of Statement of Gambling Policy consultee response
Purpose of Report	To present to Members the feedback following public consultation of the Statement of Gambling Policy.
Recommendations	That the Licensing Committee: a) consider the consultee responses and that the draft Statement of Gambling Policy be supported and forwarded to full Council for approval
Reason for Recommendations	To ensure legal compliance with the Gambling Act 2005

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Gambling Act 2005 requires the Council to have in place a Policy relating to the carrying out of its functions under that Act. In respect of carrying out its duties the Council is required to adopt and have in place a Statement of Gambling Policy relating to those duties. The policy sets out the principles which the Council will apply in considering and granting licences under the Act.
- 1.2 The Act requires the policy to be reviewed every three years. The current policy was adopted in January 2022 and therefore needs to be reviewed before January 2025.
- 1.3 In September 2024 a draft copy of the policy was presented to members and it was agreed that the draft should be released for consultation.

2.0 Responses to the Consultation

- 2.1 The draft copy of the Statement of Gambling Policy was made available on the Council’s website for a period of 6 weeks. Emails confirming the consultation process and giving details of how to make a response were sent to various organisations and agencies linked to the gambling trade.
- 2.2 Two representations have been received and the responses have been set out in **Appendices A and B**. There have been no substantial changes made as a result of these responses. A copy of the Policy is attached as **Appendix C**.

4.0 Proposals

4.1 In order to ensure we meet our statutory obligations, the updated Statement of Gambling Policy is required to be in place and agreed by Full Council in January 2025.

5.0 Equalities Implications

5.1 No implications from this report.

6.0 Digital Implications

6.1 No implications from this report

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 No financial implications from this report.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee consider the consultee responses and that the draft Statement of Gambling Policy be supported and forwarded to Full Council for approval.

Background Papers

Gambling Act 2005