

SUBJECT:	Gambling Act 2005 Licensing Statement of Principles – 2015 Revision
REPORT OF:	Interim Director of Services – Anita Cacchioll
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Head of Healthy Communities – Martin Holt
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WARD/S AFFECTED	All

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the final revised draft Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles a copy of which is attached to this report as Appendix 1 and to recommend its adoption to come into effect on 14 January 2016.
- 1.2 Council is also requested to consider whether the Council wishes to continue to have a resolution to not issue casino premises licences.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.3 **That Council adopts the draft Statement of Principles for publication at least 4 weeks prior to coming into effect for the period 14 January 2016 to 13 January 2019.**
- 1.4 **That Council resolves, with effect from 14 January 2016, not to issue casino premises licences, in accordance with Section 166 of the 2005 Act.**

2. Reason for Recommendation

- 2.1 The recommendation is in line with the legal requirements for the correct process for the required review and adoption of the Statement of Principles.
- 2.2 The adoption of the revised Statement of Principles is a shared function under the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) and therefore Cabinet must be asked to consider the draft Statement of Principles and to recommend to Council that it be adopted.
- 2.3 Council is also required under section 166 of the Gambling Act 2005 to make a decision whether to continue to have a resolution to not issue casino premises licences.

3. Content of Report

- 3.1 The Council has a statutory requirement to review its adopted Statement of Principles every 3 years. The Licensing & Regulation Committee agreed the draft reviewed document prior to a consultation being completed, and the result of the consultation was reported to the Licensing Committee on 27 August 2015. The Committee noted the response received, which did not request any amendments to be considered and

agreed the recommendations stated in the report. A copy of the final draft Statement of Principles is attached to this report in Appendix 1.

- 3.2 Only one response was received during the consultation period which is set out below:

Many thanks for forwarding this information to the Buckinghamshire Local Safeguarding Children Board.

I would like to confirm that I have reviewed the consultation version of the Gambling Statement of Principles along with the Independent Chair of the Board. Given that there are no significant changes proposed to the document, we do not have any additional feedback to provide.

Many thanks

Matilda

Matilda Moss
Business Manager
Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board

- 3.3 As there were no responses from consultees objecting to or requesting that the draft Statement of Principles be amended, and the draft Statement of Principles was previously agreed by the Licensing and Regulation Committee for consultation.
- 3.4 Following the Licensing Committee's approval of the final draft Statement of Principles a further report was presented to Cabinet on 1 December 2015 to request that it also consider the draft Statement of Principles, as this is a shared function. Cabinet having considered the draft Statement of Principles supported the recommendation to Council to adopt the draft Statement of Principles.
- 3.5 Under Section 166 of the 2005 Act the Council may resolve not to issue casino premises licences. If passed, the resolution lasts for 3 years or less if subsequently revoked by a further resolution. If a resolution is passed it has to be published in the Statement of Principles.
- 3.6 In considering whether to pass a resolution Members may take into account any principle or matter as well as the licensing objectives. Although the DCMS has declared the location of the seventeen permitted casinos and no further licences can be issued at this time, there is a possibility that this number could be increased in the future.
- 3.7 The Licensing & Regulation Committee on 27 August 2015 supported the recommendation to Council to again resolve not to issue casino premises licences.

4. Links to Council Policy Objectives

4.1 The licensing of gambling premises and the adoption of a policy in respect of this activity contributes towards the Council's Corporate Plan Key Theme 2 of working towards safe and healthier local communities. Properly controlling and regulating gambling activities will assist in ensuring that levels of crime and disorder remain low and appropriate well run gambling premises can contribute towards the local economy.

5. Next Step

5.1 The next steps will be as stated in the recommendations

Background Papers:	Gambling Act 2005 and associated Orders and Regulations Gambling Commission Guidance to Licensing Authorities 4 th Edition July 2012 and 5 th Edition September 2015 Statement of Principles adopted on 12 December 2006 and reviewed on 12 October 2009 and 13 November 2012.
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