

Summary of Changes

GA05 Statement of
Licensing Policy Review

2024



Summary

The Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy is under its three year review. This document provides a summary of the changes made during the review process.

Throughout the document the phrase problem gambling has been replaced with the term gambling harm. Problem gambling infers that the responsibility lies entirely with the consumer, whereas as gambling harm better describes the experience.

Changes have been made to update statistics regarding population, deprivation, economy, and suicide rates.

Council policies and strategies have been updated to the latest versions.

Within the sections on the licensing objectives more information has been provided regarding the current statistics on gambling harm. This has been provided in this document as it is more detailed than the prevalence statistics provided by the Gambling Commission. It also informs how the council views the term vulnerability.

Information has been included regarding the council's approach to gambling harm. This information has been updated since the last policy due to work undertaken by Scrutiny into the council's approach and the formalisation of the Leeds Gambling Harms group.

Updated and expanded the section on the risk matrix. The council has developed a tool specific to gambling harms, which can be provided to applicants.

In the permits section, the sentence regarding policies for the protection of vulnerable people has been expanded.

Two appendices have been removed as they are subject to a future change and are available on the Gambling Commission website.

Detailed Changes

Executive Summary

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Fifth para | Removed the licensing objectives in full. These are described several times in the body of the policy. |
| Final para | Removed "The policy has four appendices, describing the stakes and prizes which determine the category of a gaming machine, a glossary of terms, exempt gaming in pubs and clubs and the procedure to be applied for determined a large casino licence." These appendices have been removed and this paragraph has no purpose. |

Part A The Gambling Act 2005

2. The Leeds district

2.2 Updated population figure.

2.3 Removed “Leeds City Council has a policy promoting mixed use development including residential and evening uses throughout the city centre”. This is not relevant to this policy, and the Council’s aspirations have been updated.

2.6 Replaced the descriptions of minority groups to match those in the population statistics the ONS use and updated statistics.

2.7-2.10 Added new paragraphs updating the information regarding deprivation and priority neighbourhoods and provided a reference.

Removed paragraphs relating to previous priority neighbourhoods

2.11-2.13 Added new title “Economy” and updated information relating to the economy and provided a reference.

2.14-2.15 Added new title “Health and Wellbeing” and updated information regarding suicide rates.

Removed paragraphs relating to life expectancy.

3. Integration with other guidance, policies, objectives, and strategies

3.1-3.3 Replaced Vision for Leeds with Best City Ambition information

3.4-3.6 Replaced Best Council Plan 2020-2025 with Better Lives Strategy 2022-2027 information

3.7 Updated priorities for the Leeds Health and Wellbeing strategy 2023-2030

3.8-3.9 Inserted Children and Young People’s Plan 2023-2028

Removed Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy 2018-2023

Removed Children and Young People’s Plan 2018-2023

Added list of other strategies.

4. The purpose of this policy

4.2-4.3 Replaced previous consultation, response, and approval details with place holder text. This section will be completed before the Policy is referred to Council for approval.

10. Licensing authority functions

10.2 Replaced “The council will not be involved in licensing remote gambling at all. This will fall to the Gambling Commission via operator licences.”
With

“The council is not involved in the licensing of remote gambling. This is in the remit of the Gambling Commission via operator licences.”

Part B The licensing objectives

13. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

13.6-13.7 Update the Gambling Commission definition of vulnerable persons and provided a reference.

13.9 Minor rewording to replace “and for that purpose” with “It states”.

13.12 Added title “Vulnerability to gambling harms in Leeds”

Replaced the term problem gambling with the term gambling harm.

Removed extensive description of the groups the research identified as vulnerable to gambling harm.

13.13 Inserted statistics provided by the Office of Health Improvements and Disparities (OHID) regarding national prevalence of gambling harm.

13.14-13.15 Inserted Leeds specific statistics provided by research undertaken by the University of Sheffield and the University of Glasgow on behalf of OHID.

13.16-13.22 Added title “Council approach to gambling harms”

Inserted information regarding the council approach to gambling harm.

13.23 Added title “Considering vulnerability when making applications”

Replaced the term problem gambling with the term gambling harm.

13.26 Removed the detailed information provided regarding the risk matrix, as this has been repeated in Part C.

13.27 Replaced the term problem gambling with the term gambling harm.

13.28 Removed the cross reference to a previous paragraph.

Part C Premises licence

14. General Requirements

- 14.9 Inserted “deprivation in the area”
- 14.19 Removed the word “special” in relation to conditions.
- 14.21 Inserted detailed information regarding the risk matrix, and the top scoring neighbourhoods.

16. Licensed family entertainment centres (FECs)

- 16.1 Removed reference to Appendix 1 as this has been removed.

17. Casinos

- 17.6 Amended appendix number.

Part D Permits, notices, and lottery registrations

24. Gaming machine permits in premises licensed for the sale of alcohol

- 24.4 Added “as well as any policy they may have regarding people becoming distressed, or who may be gambling excessively, or for an excessive amount of time.”
- 26. Club gaming and club machine permits
- 26.3 Replaced the bulleted list with “Measures which may satisfy the council that people under 18 years will be prevented from using the machines may include the machines being near the bar, or in any other area where they are capable of being adequately supervised. Notices and signage may also help. As regards the protection of vulnerable people, applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets and or helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare, as well as any policy they may have regarding people becoming distressed or who may be gambling excessively, or for an excessive amount of time.”

Appendix 1 Gaming machines

Removed entire appendix as this is subject to change following the Government’s White Paper and subsequent consultation on changes to land based gambling.

Appendix 3 Summary of gaming entitlements for clubs and pubs

Removed entire appendix as this is subject to change following the Government's White Paper and subsequent consultation on changes to land based gambling.