

COUNCIL MEETING – 12th NOVEMBER 2014

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:
White Paper	WP2	03/11/14
Submitted by: Cllr Judith Chapman		

This council notes the prevalence of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) and their concentration in high unemployment areas. This council also notes that, unlike fruit machines in pubs and amusement arcades where cash stakes are limited to £2, gamblers can bet up to £100 every 20 seconds on FOBTs with cash or card, more than four times as fast as the rate of play in casinos and with over £1.5bn lost on FOBTs across the UK in 2012 alone.

This council believes that the increase in FOBTs is causing significant problems and that the Government should either use the existing legislative framework, or introduce legislation, to outlaw B2 casino games in betting shops.

At the very least, local authorities should be given the powers to protect the local amenity and wellbeing of communities by (1) stopping the proliferation of betting shops and (2) reducing the maximum stakes and slowing down the speed of play.

This council therefore requests that the Chief Executive writes to Helen Grant MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Sport and Tourism, recommending a reduction in the maximum bet per spin on FOBTs to £2 and officially supporting London Borough Newham's Sustainable Communities Act proposal to give local authorities the power to do the same.

For Democratic Services completion

Executive Member/Chair: Leader of Council
Relevant Director

Deadlines for submission

White Papers	- *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Back Bench Community Concerns	- *10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
Questions	- 10.00 am on Monday prior to meeting
Amendments	- 1.30 pm on Tuesday prior to meeting
(including references back)	
(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)	

*Usually the Monday of the week prior to a Wednesday meeting.
