

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### **Report to Council** **25 February 2022**

*Subject:* **Gambling – 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 2021.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the final draft Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles 2022-2025, 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 2022.

## **REVISION OF STATEMENT OF GAMBLING PRINCIPLES**

3. The draft revised Statement of Principles can be seen at Appendix A to this report.
4. The Statement has only had minor amendments from the previous version.
5. Consultation with the bodies as per Appendix 1 of the revised draft Statement of Principles was undertaken between October and December 2021. There were no consultation responses received. Since the introduction of the Gambling Act 2005 there has been no Gambling business for the Council's Licensing Panel.
6. The Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee approved the draft Statement on 25 January 2022 for recommendation to the Executive. The Executive approved the draft Statement on 7 February 2022 for recommendation to Council.

## **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 2022 – 2025.
9. 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

**Contact:** For further information please contact.... (Ext: 4773)