

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Council

18 April 2019

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

Report of: **Head of Environmental Health**

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 relating to applications/reviews under the Gambling Act 2005. The statutory consultation exercise in respect of this Statement was completed December 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the final draft Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles 2019-2022, as attached as Appendix A to this report, be adopted by the Council.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Gambling Act 2005 introduced significant changes in the regulation of the Gambling Industry. Most 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 Principles can be seen at Appendix A to this report.
4. The Statement 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. The second consultation was from Public Health England and gave information on the Local Authority Health Profile which has been incorporated into the document.

PROGRESSION

7. On 6th February 2019 the report was presented to the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee where it was noted that the Appendices to the Draft Statement needed to be renamed and that the 3-year period that the statement will be in force, as detailed in paragraph 1.8 of the statement, needs to cover a full 3 years.
8. The Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee resolved that the draft revised Statement of Principles be recommended to the Executive for consideration and recommendation to Council for adoption.
9. On 4th March 2019 a report was put before the Executive who considered the draft revised Statement of Principles and resolved that it be recommended to Council for adoption.

RISK ASSESSMENT

10. 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

11. 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.
12. The reviewed Gambling Act Statement of Principles has been prepared for adoption in compliance with guidance issued by the Gambling Commission.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Draft Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles

Background Papers: none

Reference Papers: none

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