



Report to:	Licensing Committee 7 September 2021
Lead Cabinet Member:	Brian Milnes
Lead Officer:	Rachel Jackson Principal Licensing Officer

Gambling Act 2005 – Review of Statement of Licensing Policy

Executive Summary

1. That the Committee agree to recommend to Council the revision of the Statement of Licensing Policy under the Gambling Act 2005.

Key Decision

2. No

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Licensing Committee recommend to Council the adoption of the Statement of Licensing Policy under the Gambling Act 2005 for a period of up to three years from 31 January 2022.
4. The draft Policy is attached as Appendix A.

Reasons for Recommendations

5. Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 places a statutory duty to publish a Statement of Licensing Policy every three years, the current Policy is effective until 31 January 2022, so must now be republished.

Details

6. The Statement of Licensing Policy has considered revised guidance under the Gambling Act 2005, and local considerations, and remains fit for purpose. However, two minor revisions are proposed;
 - i) The removal of a date at section 7;

- ii) Removal of obsolete Gambling Commission guidance relating to Planning within Part B – General Principles.
7. The Policy will remain in force for a period of up to three years but may be reviewed at any point prior if necessary. The Policy will form the basis of any decision taken in respect of applications or enforcement under the Gambling Act 2005 by Officers or any Committee Hearing, local or national policies or considerations

Options

8. The Committee may approve or amend the Policy, but full Council is required to adopt the Policy.

Implications

Financial

9. None for the purposes of this report.

Legal

10. Failure to adopt and publish a new Policy Statement before 31 January 2022, would mean the Authority would fail to meet its statutory duties under the Act, and may be at risk of judicial review.

Staffing

11. None for the purposes of this report.

Risks/Opportunities

12. The Principal Accountant has advised that the proposed changes in the policy would not lead to any additional risk implications other than the existing risks associated with gambling.

Consultation responses

13. As part of the consultation process, Officers consulted with:

- Cambridgeshire Police
- Gambling Commission
- Social Services
- Representatives of the trade

Parish Councils
Citizens' Advice Bureau
Clinical Commissioning Group
Wider consultation via the Council's website

14. Consultation commenced on 22 June 2021 and ended on 9 August 2021.

15. Responses were received from Waterbeach Parish Council, Sawston Parish Council, Cambourne Town Council and the National Association of British Bookmakers Limited, who all were either supportive of, or had no comments to make on the revised Policy.

Background Papers

Gambling Act 2005
Gambling Commission Guidance to Local Authorities

Appendices

Appendix A: Draft Statement of Licensing Policy Gambling Act 2005

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