

## Agenda Item

**REPORT OF** LEAD LICENSING OFFICER

**To:** LICENSING COMMITTEE

**Subject:** GAMBLING ACT – STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

**Date:** 26 JANUARY 2022

**Reference:**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To review and update the Authority's current Statement of Principles published under s.349 of the Gambling Act 2005

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Section 349(1) of the Gambling Act requires licensing authorities to *'prepare a statement of the principles that they propose to apply in exercising its functions under the Act'*.

Section 349(2) of the Act requires the licensing authority to review the statement at least every three years, revise it if necessary and to publish any revision. Regulations require that any revision to the Statement of Principles must be published at least four weeks before the revised Statement comes into effect.

The current Statement of Principles will expire on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and needs to be agreed by Licensing Committee before adoption by Full Council and publication.

## **2. REPORT**

The Licensing Committee approved the consultation process on 27 October 2021.

There have been no comments or suggestions for amendments received during the consultation process.

It is proposed the revised policy is approved by the committee and presented to Full Council for formal adoption.

The revised policy is provided in Appendix A.

## **3. IMPLICATIONS**

### Legal Implications

By consulting on the revised Statement of Principles, the Authority has complied with the legal requirements of s.349 of the Act. The Statement must, however, be formally adopted by full Council and then published in accordance with regulations.

### Financial Implications

None

#### Human Resources Implications

None

#### Sustainability Implications

None

#### Equality/Diversity

None

#### Risk Management

The Statement of Principles must be regularly reviewed and kept up to date. Without an up to date Policy, the Authority would be at risk of legal challenge in relation to its responsibility for the regulation of gambling premises.

#### Compliance with Policies and Strategies

All regulatory activity will be carried out in accordance with current policy and procedures.

#### Data Protection (GDPR) Implications

Any amendments to the policy will comply with data protection requirements

#### Climate Change

None

#### Lead Member Views

Councillor McKenzie, Chair, has been consulted.

## **4. CONCLUSIONS**

The Statement of Principles sets out the Authority's approach to the regulation of gambling in its area and the standards it will apply in relation to licensed premises, permits and registrations. The proposed revisions to the current Policy are designed to keep it up to date, relevant, robust and to reflect evolving guidance from the Gambling Commission since the last review in 2018.

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended:

1. that Members approve the revised Statement of Principles;
2. that the revised Statement be presented for formal adoption by full Council;

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Consultations: In accordance with the agreed schedule

Contact: Chris Parkhouse

Supporting papers: Licensing data area/files