

MEETING

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 8 November 2018
Report Subject	Gambling Act 2005 Review of Statement of Gambling Policy
Report Author	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To inform Members of the requirement to review the Statement of Gambling Policy under the Gambling Act 2005, and to provide a copy of the draft policy which is now out for consultation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To note the report.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE REVIEW OF THE GAMBLING POLICY
1.01	Each Local Authority, under the provisions of Section 154 of the Gambling Act 2005, must issue a policy which will determine how they will discharge their functions. The current policy held by this Authority under the Gambling Act is due to be renewed before 31 January 2019.
1.02	The new policy will be required to commence on 31st January 2019, in accordance with the Act. The draft policy is shown as Appendix A. This report sets out the procedure and draft policy statement.
1.03	<p>With regard to the policy, and how the Council will discharge their functions. The Policy must contain objectives regarding the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime,• Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way, and• Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.
1.04	The Council will also need to have regard to any relevant code of practice issued by the Secretary of State, guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, how they exercise their functions consistent with the objectives and in accordance with the policy itself.
1.05	<p>The Policy must be approved by Full Council and can last for a period of three years, in accordance with Section 154(2) of the Gambling Act 2005. It further states within Section 349 that prior to approval consultation must take place with;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Police• The Fire Authority• One or more persons who appear to the Authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the Authority area, and• One or more persons who appear to the Authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the Authority's functions under the Act.
1.06	Flintshire have played an active part in the North Wales Licensing Group plan to bring in line the contents of all the separate Gambling Policies to make them follow the same order. Each Authority has had to keep area specific content, but each individual authority has followed the same structure to make the policies more user friendly across the North Wales regions.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Officers will be required to prepare consultation documents and liaise with consultees which is in addition to normal duties.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	<p>The Licensing Authority is required to consult in relation to the policy review.</p> <p>The consultation is underway, and has been published to the Council's website. It will run from 23rd October until 19 November.</p> <p>There have been very few changes in terms of the policy and principles. Any additions are non-contentious.</p>

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	All necessary consultees have been informed of the consultation, including Children's Safeguarding, and representatives from Gamcare and Gamble Aware.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	<p>Appendix A – Draft Statement of Gambling Policy</p> <p>Each Member of Flintshire County Council has received a link to the consultation, which includes access to the full policy document in both Welsh and English.</p>

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Consultation and Policy: English https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Business/Licences-and-permits/Gambling-premises-licence.aspx Consultation and Policy – Cymraeg: http://www.sirffflint.gov.uk/cy/Business/Licences-and-permits/Gambling-premises-licence.aspx</p> <p>Contact Officer: Gemma Potter – Team Leader, Licensing and Pest Control Telephone: 01352 703371 E-mail: gemma.potter@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Statement of Gambling Policy: a document that the Licensing Authority are required to produce in line with the Gambling Act 2005 to outline the expectations of the Authority.</p> <p>Licensing Authority: Flintshire County Council's Licensing Team, responsible for key decisions in relation to Licensing and Gambling.</p> <p>North Wales Licensing Group: A group consisting of Licensing Managers from the North Wales Authorities, and partners such as North Wales Police and the Gambling Commission.</p> <p>GamCare and Gamble Aware: Organisations to protect vulnerable persons from gambling</p>