

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee

Date 25 January 2022

Report of: Head of Environmental Health

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

SUMMARY

The Council is required to review its Gambling Statement of Principles every three years, the current three-year period ends in January 2022. 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. The statutory consultation exercise in respect of this Statement has been completed.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the 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 2022-2025, 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. Most of these changes fell to the Gambling Commission to implement. Local Authorities are 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 racetracks
 - 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 ends in January 2022.

CONSULTATION

3. The draft revised Statement of Policy can be seen at Appendix A to this report.
4. There have been no major changes in the guidance or legislation during the last three-year period and therefore the policy has had no significant amendments since it was published last time.
5. Consultation with the bodies as per Appendix 1 of the revised draft Statement of Principles was undertaken in November 2021. There were no consultation responses received.
6. Since the Gambling Act was introduced in 2005, there have been licensing Panels held in respect of gambling premises matters.

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 effectively and each decision would be at risk of appeal.

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 2022 – 2025.
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 7 March 2022 and can then be recommended by the Executive (subject to comment /amendment) for adoption by the Council at its meeting of 21 April 2022.

Appendices

Appendix A: [Draft Statement of Principles](#)

Background Papers:

None

Reference Papers:

None

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact Ian Rickman. (Ext 4773)