

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee

Date **06 February 2019**

Report of: **Head of Environmental Health**

Subject: **GAMBLING – REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES**

SUMMARY

To consider the draft Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005, which the Council is required to review and publish every three years, for use in connection with applications/reviews under the Gambling Act 2005. The statutory consultation exercise in respect of this Statement has been completed.

The purpose of this report is to bring the draft statement of Principles, together with the consultation responses, to this Committee for approval for recommendation to the Executive so that it can be adopted at Full Council.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee:

- (a) considers the draft document, any amendments resulting from the statutory consultation exercise and whether any substantive amendments are required; and
- (b) recommends to the Executive that the final draft Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles 2019-2022, as attached as Appendix A to this report, be recommended for adoption by the Council.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Gambling Act 2005 introduced significant changes in the regulation of the Gambling Industry. The majority of these changes fell to the Gambling Commission to implement. Local Authorities were required to act as the licensing authority in relation to the licensing of premises and the issuing of permits for certain activities:
 - casinos
 - betting offices and race tracks
 - bingo premises
 - adult gaming centres
 - family entertainment centres.
2. The Council is required to determine and publish, every three years, a Statement of Principles in relation to the exercise of its functions under the Gambling Act 2005. The three-year period to which the current Statement of Policy relates ended in January 2019.

CONSULTATION

3. The draft revised Statement of Policy can be seen at Appendix A to this report.
4. The Policy has been re-written due to changes in Guidance, so it is not possible to produce a summary of changes.
5. Consultation with the bodies as per Appendix 1 of the revised draft Statement of Principles was undertaken in December 2018.
6. There were two responses received. One was from Gamcare a national provider of information, advice, support and free treatment for anyone affected by problem gambling. It consists of a list of the general issues or factors that they suggest should be considered. A copy of this response is attached as Appendix B to this report. The second consultation was from Public Health England and gave information on the Local Authority Health Profile which has been incorporated into the report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

7. The Council is required by statute to review and publish every three years a reviewed Gambling Act Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005. In the absence of such a statement it may not be possible to consider applications for Premises Licences made under the Act.

CONCLUSION

8. This Council must adopt a three-yearly reviewed Gambling Act Statement of Principles issued under the Gambling Act 2005. The reviewed Gambling Act Statement of Principles must be adopted by the Council for the period 2019 – 2022.
9. The reviewed Gambling Act Statement of Principles has been prepared for adoption in compliance with guidance issued by the Gambling Commission. Unless the draft has substantive amendments required by the Committee, the draft can be recommended to the Executive for consideration at its meeting of 4 March and can then be recommended by the Executive (subject to comment /amendment) for adoption by the

Council.

Appendices **Appendix A:** Draft Statement of Principles
 Appendix B Consultation Response Received

Background Papers:

None

Reference Papers:

None

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact Helen Spires. (Ext 4411)