

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2006/2007 REPORT NO. **74**

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

Licensing Committee

REPORT OF:

Director of Environment, Street
Scene and Parks

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Agenda – Part: 1

Item: 5

Subject:

Gambling Act 2005 - Enfield's Policy

Wards: All

Cabinet Member consulted:

Cllr Terence Neville

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 In accordance with Section 349 to the Gambling Act 2005 the Council, as Licensing Authority, must prepare a statement of the principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Act, and publish that statement.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To consider the draft (Draft 3 - 26 June 2006) Statement of Principles and make any suggestions as to its amendment, before the Council, as Licensing Authority, distributes it for formal consultation on 17 July 2006.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Gambling Act 2005 will be fully implemented on 30 September 2007.
- 3.2 Gambling operators and gambling personnel will be licensed by the Gambling Commission.
- 3.3 The Council, as licensing authority, will issue premises licences for casinos, bingo halls, betting shops, race tracks and fairs. In addition the Council will issue permits for amusement arcades, slot machines in pubs & clubs, prize gaming and small lotteries.
- 3.4 The Gambling Act 2005 requires that, in making decisions about premises licences, the Council should aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks it is:
- In accordance with any relevant Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission
 - In accordance with any relevant Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission
 - Reasonably consistent with the Licensing Objectives
 - In accordance with the Council's Statement of Principles
- 3.5 The Licensing Objectives are:
- 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
 - Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling
- 3.6 The Council's Statement of Principles is, in effect, the Council's Gambling Policy, which must be agreed at a meeting of the Full Council on or before the 3 January 2007.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Not applicable

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 To enable the Members of the Licensing Committee an opportunity to consider and, where necessary, amend the draft Statement of Principles before it is released for public consultation on 17 July 2006.

6. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

6.1 Financial Implications

Not applicable

6.2 Legal Implications

Not applicable

6.3 Property Implications

Not applicable

7. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

8. PUTTING ENFIELD FIRST

Not applicable

Background Papers

The Gambling Act 2005

Regulations issued by the Secretary of State

Guidance to Licensing Authorities issued by the Gambling Commission