

TO: COUNCIL
16 JANUARY 2019

REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF GAMBLING PRINCIPLES
Director of Delivery

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Bracknell Forest Council's Statement of Gambling Principles ('Statement') under the Gambling Act 2005 must undergo a review and be re-published by 31 January 2019.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide guidance to committees and officers determining matters under delegated authority and to provide consistency in decision making.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Council endorses the revised Statement at Annex A at its meeting on the 16 January 2019.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 requires all licensing authorities to prepare and publish a statement of the principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Act. The Statement will last for a maximum of three years and can be reviewed and revised by the authority at any time. The present Statement was published on 31 January 2016 and therefore must undergo a review and be republished on or before 31 January 2019.
- 3.2 The amended Statement was approved by the Licensing & Safety Committee on 18 October 2018.
- 3.3 The statement considers matters of child protection in relation to gambling through enforcement, appropriate staffing levels and education.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 There are no alternative options as the revision of the Statement is a legal requirement.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The Statement must be produced following consultation with those bodies and persons set out in subsection (3) of section 349. This includes the Chief Officer of Police, persons who represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the area and persons who represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authority's functions under the Act. The views of all consultees should be given appropriate weight when the Statement is determined.
- 5.2 The consultation was carried out on the Council's public consultation portal from 24 July 2018 to 14 September 2018. Two responses have been received, attached at Annex B and C.

- 5.3 In addition to the updating of dates, figures, and statistics where appropriate, a summary of the changes made to the Statement are as follows:
- Section 1.1 Addition of paragraph explaining the purpose of the Statement
 - Section 1.8 New information regarding enforcement of licences
 - Section 1.9 New information relating to local risk assessments
 - Section 2.4 Additional information regarding protecting children and other vulnerable people from gambling
 - Section 2.9 Clarification regarding number of gaming machines/terminals that can be made available and matters that may be considered by the authority
 - Section 3.1 Addition of information regarding family entertainment centres
 - Section 3.5 and 3.6 Information regarding temporary and occasional use notices
- 5.4 The Bracknell Forest Lottery does not conflict with any of the statement principles.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The legal implications are identified within the report.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 There are no significant financial implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 There are no implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 There are no implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 The Chief Officer of Police, persons who carry on gambling businesses in the area and local residents.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 The consultation was carried out on the Council's public consultation portal from 24 July 2018 to 14 September 2018. The consultation was emailed to licensed operators within the district and the bodies stated at appendix A within the Statement.

Representations Received

- 7.3 Two responses were been received. The first from GamCare, Annex B, although it is noted within the response that the submission contains general comments rather than specific remarks on the Statement that has been drafted. The second response is from Gosschalks, Annex C, on behalf of the Association of British Bookmakers. It is also noted that this response, like that from GamCare largely consists of general

Unrestricted

comments, with only the penultimate section relating specifically to Bracknell Forest Council's Statement.

Background Papers

Statement of Licensing Policy 2016

Contact for further information

Damian James, Assistant Director: Contract Services, 01344 351325,
Damian.james@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Charlie Fletcher, Licensing Officer, 01344 352550, charlie.fletcher@westberks.gov.uk