

WIRRAL COUNCIL

LICENSING ACT 2003 COMMITTEE

7 NOVEMBER 2012

SUBJECT:	DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES UNDER THE GAMBLING ACT 2005
WARD AFFECTED:	ALL WARDS
REPORT OF:	ACTING DIRECTOR OF LAW, HR AND ASSET MANAGEMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

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 17 December 2012.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

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 January 2007 and subsequently reviewed in 2010. The Policy must therefore now be reviewed and published no later than January 2013.

2.3 On 25 July 2012, 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 1 August 2012 and closed on 31 October 2012.

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 consultees is attached in Appendix 2.

2.6 In response to this consultation, only one response has been received from the National Casino Industry Forum (NCIF). The response made by the NCIF does not comment on the Policy itself but promotes the value of casino premises to the local area. Therefore no amendment to the Policy has been made. A copy of the response from the NCIF is available as Appendix 3.

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.

5.0 RELEVANT RISKS

5.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

6.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

6.1 There is no provision for other options to be considered.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation has been undertaken in respect of this application.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

8.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

9.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The Council is required to undertake a review of its Statement of Principles every three years. A reviewed Policy must be published no later than 3 January 2013.

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Yes and impact review is attached.

<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/law-hr-asset-management>

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are no Planning implications arising from this report.

14.0 RECOMMENDATION

14.1 That the Draft Statement of Licensing Principles be approved as a Draft to be considered by Council on 17 December 2012 for approval as the Statement of Principles to be applied under The Gambling Act 2005.

15.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

15.1 It is a statutory requirement for the Council to review and consult upon a revised Statement of Principles every three years.

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APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – Draft Statement of Principles.
- Appendix 2 – List of Consultees.
- Appendix 3 – Response to consultation made by the NCIF.

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Licensing Act 2003 Committee	25 July 2012