

REPORT TO	ON
General Licensing Committee	20 November 2018



TITLE	REPORT OF
Consultation on Gambling Policy	Head of Licensing

Is this report confidential?	No
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### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To review and consider the consultation responses to the Statement of Gambling Policy

### 2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Excellence and Financial Sustainability	x
Health and Wellbeing	
Place	

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To note the responses to the consultation and consider what if any of the measures put forward are necessary to promote the Licensing Objectives under the regime.

3.2 To agree the draft policy and refer to full Council on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018 for adoption.

### 4. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

4.1 A short report came before the Committee in September 2018 setting out the legal requirement to review the Gambling Policy, a draft policy was considered and an agreed period of consultation including a list of consultees was set. The period of consultation was the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018 till the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

4.2 A formal response was received by Lancashire County Councils Public Health Team who appear to have a pool of conditions or recommendations that are sent to all Local Authorities in the region. These recommendation will be particularly relevant to areas of intense outlet density especially where there is high levels of deprivation. Formal response attached as Appendix 1.

4.3 South Ribble does not fall into either category and is reported as being one of the lower risk areas in Lancashire, with this in mind the some of the recommendations maybe less relevant than others.

## 5. ANALYSIS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Defining geographic areas of vulnerability and risk, there are 2 wards in the South Ribble area that stand out in relation to deprivation. They are Broadfield which is ranked as the 188<sup>th</sup> most deprived ward in the county and Seven Stars which is 1469<sup>th</sup>. We also have very affluent wards which are at the other end of the spectrum such as Howick and Priory which is ranked 7503<sup>rd</sup> in the region. The recommendation is to identify areas of vulnerability so a map has been created highlighting these two wards which also pin points the locations of existing Gambling Premises. This map can be incorporated into the policy to assist operators should the Committee think this is a necessary step, attached as Annex 2. The deprivation figures by ward are set out below.

Seven Stars	1469
Broadfield	188
Earnshaw Bridge	2734
Buckshaw & Worden	7445
Leyland Central	4416
Moss Side	4386
Hoole Ward	6576
Longton & Hutton West	7256
New Longton & Hutton East	6494
Middelforth	2923
Broadoak	7364
Howick & Priory	7503
Walton Le Dale West	6447
Walton Le Dale East	6289
Samlesbury & Walton	3959
Coupe Green & Gregson Lane	6516
Bamber Bridge East	2139
Bamber Bridge West	2479
Lostock Hall	4600
Charnock	4734
Moss Side	4386
Farington East	4382
Farington West	6146

### 5.2 Provide guidance on local risk assessments,

This issue was raised by a Committee member in the September 2018 meeting where a request was made to possibly look into providing an example or template risk assessment. Further enquires revealed that not much was available publically but the Gambling Commission did have a guidance document on what to include in a risk assessment. The salient parts of that guidance have been incorporated into the draft policy and can be found at paragraph 3.2. The items included in the policy already largely replicate what Public Health are suggesting. Advice has been sought from the Gambling Commission who have directed us to the January 2018 Bulletin, looking at this document 2 local authorities are highlighted, York and West Dunbartonshire. Both policies do not have an example risk assessment but they do have a list of points they consider necessary when formulating risk assessments. The relevant extracts from those polices are found as Annex 3 and 4.

5.3 The third point Public Health raise is to possibly publicise pathways to treatment. The small number of premises and overall prosperity in the Borough will mean problem gamblers will be modest compared with bigger cities and deprived towns. The beacon trust who are the main service provider for Gamcare have been contacted and provided us with some suggested wording for the policy, which is as follows:-

“Operating staff (particularly those involved with customer interaction and self exclusion) should be aware of National and Local Problematic Gambling support systems available and individuals identified as being in need of support should be made aware of the National Problem Gambling Helpline. All operators should be aware of and publicise the local , confidential FREE and immediate service offered through local treatment provider THE BEACON COUNSELLING TRUST , who deliver services across the North West and whose closet location for service provision is Preston [www.beaconcounsellingtrust.co.uk](http://www.beaconcounsellingtrust.co.uk) telephone 0151 226 0696 who will arrange a local appointment.”

## 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## 7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

S349(1) of the Gambling Act 2005 requires the Council to prepare and publish a statement of principles every 3 years. The previous policy expires on **31<sup>st</sup> January 2019**. The draft policy once approved by Council will therefore become effective on **31<sup>st</sup> January 2019**.

Before a statement comes into effect, the Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006 requires licensing authorities to publish a notice of their intention to publish a statement or revision. The notice must comply with the following points:-

- a) Specify the date on which the statement or revision is to be published
- b) Specify the date on which the statement or revision will come into effect
- c) Specify the internet address where the statement or revision will be published and the address of the premises at which it may be inspected (for 4 weeks before it comes into effect )
- d) Publish the statement or revision on the authority’s website (for 4 weeks before it comes into effect ) and
- e) In or more of the following places:-
  - i) In a local newspaper circulating in the area covered by the statement
  - ii) A local newsletter, circular or similar document circulating in the area covered by the statement
  - iii) A public notice board in or near the principal office of the Council
  - iv) A public notice board on the premises of public libraries in the area covered by the statement.

## 8. COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

## 9. COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

The Act requires the Council to review its Statement of Gambling Principles every 3 years. As stipulated at Paragraph 7 in the report, the statement or revision will have to be published 4 weeks

before it comes into effect. Failure to comply with the statutory requirements, could lead to possible legal challenges, costs to the Council and adversely affect the reputation of the Council

**11. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

▶ <b>HR &amp; Organisational Development</b>	None
▶ <b>ICT / Technology</b>	None
▶ <b>Property &amp; Asset Management</b>	None
▶ <b>Risk</b>	None
▶ <b>Equality &amp; Diversity</b>	An Equalities impact has been considered but no protected characteristics under the Equalities Act 2010 are impacted other than age, and this catered for adequately under the Gambling Objective- Protecting Children and Vulnerable Persons from being Harmed

**12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None

**13. APPENDICES**

- Appendix A – Public Health Response
- Appendix B - Map highlighting premises and areas of deprivation.
- Appendix C - Policy wording from York
- Appendix D - Policy wording from Dunbartonshire
- Appendix E - Draft Gambling Policy
- Appendix E 1.0 – Draft Gambling Policy with tracked changes

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