

LICENSING COMMITTEE

7 October 2015

Present: - Councillor Mike Lilley (Chairman)
Councillors Roger Buston, Nick Cope, Margaret Fairley-Crowe, Ray Gamble, Dave Harris, Mike Hogg, Darius Laws, Richard Martin

Substitute member: - Councillor Hardy for Councillor Hazell

15. Revised Statement of Gambling Policy

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Professional Services on the proposed draft statement of licensing policy for gambling which detailed out how the Council would promote the licensing objectives when making decisions on applications for licences made under the Act. The Council was required to have such a policy and to review and republish it every three years. The new policy needed to be in place by January 2016.

The Gambling Commission was currently consulting on its fifth edition of Guidance to Licensing Authorities and amendments were expected that would strengthen the narrative emphasising the role and power of licensing authorities and their mandate to manage local gambling provision. In the light of these imminent changes, the Council's draft statement of licensing policy for gambling contained only minimal changes and no changes had been made to the intent or the direction of the policy. Once the updated Guidance had been issued by a more fundamental review of the policy would be carried out.

RESOLVED that -

- i) The proposed draft Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy be approved for consultation purposes.
- ii) The proposed consultation process set out in the report by the Head of Professional Services be approved.