

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report to Licensing & Regulatory Committee

30 November 2018

TITLE:	Gambling Policy Update – Statement of Principles 2019-2022
EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR:	Councillor Bowen - Portfolio Holder for Communities, Leisure, Parks, Sport, Countryside and Housing
CONTACT OFFICER:	Alicia Patterson - Operations Manager - Environmental Services (Regulatory)
WARDS INVOLVED:	Non Specific

Appendices Attached – Statement of Principles 2019-2022 (Gambling Act 2005)

1. Reason for the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to ensure the Council's compliance with the Gambling Act 2005 by consulting upon and publishing a revised Statement of Principles under the Act.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Committee approves the revised Statement of Principles as attached at Appendix A, and include the consultation response received from The Gambling Commission and note the comments made by Gamcare and recommend, as HPBC, the revised policy for Full Council approval.

3. Executive Summary

3.1 Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 requires that the Council as a licensing authority, prepare and publish a Statement of Principles under the Act every three years. The District Council's Statement of Principles is due for renewal in 2019. The Statement will last for a 3 year period but may be reviewed at any time prior to this by the Council.

3.2 In response to this requirement a revised Statement of Principles has been prepared and is included in Appendix A.

- 3.3 It is a further requirement of the Act that a revised policy must be approved at a full meeting of the Council. Such approval cannot be granted until consultation has been undertaken with a range of statutory bodies defined by the Act and included within the proposed Policy at page 4.
- 3.4 The Consultation was undertaken between the 2nd October 2018 and 13th November 2018 and is now completed; the Council has received two responses as a result of the consultation exercise which are detailed below:
- The Gambling Commission offered advice that where the Policy does not specify as such, it should contain a reference requiring that the Local Risk Assessment prepared by the operator should be kept and made available for inspection on the premises by an authorised Officer. This can be accommodated within the General Principles section on page 10 of the Policy document where it refers specifically to the LCCP Part II guidance on Risk Assessments and it is recommended that the committee agree that this section of the Policy is amended to include a statement to this effect.
 - A generic response was received from an organisation called Gamcare, a national provider of information, advice, support and free treatment for anyone affected by problem gambling. The content did not specifically relate to the Council's Policy and made only general points about their services and preferences. The content of their submission was nevertheless reviewed against the content of the Council's proposed Policy and it was found that all pertinent points had been addressed.

4. Options and Analysis

- 4.1 That members consider the consultation response received from The Gambling Commission and incorporate this in the 2019-2022 policy, and note the response received from Gamcare (Recommended).
- 4.2 That members recommend to full council the adoption of the Revised Statement of Principles, including the consultation response from The Gambling Commission (Recommended).
- 4.3 That members do not include the consultation responses received and do not incorporate them in the 2019-2022 policy (Not Recommended).

5. Implications

5.1 Community Safety - (Crime and Disorder Act 1998)

The objectives of the Gambling Act seek to ensure that communities are protected from unfair trading, crime and disorder and that vulnerable people and children are not exploited in any way by

gambling.

5.2 Workforce

None.

5.3 Equality and Diversity/Equality Impact Assessment

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Council's Diversity and Equality Policies.

5.4 Financial Considerations

The majority of fees chargeable are fixed at national level with the remainder set by individual authorities, it is intended that maintenance of the service will be self funding.

5.5 Legal

The publishing of a Statement of Principles is a legal obligation of the Council.

5.6 Sustainability

No implications.

5.7 Internal and External Consultation

Consultation requirements have been met and the consultation process has been completed.

5.8 Risk Assessment

No implications.

Mr Mark Trillo

Executive Director (People) and Monitoring Officer

**Web Links and
Background Papers**

Location

Contact details

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