

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Mark Edgar – Communities Equalities & Governance Officer

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Head of Section: Margaret O'Donnell – Licensing Manager – Law & Corporate Services

Chief Officer: Jill Travers – Director of Law & Corporate Services

Directorate: Law & Corporate Services

Date: 16 July 2024

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

DRAFT REVISED STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY UNDER THE GAMBLING ACT 2005

It is a statutory requirement under the Gambling Act 2005 for the Council to review and consult upon its Statement of Gambling Policy at least every three years prior to it being published.

Licensing Authorities are required by the Gambling Act 2005 to publish a statement of the principles which they propose to apply when exercising their functions. This statement must be published at least every three years. The statement must also be reviewed from “time to time” and any amended parts re-consulted upon. The statement must then be re-published.

This is an initial assessment which may be reviewed and amended as necessary to ensure continuing compliance with The Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Sect 149)

Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Committee meeting?

Yes / No **If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date**

Licensing Act Committee – 25 July 2024

Hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- Services**
- The workforce**
- Communities**
- Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any protected groups (age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals. We encourage services to consider the impact on those who serve and who have served in the armed forces and their families, in accordance with the Armed Forces Covenant

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
Race / Religion	We recognise that gambling activities is forbidden in some religions.	Licences are only awarded under the Gambling Act 2005. The Licensing Authority aims to provide a transparent balanced, consistent, proportionate and fair licensing service for all service users including applicants, licence holders, Responsible Authorities and members of the public.	Licensing Manager	For the duration of the policy	
Age/Disability	It is acknowledged that Children and other vulnerable persons can be harmed or exploited by gambling	The Licensing Authority must have regard to The Licensing Objectives, which includes the protection of children and vulnerable	Licensing Manager	For the duration of the policy	

		<p>persons The Gambling Commission or statute law does not seek to offer a definition but the Commission states that “it will for regulatory purposes assume that this group includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •People who gamble more than they want to •People who gamble beyond their means •People who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to a mental impairment, or substance misuse relating to alcohol or drugs. 			
All	We recognise that some members of the community may need information in different languages or formats.	We will ensure that any consultation exercises are as accessible as possible and that reasonable adjustments are available where The Licensing Authority has been made aware of requirements. Information will be made available in different languages and formats upon request and within a	Licensing Manager	For the duration of the policy	We have a call off contract through Procurement for interpretation and translation activities

		reasonable timeframe			

Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

The social responsibility code requires licensees to assess the local risks to the licensing objectives posed by the provision of gambling facilities at each of their premises, and have policies, procedures and control measures to mitigate those risks. In undertaking their risk assessments, it is expected that premises located in Wirral will have regard to Wirral Intelligence Service which is an online tool providing detailed area profiles of Wirral.

Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

N/A

Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

Existing Gambling Statement of Policy
Gambling Act 2005
Equality Act 2010
Gambling Commission Guidelines
Safeguarding Children Partnership

Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes /No – (please delete as appropriate)

If 'yes' please continue to section 7.

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?

It is proposed that the period of consultation be between 29 July 2024 and 27 September 2024 and that the outcome of the consultation be reported to a meeting of this Committee on 23 October 2024 in order that recommendations of this Committee may be presented to full Council at its meeting on 2 December 2024 for the Statement of Gambling Policy to be approved..

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing.

Section 8: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2a)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 4)
- c) **Send this EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**