

**TO: THE EXECUTIVE
17 NOVEMBER 2015**

**REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF GAMBLING PRINCIPLES
Director of Environment, Culture and Communities**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The 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 2016. The purpose of this report is to bring the revised Statement for approval by Executive to go through to Council on 25 November 2015.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.2 The Statement was approved by the Licensing and Safety Committee on 8 October 2015, and is required to go through to Council on 25 November 2015 in order to be re-published by 31 January 2016.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 **That the Executive agrees the submission of the Statement of Gambling Principles to Council on 25 November 2015 for formal adoption with effect from 31 January 2016.**

4 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 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 2013 and therefore must undergo a review and be re-published on or before 31 January 2016.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

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

6 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 The consultation was carried out on the Council's public consultation portal from August to October. Three responses were received as outlined in 8.3. In addition, a working group was set up with members from the Licensing and Safety Committee.

- 6.3 The Statement has been updated with the most up to date demographic information and to add a section on local risk assessments, which is a new legislative requirement which will take effect from April 2016. In addition, some sections were edited for clarity following comments received during the consultation. Other than that, there are no suggested policy changes in the statement.

7 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 7.1 The legal implications are identified within the report.

Borough Treasurer

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

Equalities Impact Assessment

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

Strategic Risk Management Issues

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

8 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 8.1 The Chief Officer of Police, persons who carry on gambling businesses in the area and local residents. No comments were received.

Method of Consultation

- 8.2 The consultation was carried out on the Council's public consultation portal from August to October.

Representations Received

- 8.3 Responses received from Ladbrokes plc, Coral and the Association of British Bookmakers. The comments received have been considered and incorporated where appropriate. These were quite detailed and technical in nature and helped refine the statement. No concerns with the statements were raised.

Background Papers

Bracknell Forest Council Statement of Gambling Principles (January 2013)

Contact for further information

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