

WIRRAL COUNCIL

LICENSING ACT 2003 COMMITTEE – 9 NOVEMBER 2009

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION

DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES UNDER THE GAMBLING ACT 2005

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval of the Draft Statement of Principles under The Gambling Act 2005 in order that it may be presented to Council for approval on 14 December 2009.
- 1.2 Members are also requested to agree that the Director of Regeneration be given delegated authority to amend the draft document in conjunction with the Chair and Party Spokespersons prior to its presentation to Council should this become necessary as a result of feedback from the consultation.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Gambling Act 2005 requires the Council to prepare and publish a statement of Licensing Principles that the Authority will apply when considering applications under the Act. It is a requirement that this policy document be reviewed every three years
- 2.2 The Council's Statement of Principles was first published in December 2006 and must therefore now be reviewed and published no later than December 2009.
- 2.3 On 14 September 2009, Members of the Licensing Act 2003 Committee approved a draft Statement of Principles so that it may be circulated for consultation.
- 2.4 The consultation period began on 14 September 2009 and closes on 14 December 2009. To date, no comments have been received from consultees.
- 2.5 The draft Statement of Principles has been circulated to a number of consultees and has been publicised on the Council's website. A list of those consulted is attached in Appendix 2.
- 2.6 Any comments received before the close of the consultation period will be presented at the meeting of the Council on 14 December 2009.
- 2.7 The revised draft statement of Licensing Principles, attached as Appendix 1, has been prepared having regard to the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 and the Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission. The draft is also in accordance with a template prepared by the Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services (LACORS).

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Financial costs arising from the consultation process have been met from existing budgets.

4.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Staffing costs arising from the consultation process have been met from existing budgets.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no equal opportunities implications arising out of this report.

6.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Effective control of Gambling Legislation can assist in raising standards and improve the perception of community safety.

7.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no Local Agenda 21 implications arising out of this report.

8.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no planning implications arising out of this report.

9.0 ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no anti-poverty implications arising out of this report.

10.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

10.1 This report affects the entire Borough

11.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 Draft Statement of Principles (Appendix 1)

11.2 List of Consultees (Appendix 2)

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 That the Draft Statement of Licensing Principles be approved as a Draft to be considered by Council on 14 December 2009 for approval as the Statement of Principles to be applied under The Gambling Act 2005.

12.2 That Members also agree that the Director of Regeneration be given delegated authority to amend the draft document in conjunction with the Chair and Party Spokespersons prior to its presentation to Council should this become necessary as a result of feedback from the consultation.

Alan Stennard
Director of Regeneration

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