



Report of Chief Officer Elections and Regulatory

Report to Licensing Committee

Date: 2nd March 2021

Subject: **Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy Review**

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary

1. Main issues

- Every three years the Council is required by the Gambling Act 2005 to review the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy (Licensing Policy), and to consult upon any changes. The three yearly annual review is due to take place this year.
- Officers are aware that some Members have an interest in gambling policy and may wish to be involved at an early stage of the policy review.

2. Best Council Plan implications (see the [latest version of the Best Council Plan](#))

- The licensing regime contributes to Best City Priorities 2019/20:
 - Culture
 - Safe, Strong communities
- Inclusive Growth

3. Resource implications

- No resource implications for the licensing authority are identified.

Recommendations

- a) For Licensing Committee to consider the best way to provide steer regarding the initial review of the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Licensing Committee of the triennial review of the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy (**Appendix A**) and to provide options regarding steer and feedback.

2. Background information

- 2.1 Under Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 the Licensing Authority is required to prepare a statement of principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under this Act. This process is to be repeated every three years from 31st January 2007.

3. Main issues

- 3.1 The current policy was adopted by Council in November 2018 and expires on 31st January 2022.
- 3.2 The approval of the policy is a matter for full Council. The approval process follows the Budgetary and Policy Framework. The suggested timescale for approval is as follows:

March – April	Review of existing policy
21 st May	Licensing Committee to approve consultation
1 st June to 24 th August	Public consultation
7 th September	Licensing Committee to refer to Exec Board
22 nd September	Exec Board to refer to Scrutiny
14 th October	Scrutiny Board
20 th October	Exec Board to refer to Council
10 th November	Full Council
1 st January	Start of 4 week notice period
Implementation	31 st January

- 3.3 Officers will work with Public Health and the council's Financial Inclusion Team to review the policy and to reflect findings from local research and surveys undertaken by both directorates.
- 3.4 There is an opportunity for interested Members to be involved in this early review, potentially by email or by virtual meeting.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

4.1.1 The Licensing Policy is subject to a statutory consultation. It is planned to use this opportunity to consult with the statutory consultees and ward members, parish and town councils and Citizen Advice Bureau.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

4.2.1 The Licensing Policy review process is subject to an EDCI Assessment, and a screening form will be completed during the review process.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

4.3.1 The licensing regime contributes to Best City Priorities 2019/20:

- Culture
- Safe, Strong communities
- Inclusive Growth

Climate Emergency

4.3.2 There are no implications for the climate emergency in relation to this report.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

4.4.1 There are no implications on resources, procurement or value for money in relation to this report.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

4.5.1 There are no legal implications in relation to this report. The review of the policy is subject to the Budget and Policy Framework and therefore will be presented to Scrutiny Board as a matter of course. As such there is no call-in process.

4.6 Risk management

4.6.1 There are no issues relating to risk management.

5. Conclusions

5.1 The triennial review of the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy is now due, with a new policy to be in place for 31st January 2022 following approval by Council. There is an opportunity for early involvement by Members.

6. Recommendations

6.1 For Licensing Committee to consider the best way to provide steer regarding the initial review of the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy.

7. Background documents¹

7.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.