

**LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE  
4 OCTOBER 2007**

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**GAMBLING ACT 2005 – IMPLEMENTATION  
(Director of Environment and Leisure)**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Council has been able to accept applications for gambling premises licences since 21 May 2007. The deadline for applications to ensure continuation rights for existing operators was 31 July 2007, and the Gambling Act came into effect on 1 September 2007.

**2 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The Licensing Section received 13 applications for gambling premises licences within the transition period, prior to the deadline to ensure continuation rights. The applications can be broken down as follows:

- (a) 10 betting premises
- (b) 2 adult gaming centres
- (c) 1 bingo premises

- 2.2 All of the applicants used the 'fast track' transitional procedure, which means that they were existing operators and they accepted all the default and mandatory conditions relevant to their type of licence as specified in the Act. The licences were all issued at the end of August and were sent out prior to the commencement date of 1 September 2007.

- 2.3 Organisations which provide facilities for betting, adult gaming, bingo and certain other types of gambling must obtain an operating licence from the Gambling Commission. This operating licence number should be entered on the premises licence issued by the licensing authority. The Gambling Commission have a backlog of applications and so have not yet issued operating licences to all applicants, so some premises licences will need to be amended and re-issued when the operating licence number becomes available.

- 2.4 It is hoped that the Licensing Section will be able to visit all premises by the end of 2007 to ensure that the plan on file is an accurate representation of the premises, and to check that the premises is complying with the licence conditions, for example displaying the licence summary at the premises.

**3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 3.1 There are no implications identified.

**4 STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

- 4.1 There are no strategic risk management issues identified.

Background Papers

Gambling Act 2005

Gambling Commission Guidance to Licensing Authorities (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)

DCMS Gambling Act 2005 – Transitional Arrangements

Bracknell Forest Borough Council Statement of Gambling Principles

Contact for further information

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