

MEMBERS INTERESTS 2012

A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter considered at a meeting must disclose the interest to the meeting at which they are present, except where it has been entered on the Register.

A Member with a non pecuniary or pecuniary interest in any business of the Council must disclose the existence and nature of that interest at commencement of consideration or when the interest becomes apparent.

Where sensitive information relating to an interest is not registered in the register, you must indicate that you have an interest, but need not disclose the sensitive information.

Please tick relevant boxes

Notes

	General		
1.	I have a disclosable pecuniary interest.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 below</i>
2.	I have a non-pecuniary interest.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You may speak and vote</i>
3.	I have a pecuniary interest because it affects my financial position or the financial position of a connected person or, a body described in 10.1(1)(i) and (ii) and the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice my judgement of the public interest or it relates to the determining of any approval consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to me or a connected person or, a body described in 10.1(1)(i) and (ii) and the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice my judgement of the public interest	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 or 6 below</i> <i>You cannot speak or vote and must withdraw unless you have also ticked 5 or 6 below</i>
4.	I have a disclosable pecuniary interest (Dispensation 16/7/12) or a pecuniary interest but it relates to the functions of my Council in respect of: (i) Housing where I am a tenant of the Council, and those functions do not relate particularly to my tenancy or lease. (ii) school meals, or school transport and travelling expenses where I am a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or are a parent governor of a school, and it does not relate particularly to the school which the child attends. (iii) Statutory sick pay where I am in receipt or entitled to receipt of such pay. (iv) An allowance, payment or indemnity given to Members (v) Any ceremonial honour given to Members (vi) Setting Council tax or a precept under the LGFA 1992	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i> <i>You may speak and vote</i>
5.	A Standards Committee dispensation applies (relevant lines in the budget – Dispensation 20/2/13 – 19/2/17)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>See the terms of the dispensation</i>
6.	I have a pecuniary interest in the business but I can attend to make representations, answer questions or give evidence as the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>You may speak but must leave the room once you have finished and cannot vote</i>

'disclosable pecuniary interest' (DPI) means an interest of a description specified below which is your interest, your spouse's or civil partner's or the interest of somebody who you are living with as a husband or wife, or as if you were civil partners and you are aware that that other person has the interest.

Interest

Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation

Sponsorship

Prescribed description

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by M in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of M.

	This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to M's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to M's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

"body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest" means a firm in which the relevant person is a partner or a body corporate of which the relevant person is a director, or in the securities of which the relevant person has a beneficial interest; "director" includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society;

"land" excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for the relevant person (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income; "M" means a member of a relevant authority;

"member" includes a co-opted member; "relevant authority" means the authority of which M is a member;

"relevant period" means the period of 12 months ending with the day on which M gives notice to the Monitoring Officer of a DPI;

"relevant person" means M or M's spouse or civil partner, a person with whom M is living as husband or wife or a person with whom M is living as if they were civil partners;

"securities" means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

'non pecuniary interest' means interests falling within the following descriptions:

- 10.1(1)(i) Any body of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by your authority;
- (ii) Any body (a) exercising functions of a public nature; (b) directed to charitable purposes; or (c) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union), of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management;
- (iii) Any easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for you (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income.
- 10.2(2) A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting your well-being or financial position or the well-being or financial position of a connected person to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward, as the case may be, affected by the decision.

'a connected person' means

- (a) a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association, or
- (b) any person or body who employs or has appointed such persons, any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors;
- (c) any person or body in whom such persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or
- (d) any body of a type described in sub-paragraph 10.1(1)(i) or (ii).

'body exercising functions of a public nature' means

Regional and local development agencies, other government agencies, other Councils, public health bodies, council-owned companies exercising public functions, arms length management organisations carrying out housing functions on behalf of your authority, school governing bodies.

A Member with a personal interest who has made an executive decision in relation to that matter must ensure any written statement of that decision records the existence and nature of that interest.

NB Section 21(13) of the LGA 2000 overrides any Code provisions to oblige an executive member to attend an overview and scrutiny meeting to answer questions.

PRESENT: Councillor Delaney (Chairman)

Councillors: Devine Kay

Officers: Principal Solicitor (Mrs K Lovelady)
Senior Licensing Officer (Mrs M Murray)
Member Services Officer (Mrs J Brown)

In attendance: Trainee Solicitor (Ms N Pickford)
Mr Chris Michener (Licensing Solutions)

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence received.

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no changes to Membership of the Committee.

4. DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip.

4. DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 December 2014 be noted.

7. LICENSING HEARING PROCEDURE

The Chairman outlined the Licensing Hearing Procedure.

8. APPLICATION FOR A VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE IN RESPECT OF COSTCUTTER EXPRESS SERVICE STATION, RAINFORD ROAD, BICKERSTAFFE

Consideration was given to the report of the Assistant Director Community Services as contained on pages 7 to 39 of the Book of Reports in respect of an application for a variation of a Premises Licence in respect of Costcutter Express Service Station, Rainford Road, Bickerstaffe.

In considering this matter the Sub – Committee had regard to its Licensing Policy and the guidance issued under S.182 of the Licensing Act. It considered the relevant Licensing Objectives on this occasion was the ‘prevention of crime and disorder’, ‘public safety’ and ‘prevention of public nuisance’.

On hearing evidence from the Applicant and Objector the Sub – Committee:-

- RESOLVED:
- A. That the sale/supply of alcohol shall be permitted between 00.00 hours and 24.00 hours Monday to Sunday.
 - B. That late night refreshment shall continue to be permitted between 23.00 hours and 05.00 hours Monday to Sunday.
 - C. That the premises shall be open to the public between 00.00 hours and 24.00 hours Monday to Sunday.

The Committee noted that the Applicant following discussions with the Police amended their application and agreed that the following conditions be added to the licence:

- D. That CCTV will be installed internally and externally at the premises and will comply with the following:
 - 1. The CCTV shall cover all public areas of the premises.
 - 2. The system will display on any recording the correct time and date of the recording and will also have day/night recording capability.
 - 3. The system will make recordings during all hours that the premises are open to the public.
 - 4. The CCTV recorder shall be stored in a secure (locked) location within the premises.
 - 5. The VCR tapes or digital recording media will be held for a minimum of 31 days after the recording is made and will be made available to the Police or an authorised officer acting for a Responsible Authority for inspection upon request to the DPS or his appointed associate and in any event within two working days following the aforementioned request.
 - 6. The system will, as a minimum, record images of the head and shoulders of all persons entering the premises and give an overall view of the inside and external areas of the premises.
- E. That a staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system will be available to attend the premises at all times the premises are open to the public. This staff member will be able to show Police or Authorised Officer data or footage upon request.

- F. That the Premises Licence Holder will notify the Police Licensing Unit on any occasion when the CCTV is to be inoperative for a period in excess of one working day. Within 7 days of the notification of the said system becoming inoperative the premises licence holder shall provide to the police a certificate from a competent person stating the reason for the system being inoperative and the measures which have been taken to satisfy the licence conditions.
- G. That appropriate signs (of at least A4 size) informing customers that CCTV is recording will be displayed in conspicuous positions on the premises.
- H. That monthly documented maintenance checks of the CCTV system, including the recording system, will be carried out by the Premises Licence Holder to ensure that the system is in good working order and fit for purpose. Such checks shall be recorded in a book and be provided to a Police Officer or authorised officer on request.
- I. Clear legible notices will be displayed in a conspicuous position in the building and on the forecourt asking customers to avoid causing noise nuisance or disturbance to local residents.
- J. All transactions are to be made via the "Night Hatch Service between the hours of 23:00 and 05:00 each day except at the discretion of the cashier where it is considered necessary for the interests of public safety.

- CHAIRMAN -

PRESENT: Councillor Delaney (Chairman)

Councillors: Devine
Melling

Officers: Principal Solicitor (Mrs K Lovelady)
Trainee Solicitor (Ms N Pickford)
Senior Licensing Officer (Mrs M Murray)
Senior Environmental Health Officer (Mr C Carpenter)
Member Services/Civic Support Officer (Mrs J Brown)

In attendance: EAD Solicitors (Mr C Bruder)
DPS (Mr P Bolton)
Councillor D Westley (Aughton & Downholland Ward)
Objectors

9. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence received.

10. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, the Committee noted the termination of membership of Councillor Kay and the appointment of Councillor Ms Melling for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the political groups.

11. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

12. DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

14. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2015 be noted.

15. LICENSING HEARING PROCEDURE

The Chairman outlined the Licensing Hearing Procedure.

16. APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE IN RESPECT OF WEST TOWERS COUNTRY HOTEL, MILL LANE, AUGHTON.

Consideration was given to the report of the Assistant Director Community Services as contained on pages 41 to 107 of the Book of Reports in respect of an application for a variation of a Premises Licence in respect of West Tower Country Hotel, Mill Lane, Aughton.

In considering the matter the Sub – Committee had regard to its Licensing Policy and the guidance issued under S. 182 of the Licensing Act. It considered the relevant Licensing Objectives on this occasion was the ‘prevention of public nuisance’.

On hearing evidence from the Applicant, Senior Environmental Health Officer and Objectors the Sub – Committee:-

- RESOLVED:
- A. That the premises shall be open to the public between 10.00 hours and 01.30 hours daily.
 - B. That the sale of alcohol shall be permitted between 10.00 hours and 01.00 hours daily.
 - C. That the provision of live music, recorded music, performance of dance and anything of a similar description shall be permitted to take place indoors between 10.00 hours to 01.00 hours daily.
 - D. That late night refreshment shall be permitted between 23.00 hours and 01.00 hours daily.
 - E. Plan 3b as provided with the application replaces any previous plans associated with the premises licence.
 - F. It is noted that the application has been amended so that all regulated entertainment and late night refreshment will only be undertaken indoors.

Conditions

All conditions currently on the licence remain and the following conditions shall be added:-

- G. The DPS or their nominated representative shall conduct regular assessments of the noise emanating from the premises on every occasion the premises are used for regulated entertainment and shall take steps to reduce the level of noise where it is likely to cause a disturbance to local residents. A written record shall be made of the assessments in a log book kept on site for that purpose and shall include the time and date of the checks, the name of the person undertaking the checks and the results including any remedial action. The log book shall be made available to any authorised person on request.

- H. Whenever regulated entertainment is taking place, all external windows and doors to the premises other than for access or egress shall remain closed.
- I. The placing of refuse such as glass bottles, into receptacles outside the premises shall not take place between the hours of 21.00 and 08.00, so as to prevent noise disturbance to neighbouring residents.

Guidance - not to be applied to the licence:-

1. The Licensing Sub-Committee would ask the applicant to take into account the evidence heard at the hearing and look at measures to reduce disturbance caused by coaches attending the premises. In particular, the applicant is encouraged to try and take steps to ensure guests arrive in vehicles that can park within the curtilage of the premises and ask the coach drivers to ensure engines are switched off on arrival and only switched on upon departure.
2. In respect of regulated entertainment, the applicant is encouraged to take steps to highlight to staff when doors and windows are opened such as visual alarms or noise cut off options.

- CHAIRMAN -

PRESENT: Councillor Delaney (Chairman)

Councillors: Dereli
Ms Melling

Officers: Principal Solicitor (Mrs K Lovelady)
Senior Licensing Officer (Mrs S Jordan)
Principal Environmental Health Officer (Ms J Antrobus)
Senior Environmental Health Officer (Ms G Perkins)
Member Services/Civic Support Officer (Mrs J Brown)

In attendance: Poppleston Allen Solicitors (Mr J Smith)
Poppleston Allen Solicitors (Mr G Donnelly) (Observer)
Applicant (Mr S Patel)
Applicant (Mr D Kenyon)
DPS (Mr D Webster)
Councillor Pryce – Roberts (Ward Councillor)
Objectors

17. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence received.

18. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no changes to membership of the Committee.

19. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

20. DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip.

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

22. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2015 be noted.

23. LICENSING HEARING PROCEDURE

The Chairman outlined the Licensing Hearing Procedure.

24. APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE IN RESPECT OF SKELMERSDALE SOCIAL CLUB, WITHAM ROAD, SKELMERSDALE, WN8 8HP

Consideration was given to the report of the Assistant Director Community Services as contained on pages 117 to 300 of the Book of Reports in respect of an application for a Premises Licence in respect of Skelmersdale Social Club, Witham Road, Skelmersdale, WN8 8HP.

In considering this matter the Sub – Committee had regard to its Licensing Policy and the guidance issued under S. 182 of the Licensing Act. It considered the relevant Licensing Objectives on this occasion was the ‘prevention of crime and disorder’ and ‘prevention of public nuisance’.

On hearing evidence from the Applicant, Solicitor, Senior Environmental Health Officer and Objectors the Sub – Committee:-

The Committee noted that the Applicant amended his application to add the following conditions to those already outlined in the operating schedule. The Committee welcomed the offer of the conditions and felt that it was appropriate and proportionate given the evidence before them that these are added to the licence. The additional conditions are therefore:-

1. The noise limiter shall be reset at a level to be determined by a Senior Environmental Health Officer of WLBC following completion of the refurbishment.
2. No new patrons will be allowed entry to the premises after 01.00 hours.
3. The premises license holder shall ensure that a sign is displayed on the exterior of the premises providing a contact telephone number for members of the public to use in order to raise issues arising from the premises. The premises licence holder shall ensure that someone is available to answer the calls whenever the premises are open to the public.
4. The application be amended to remove the non-standard timings in respect of the additional hours requested for Bank Holidays.
5. The Premises will facilitate a residents meeting once every four months at the premises in order that any issues can be discussed.

NOTE: - The Committee noted that the Applicant indicated that they will surrender the previous Licence No. LN/000002073 upon completion of the works outlined in the plan that is applicable to this Licence.

RESOLVED: A. That the premises shall be open to the public:-

Mon to Wed	10.00 hours to 12.30 hours or 01.30 if any day falls on a bank holiday
Thurs and Sun	10.00 hours to 01.30 hours
Fri and Sat	10.00 hours to 02.00 hours

In addition to the above the patrons will be permitted to remain in the premises for a maximum of an additional thirty minutes to allow waiting time for collection by taxis. No alcohol shall be consumed within this thirty minute period.

- B. Non Standard Timings in respect of the opening hours are as follows:

From the end of the permitted hours on New Year's Eve to the start of permitted hours on NewYears Day.

An additional hour to the standard and non-standard timings on the day when British Summertime commences.

- C. That the sale of alcohol shall be permitted ON THE PREMISES ONLY:-

Mon to Wed	10.00 hours to 00.00 hours(midnight) or 01.00 if any day falls on a bank holiday
Thurs and Sun	10.00 hours to 01.00 hours
Fri and Sat	10.00 hours to 01.30 hours

- D. That the performance of plays, films, indoor sporting events, boxing or wrestling, provision of live music, recorded music, performance of dance and anything of a similar description shall be permitted to take place INDOORS ONLY:-

Mon to Wed	10.00 hours to 00.00 hours(midnight) or 01.00 if any day falls on a bank holiday
Thurs and Sun	10.00 hours to 01.00 hours
Fri and Sat	10.00 hours to 01.30 hours

- E. That late night refreshment shall be permitted as follows:-

Mon to Wed	10.00 hours to 00.00 hours(midnight) or 01.00 if any day falls on a bank holiday
Thurs and Sun	10.00 hours to 01.00 hours
Fri and Sat	10.00 hours to 01.30 hours

- F. Non-standard timings for all the licensable activities in points C, D. and E. above are as follows:

From the end of the permitted hours on New Year's Eve to the start of permitted hours on NewYears Day.

An additional hour to the standard and non-standard timings on the day when British Summertime commences.

- CHAIRMAN -

LICENSING AND GAMBLING COMMITTEE

HELD:2 JUNE 2015

Start: 7.00pm

Finish: 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor Delaney (Chairman)

Councillors: Barron Nixon
Devine Owens
Mrs Baybutt Savage
Dowling Mrs Stephenson
Mrs C Evans Mrs Westley
Mckay Wilkie
Mee Wright

Officers: Commercial, Safety and Licensing Manager (Mr P Charlson)
Principal Solicitor (Mrs K Lovelady)
Senior Licensing Officer (Mrs M Murray)
Member Services/Civic Support Officer (Mrs J Brown)

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence received.

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4, the Committee noted the termination of membership of Councillors Kay, Ms Melling and Patterson and the appointment of Councillors Barron, Mrs Stephenson and Wilkie for this meeting only, thereby giving effect to the wishes of the political groups. The Committee also noted a permanent change of membership, where Councillor Savage took the place of Councillor Dereli.

3. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

4. DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of Party Whip.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6. MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Licensing Sub – Committee held 22 December 2014 were submitted.

RESOLVED: That the above Minutes be noted.

7. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2015 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8. DRAFT STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY REQUIRED BY THE GAMBLING ACT 2005

Consideration was given to the report of the Assistant Director Community Services as contained on pages 7 to 36 of the Book of Reports, the purpose of which was to approve the draft Statement of Licensing Policy required under the Gambling Act 2005 prior to public consultation.

The Commercial, Safety and Licensing Manager outlined the report and responded to questions from Members of the Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Draft Statement of Licensing Policy as attached at appendix 2 to the report be approved.

9. LICENSING ACT 2003 - NIGHT TIME ECONOMY SCOPING STUDY

Consideration was given to the report of the Assistant Director Community Services as contained on pages 37 to 73 of the Book of Reports, the purpose of which was to provide Members with the night time economy scoping study which was commissioned by this Committee.

The Commercial, Safety and Licensing Manager outlined the report and responded to questions from Members of the Committee.

During the discussion, it was suggested that the Assistant Director Community Services and / or the Environmental Protection and Community Safety Manager provide information to a future meeting of the Committee with regard to the £5K match funding offered by the Council to Edge Hill University which was intended to provide some improvement to the St Helens road area of Ormskirk .

The Commercial, Safety and Licensing Manager informed Members that he would present an action plan outlining the potential use of a Cumulative Impact Policy and /or Late Night Levy to a future meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

- CHAIRMAN -



AGENDA ITEM: 8

**LICENSING & GAMBLING
COMMITTEE: 1 DECEMBER
2015**

**COUNCIL: 16 DECEMBER
2015**

Report of: Assistant Director Community Services

Relevant Managing Director: Managing Director (People and Places)

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor K Wright

**Contact for further information: Paul Charlson (ext 5246)
(E-mail: paul.charlson@westlancs.gov.uk)**

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY REQUIRED BY THE
GAMBLING ACT 2005**

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To approve the Statement of Licensing Policy required under Gambling Act 2005 following public consultation.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO LICENSING AND GAMBLING COMMITTEE

2.1 That the Statement of Licensing Policy attached at Appendix 2 be endorsed.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

3.1 That the Statement of Licensing Policy attached at Appendix 2 be approved.

3.2 That the Assistant Director Community Services be given delegated authority to publish and administer the revised Statement of Licensing Policy.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Members will be aware that the Council acts as Licensing Authority (the Authority) when discharging its functions under the Gambling Act 2005 (the Act). Enforcement of the Act is split between local authorities and the Gambling Commission. As part of these responsibilities, Section 349 of the Act requires the Authority to produce a Statement of Licensing Policy (the Policy) every 3 years. The current Policy came into force on 31 January 2013, and so a revised Policy must be approved and published before the end of January 2016.

4.2 A draft version of the Policy was approved by the Licensing and Gambling Committee and Cabinet on 2 and 16 June 2015 respectively. The draft Policy contained no significant policy changes from the previous version; the textual changes serving only to improve the clarity of the document and meet the content requirements of statutory Guidance.

4.3 In accordance with relevant legislation, the draft Policy was subject to public consultation between 22 July 2015 and 16 October 2015. Relevant consultees were contacted directly in writing, requesting their comments on the draft statement. In addition, the following activities were undertaken to ensure increased awareness of the draft Policy:

- Updates in the local press to draw attention to the draft Policy and the need for contributions
- The draft Policy posted on the Council's website
- The continued use of a dedicated licensing email address to receive comments on the draft Policy or other licensing queries
- Presentation of the draft Policy to the Council's MALT (Multi Agency Licensing Team)

5.0 ISSUES

5.1 No substantive comments were received during the public consultation and so the revised Statement of Licensing Policy attached at Appendix 2 to this report is unchanged from the draft version.

5.2 Final approval of the Policy must be granted by Full Council as the Act prevents this from being delegated to the Licensing and Gambling [or any other] Committee. In order for the Council to function as Licensing Authority under the Act, the revised Statement of Licensing Policy attached at Appendix 2 to this report must be approved for publication and use.

6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY

6.1 This legislation has the potential to impact upon many areas within the Community, particularly upon the leisure time of the public of West Lancashire. The Objectives of the Act, therefore, fit closely with many aspects of the Community Strategy. The proposal has the following links with the Community Strategy: Community Safety (issues A and E); Economy and Employment (issue D); Health and Social Care (issue A); Culture, Leisure and Sport (issue B).

7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Publication and consultation upon the draft Policy will be conducted within existing resources.

8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 The Council has a legal duty to carry out the functions of the Act; therefore failure to do so is a breach under the Act. Accordingly, there is significant involvement from, and impact upon, statutory bodies, the gambling trade, the public and other interested parties associated with this legislation and its administration.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a significant direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal equality impact assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been taken into account in the Recommendations contained within this report.

Appendices

1. Equality Impact Assessment
2. Statement of Licensing Policy 2016 required under the Gambling Act 2005

Appendix 1

Equality Impact Assessment Form



Directorate: People and Places		Service: Community Services	
Completed by: Paul Charlson		Date: 09/11/15	
Subject Title: APPROVAL OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY REQUIRED BY THE GAMBLING ACT 2005			
1. DESCRIPTION			
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	Yes	<i>*delete as appropriate</i>	
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	No		
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No		
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	No		
Is a programme or project being planned:	No		
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	Yes		
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	No		
Details of the matter under consideration:			
<p><i>If you answered Yes to any of the above go straight to Section 3</i></p> <p><i>If you answered No to all the above please complete Section 2</i></p>			
2. RELEVANCE			
Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	Yes	<i>*delete as appropriate</i>	
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): <i>If you answered Yes go to Section 3</i>			
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups: <i>You do not need to complete the rest of this form.</i>			
3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION			
Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	All licence holders and stakeholders to the licensable activities under the Gambling Act 2005.		
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	N/A		

Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?	<i>*delete as appropriate</i>
Age	No
Gender	No
Disability	No
Race and Culture	No
Sexual Orientation	No
Religion or Belief	No
Gender Reassignment	No
Marriage and Civil Partnership	No
Pregnancy and Maternity	No
4. DATA ANALYSIS	
In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?	All licence holders and stakeholders to the licensable activities under the Gambling Act 2005.
What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?	To comply with the requirements of the statement of licensing policy.
What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	The policy was subject to a 12 week public consultation to ascertain views.
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?	The policy was subject to a 12 week public consultation to ascertain views.
If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	N/A
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	None. Applied equally to all affected by the Gambling Act 2005.
6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).	None. Applied equally to all affected by the Gambling Act 2005.
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	No actions. <i>If no actions are planned state no actions</i>
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	Following public consultation, the policy has been submitted for Member approval.

West Lancashire Borough Council

Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy

January 2016

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PART A: GENERAL

1.0 Introduction

1.1 In exercising most of the functions under the Gambling Act 2005 (the Act), West Lancashire Borough Council (the Council) is designated the Licensing Authority (the Authority) and must have regard to the Licensing Objectives as set out in Section 1 of the Act. 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.

1.2 The Gambling Commission (the Commission) has specifically stated that the requirement in relation to children is explicitly to protect them from being harmed or exploited by gambling, to which the Authority will have regard.

1.3 In accordance with Section 153 of the Act, the Authority shall aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks fit:

- In accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Commission;
- In accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Commission;
- Reasonably consistent with the Licensing Objectives, and
- In accordance with this Statement of Licensing Policy.

2.0 Declaration

2.1 In producing this Statement of Licensing Policy, the Authority declares that it has had regard to the Licensing Objectives of the Act, the Guidance, and any responses from those consulted on the Statement.

3.0 Legal background and rationale

- 3.1** This Statement of Licensing Policy (this Statement) sets out the manner in which the Authority will generally apply to promote the Licensing Objectives when considering and making decisions on applications made under the Act. This Statement has been prepared under Section 349 of the Act and in accordance with the Commission’s Guidance for Licensing Authorities issued under Section 25 of the Act (the Guidance). The Authority is therefore constrained by the provisions of the Act, the Guidance and any Regulations made under the Act. However, the Authority may depart from the Guidance if it has reason to do so, but will give full justification for such departure.
- 3.2** The Authority is required by Section 349 of the Act to publish this Statement, which it proposes to apply when exercising its functions. This Statement shall be effective from the 31 January 2016, and shall remain in effect for three years; therefore this Statement will be reviewed in January 2019. Following this full review of its Statement, and prior to its publication, the Authority will consult fully those groups and individuals consulted on this version.
- 3.3** This Statement will also be kept under review during this three year period, and accordingly, the Assistant Director Community Services will maintain an ‘Issues Log’ in which all issues pertaining to this Statement will be recorded. Therefore the Authority will make revisions to the Statement from “time to time” as it considers appropriate. For example, where relevant issues have arisen, or where matters recorded in the ‘Issues Log’ indicate that that such a review is required. A further consultation will be carried out on any amendments made to the Statement, and the Statement will be re-published. No such issues were recorded that affect this revised Statement.
- 3.4** Nothing in this Statement will override the right of any person to apply under the Act for a variety of permissions and have that considered on its own merits and according to the statutory requirements of the Act.
- 3.5** Nothing in this Statement will override the right of any person to make representations on any application or seek a review of a licence or certificate where they are permitted to do so under the Act.
- 3.6** The Council also has a responsibility under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all that it reasonably can to reduce crime and disorder in its area. Accordingly, it is recognised that prevention of crime and disorder is a vital element of ensuring the quality of life in a community and an important aspect of a successful and vibrant economy.
- 3.7** The Authority recognises that under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights everyone has the right to respect for his/her private and family life. The Authority also acknowledges the rights of businesses in its area to operate, but this must be balanced against the rights of residents not to be disturbed by unreasonable nuisance caused by licensed premises/activities. Full consideration has been given to these issues in formulating this Statement.

3.8 This Statement recognises the Equality Act 2010; no condition will be attached to a licence or certificate that conflicts or duplicates the requirements of the Act.

Development process and consultation

3.9 The Council consulted widely upon this Statement before finalising and publishing the document. A list of the persons consulted is maintained separately from this Statement and is available on request from the Licensing Service using the details provided at Appendix 3.

3.10 The Act requires the Authority to consult the following parties:

- Chief Officer of Police;
- One or more persons who appear to the Authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the Authority's area;
- 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.

3.11 The consultation took place between 22 July 2015 and 16 October 2015 and followed the Revised Code of Practice for public consultations, which came into effect in April 2004, and the Cabinet Office Guidance on consultations by the public sector.

3.12 The full list of comments made, and the consideration by Council of those comments, is available from the Council using the contact details given at Appendix 3.

3.13 This Statement was approved at a meeting of the Licensing and Gambling Committee on 1st December 2015 and Full Council 16 December 2015. It was published on the Council's website on 6th January 2016 and is available from the Council's Licensing Service at the address given in Appendix 3.

3.14 If you have any comments on this Statement, please send them via e-mail or letter to:

Paul Charlson – Commercial, Safety and Licensing Manager
Robert Hodge Centre, Stanley Way, Skelmersdale, Lancashire WN8 8EE
Telephone: 01695 585246
Fax: 01695 585126
Email: licensing.enquiries@westlancs.gov.uk
Webpage: www.westlancs.gov.uk/licensing

4.0 Responsible Authorities

4.1 Section 157 of the Act details the necessary Responsible Authorities. When exercising its powers under Section 157(h) of the Act to designate, in writing, a body that is competent to advise the Authority about the protection of children from harm, the Authority is required to state the principles it will apply. These principles are:

- The need for the body to be responsible for an area covering the whole of the licensing Authority's area;
- The need for the body to be answerable to democratically elected persons, rather than any particular vested interest group etc.

4.2 Therefore, in accordance with the Guidance, the Authority designates Lancashire County Council Social Services Safeguarding Children's Board.

4.3 The contact details of all the Responsible Authorities under the Act are given at Appendix 2 and are also available at www.westlancs.gov.uk/licensing

5.0 Interested Parties

- 5.1** Section 158 of the Act defines an Interested Party. An Interested Party can make representations about licence applications, or apply for a review of an existing licence.
- 5.2** The Authority will determine whether a person is an interested party if the person:
- Lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities;
 - Has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities;
 - Acts as a representative of those persons who satisfy either of the above points.
- 5.3** The Authority will consider each case and make a decision upon its merits, the Authority will also aim not to apply a rigid rule to its decision making.
- 5.4** The Authority will consider the examples of considerations provided in the Guidance when making the decisions whether a person is an interested party. If the Authority does not wish to follow the Guidance in any respect, it will provide written reasons as to why this deviation has taken place, noting that decisions on Premises Licences must be “in accordance” with the Guidance.
- 5.5** Interested Parties can include trade associations and trade unions, and residents’ and tenants’ associations. The Authority will not, however, generally view these bodies as Interested Parties unless they have a member who can be classed as one under the terms of the Act, as outlined in paragraph 5.2.
- 5.6** Interested Parties can be persons who are democratically elected such as ward Councillors, Members of Parliament and Parish Councillors. Other than these persons, the Authority will require written evidence that a person ‘represents’ someone who either lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the Authority’s activities and/or business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities. A letter from one of these persons, requesting the representation will be deemed as sufficient.
- 5.7** If individuals wish to approach ward Councillors to ask them to represent their views, then care should be taken that the Councillors are not part of the Committee that will deal with the licence application. If there are any doubts, please contact the Council’s Licensing Service using the contact details given at Appendix 3.

6.0 Exchange of Information

- 6.1** Sections 29 and 30 of the Act require the Authority to state the principles to be applied by the Authority with respect to the exchange of information between it and the Commission. In addition, Section 350 of the Act also requires the Authority to state the principles to be applied with respect to the exchange of information between it and the other persons listed in Schedule 6 to the Act.
- 6.2** In this regard, the Authority will act in accordance with the provisions of the Act in its exchange of information, which includes the provision that the Data Protection Act 1998 will not be contravened and that the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be adhered to. The Authority will also have regard to any guidance issued by the Commission to Local Authorities on this matter, as well as any relevant regulations, codes of practice etc.
- 6.3** Where any protocols are established to facilitate such exchange of information, these will be made available at www.westlancs.gov.uk/licensing
- 6.4** Details of those persons making representations will be made available to applicants to allow for negotiation and, in the event of a Hearing being required, will form part of a public document. Any person making a representation, or applying for review of a Premises Licence, will be informed that their details will be disclosed.

Multi Agency Licensing Team (MALT)

- 6.5** The coordination of its duties under the Act requires the Authority to maintain close and regular liaison with Responsible Authorities as well other bodies involved in the licensing process. The MALT has been established for this purpose and is coordinated by the Authority.

7.0 Integration Strategies

General

- 7.1** There are many stakeholders in the gambling industry, covering a wide range of disciplines. Many are involved, directly or indirectly, in the promotion of the Licensing Objectives. The Authority, therefore, recognises that as part of implementing local authority cultural strategies, proper account should be taken of the need to encourage such activities for the wider cultural benefit of the community. The Authority will aim to monitor the impact of its decisions to ensure that this principle is being upheld.
- 7.2** Many of these strategies deal in part with the licensing function, and the Authority will establish appropriate liaison arrangements to ensure proper integration of local crime prevention, planning, local transport, tourism and cultural strategies.
- 7.3** Coordination of duties will involve close, and regular, liaison with Responsible Authorities. This shall be principally carried out through regular MALT meetings, which will address strategic and operational issues raised by the Act.
- 7.4** The Authority will seek to avoid any duplication with other statutory / regulatory systems where possible, including the Council's Planning Service. The Authority will not consider whether a licence application is likely to be awarded planning or building consent, in its consideration of it. However, the Authority will listen to, and consider carefully, any concerns about conditions, which cannot be met by licensees due to planning restrictions, should such a situation arise.
- 7.5** The Authority recognises that there should be a clear separation of the planning and licensing regimes and licensing applications should not be a re-run of the planning application. The Authority will therefore ensure that the two regimes are kept separate. Planning Officers will be kept regularly apprised of the situation regarding licensed premises within the Borough through the MALT meetings.

8.0 Inspection and criminal proceedings

8.1 The Authority is required by regulation to state the principles to be applied by the Authority in exercising the functions under Part 15 of the Act with respect to the inspection of premises and its powers under Section 346 of the Act to institute criminal proceedings in respect of the offences specified.

8.2 In this regard, the Authority will undertake its inspection and enforcement functions in accordance with the relevant legislation, the Guidance and the principles of better regulation in the Regulator's Code. The Authority's principles for enforcement are:

- Proportionate: regulators should only intervene when necessary: remedies should be appropriate to the risk posed, and costs identified and minimised;
- Accountable: regulators must be able to justify decisions, and be subject to public scrutiny;
- Consistent: rules and standards must be joined up and implemented fairly;
- Transparent: regulators should be open, and keep regulations simple and user friendly; and
- Targeted: regulation should be focused on the problem, and minimise side effects.

8.3 The main enforcement and compliance role for the Authority will be to ensure compliance with the Premises Licences and other permissions that it authorises. The Commission will be the enforcement body for Operator and Personal Licences. Any concerns about manufacture, supply or repair of gaming machines will not be dealt with by the Authority, but will be notified to the Commission. The Commission will also be responsible for compliance as regards unlicensed premises.

8.4 The MALT ensures that a coordinated and proactive approach to the issues arising from licensed premises can be formulated and delivered. This is conducted on a priority basis. Those premises that have been identified as presenting a risk from the perspective of one or more MALT members will be targeted. Such premises could expect increased monitoring and MALT members may conduct more frequent visits to such premises. This affords the licensed operation sufficient opportunity, as well as support, to address the problems. Should the matter be sufficiently serious and/or the operation does not take the necessary action to address the problems, the premises will be subject to further intervention. These premises will be subject to close scrutiny and a coordinated approach to enforcement devised between the appropriate MALT members. This approach ensures an efficient and proportionate deployment of resources engaged in enforcing relevant legislation within licensed premises, as only problem and/or high-risk premises are targeted.

8.5 However, the role of the MALT is not solely focused upon enforcement activity. It also sees the promotion and encouragement of best practice within the industry as being fundamental in the development of responsibly managed licensed operations. Accordingly, the Authority will carry out

proactive visits to premises on a risk based programme to ensure operators are provided with appropriate support.

- 8.6** To ensure transparency in its enforcement action, the Authority maintains an enforcement policy that all staff must comply with. A copy of the enforcement policy is available upon request to the Licensing Service, using the contact details provided at Appendix 3.

9.0 Licensing Authority functions

9.1 The Act requires the Authority to:

- Be responsible for the licensing of premises where gambling activities are to take place by issuing Premises Licences;
- Issue Provisional Statements;
- Regulate members' clubs and miners' welfare institutes who wish to undertake certain gaming activities via issuing Club Gaming Permits and/or Club Machine Permits;
- Issue Club Machine Permits to Commercial Clubs;
- Grant permits for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines at unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres;
- Receive notifications from alcohol licensed premises (under the Licensing Act 2003) of the use of two or fewer gaming machines;
- Grant Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits for premises licensed to sell/supply alcohol for consumption on the licensed premises, under the Licensing Act 2003, where more than two machines are required;
- Register small society lotteries below prescribed thresholds;
- Issue Prize Gaming Permits;
- Receive and endorse Temporary Use Notices;
- Receive Occasional Use Notices;
- Provide information to the Gambling Commission regarding details of licences issued (see section above on 'information exchange');
- Maintain registers of the permits and licences that are issued under these functions.

9.2 The Authority is not involved in the licensing of remote gambling at all. This is the responsibility of the Commission, which is controlled via Operator Licences.

10.0 Hearings

- 10.1** A Hearing will be arranged to deal with any applications, which cannot be dealt with under delegated powers or resolved by agreement between applicants and Interested Parties and/or Responsible Authorities.
- 10.2** Each case will be determined on its individual merits.
- 10.3** Hearings will be held at the earliest possible date having regard to the regulations published under the Act and the laws of natural justice. The Licensing Sub-Committee will conduct a quasi-judicial consideration of the application, objections and representations. Members will carefully consider their position should they be requested to hear a matter which occurs in their own ward.
- 10.4** A legal advisor, advocate or a friend may represent applicants where they do not choose to represent themselves. The Authority will endeavour to assist applicants in preparing for and participating in a Hearing.
- 10.5** Whilst the Committee and Sub-Committees will usually meet in public, they do have the power to hear certain applications in private. If this happens, a public announcement of the decision will be made at the end of the Hearing. The decision of the Committee or Sub-Committee will be accompanied by clear reasons for the decisions, having regard to the Human Rights Act 1998, the four Licensing Objectives and all other relevant legislation.
- 10.6** Conditions may be attached to licences where relevant representations are received. Any condition attached to a licence will be related to one or more of the Licensing Objectives and conditions will not relate to matters that are the subject of other legislation.

PART B: PREMISES LICENCES

11.0 General Principles

11.1 Premises Licences will be subject to the permissions/restrictions set out in the Act and associated Regulations, as well as specific mandatory and default conditions. The Authority is able to exclude default conditions and also attach others, where it is believed to be appropriate.

11.2 The Authority is aware that in making decisions about Premises Licences it 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 Commission;
- In accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Commission;
- Reasonably consistent with the Licensing Objectives; and
- In accordance with this Statement.

Definition of “premises”

11.3 Premises is defined in the Act as “any place”. Different Premises Licences cannot apply in respect of a single premises at different times. However, it is possible for a single building to be subject to more than one Premises Licence, provided they are for different parts of the building and the different parts can be reasonably regarded as being different premises. Whether different parts of a building can be properly regarded as being separate premises will always be a question of fact in the circumstances. However, the Commission does not consider that areas of a building that are artificially or temporarily separate can be properly regarded as different premises.

11.4 The Authority will consider each case on its merits and the relevant section of the Guidance when considering applications for:

- multiple licences for a building;
- a specific part of the building to be licensed;
- access to the licensed premises is through other premises (which themselves may be licensed or unlicensed)

Local area profile

11.5 West Lancashire Borough Council is situated in the County of Lancashire, which contains 12 District Councils and 2 Unitary Councils, and is the most southerly of the Local Authorities within the County. The Borough has a population of 110,700 (National Census 2011) and covers an area of over 34,000 hectares, a large proportion of which is good and versatile agricultural land. The Borough has two market towns: Ormskirk and Burscough, with mainly rural parishes and villages to the north and the former New Town of Skelmersdale to the east. A map of the Borough is detailed at Appendix 1.

11.6 West Lancashire is an attractive area and has a good transport links. The Borough benefits from social, retail and leisure links with the nearby urban areas of Liverpool, Southport, Preston and Wigan. These factors have led to

Ormskirk and other parts of the Borough becoming popular areas to live for commuters.

- 11.7** There are a relatively low number of licensed premises in the Borough. These premises mainly comprise of betting shops and bingo establishments. Whilst there are differing demographics between the residential and commercial areas within the Borough, there are currently no concentrations of licensed premises that would necessitate any specific policy requirements other than those detailed below.
- 11.8** If the Authority is mindful to make any specific decision that states any area(s) where gambling premises should not be located, this Statement will be updated.

Location and demand for premises

11.9 The Authority will reflect the 'aim to permit' principle of the Act and will not comment on whether there is a demand for gambling premises. However, the Authority does consider the location of premises in so far as it relates to the Licensing Objectives to be relevant. The Authority will pay particular attention to the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling, as well as issues of crime and disorder. For example, the Authority would have regard to the proximity of the premises to:

- Schools;
- Vulnerable adult centres;
- Residential areas where there may be a high concentration of families and children;
- An area with known high levels of organised crime and/or disorder and nuisance.

Conditions

11.10 Any conditions attached to licences will be proportionate and will be:

- Relevant to the need to make the proposed building suitable as a gambling facility;
- Directly related to the premises and the type of licence applied for;
- Fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises; and
- Reasonable in all other respects.

11.11 Decisions upon individual conditions will be made on a case by case basis. However, there are a number of control measures that the Authority will consider utilising should there be a perceived need, such as the use of door supervisors, supervision of adult gaming machines, appropriate signage for adult only areas etc. as detailed below. The Authority will also expect applicants to offer their own suggestions as to ways in which the Licensing Objectives can be met effectively.

Consideration of applications

11.12 Each case will be determined on its merits and will depend to a large extent on the type of gambling proposed. The Authority recognises that the good management of licensed businesses and the street environment within which they operate is vital to the infrastructure of the Borough and to attracting a

wide range of people to work, visit or live in the Borough. However, the varied nature of the Borough means that the impact of a given operation can vary. The Authority will expect all applicants to, where appropriate, specify the methods, precisely and clearly, by which they will promote the Licensing Objectives and address the specific issues relating to the nature and location of the premises.

11.13 The Authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling. The Authority will take the approach that, in practice, this would often mean preventing such persons from taking part in gambling, and therefore when determining a relevant application, the Authority will consider whether specific measures are required at the premises.

11.14 Applicants are expected to satisfy the Authority that there will be sufficient controls in place so as to reduce the risk to such persons. For example, appropriate licence conditions may cover issues such as:

- Proof of age schemes;
- CCTV;
- Door supervisors;
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas;
- Physical separation of areas;
- Location of entry;
- Notices / signage;
- Specific opening hours;
- Self barring schemes;
- Provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

Please note that this list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive.

11.15 It is important that if children are allowed to enter licensed premises that they do not participate in gambling - other than category D machines. Where other machines are available in the premises to which children are not permitted to use, applicants are expected to ensure that:

- The suitability and layout of the premises promotes restricted access to relevant areas;
- All such machines are located in an area of the premises separate from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance;
- Only adults are admitted to this area where the machines are located;
- Access to the area where the machines are located is supervised;
- The area where the machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by staff of the operator or the licence holder, and
- At the entrance to, and inside any such area there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18.

11.16 Similarly, the Authority will take into account the size of the premises, the number of counter positions available for person-to-person transactions, and the ability of staff to monitor the use of machines by children and young persons or by vulnerable persons when considering the number, nature and/or circumstances of machines an operator wants to offer. The Authority may also consider restricting the number and location of any machines to facilitate the protection of children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre Gaming Machine Permits - Statement of Principles

11.17 Where a premises does not hold a Premises Licence but wishes to provide gaming machines, it may apply to the Authority for this permit. Applicants should note that they must demonstrate that the premises will be wholly or mainly used for making gaming machines available for use (Section 238).

11.18 An application for a permit may be granted only if the Authority is satisfied that the premises will be used as an Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre, and if the Licensing Unit of Lancashire Constabulary has been consulted on the application. The Authority would take into account considerations such as the applicant's suitability (e.g. any convictions that they may have that would make them unsuitable to operate a family entertainment centre), the suitability of the premises in relation to their location, and issues about disorder.

11.19 The Authority will invite the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect children from harm. Harm in this context is not limited to harm from gambling but includes wider child protection considerations. However they may include appropriate measures / training for staff as regards suspected truant school children on the premises, measures / training covering how staff would deal with unsupervised very young children being on the premises, or children causing perceived problems on / around the premises. The Authority will also expect, as per the Guidance, that applicants demonstrate a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible in Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres; that the applicant has no relevant convictions (those that are set out in Schedule 7 of the Act); and that staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes.

11.20 The Authority cannot attach conditions to this type of permit, and the "Statement of Principles" only applies to initial applications and not to renewals.

(Alcohol) Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits

11.21 The Act makes provision for premises that holds a Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003 for the sale/supply of alcohol on the premises to automatically have 2 gaming machines, of categories C and/or D. The premises merely need to notify the Authority. The Authority can remove the automatic authorisation in respect of any particular premises if:

- Provision of the machines is not reasonably consistent with the pursuit of the Licensing Objectives;

- Gaming has taken place on the premises that breaches a condition of Section 282 of the Act (i.e. that written notice has been provided to the licensing authority, that a fee has been provided and that any relevant code of practice issued by the Commission about the location and operation of the machine has been complied with)
- The premises are mainly used for gaming; or
- An offence under the Act has been committed on the premises.

11.22 If a premises wishes to have more than 2 machines, then it needs to apply for a permit and the Authority will consider that application based upon the Licensing Objectives, the Guidance, and “*such matters as they think relevant.*” This Authority considers that “such matters” will be decided on a case by case basis, but generally there will be regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the Authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machines. Measures which will satisfy the Authority that there will be no access may include the adult machines being in site of the bar, or in the sight of staff who will monitor that the machines are not being used by those under 18. Notices and signage may also be of help. With regard to the protection of vulnerable persons, applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

11.23 The Authority can decide to grant the application with a smaller number of machines and/or a different category of machines than that applied for. Conditions (other than these) cannot be attached. The holder of a permit must comply with any Code of Practice issued by the Commission about the location and operation of the machine.

Prize Gaming Permits - Statement of Principles

11.24 The Authority expects applicants to set out the types of gaming that there are intending to offer and that the applicant should be able to demonstrate:

- That they understand the limits to stakes and prizes that are set out in Regulations;
- And that the gaming offered is within the law.

11.25 In making its decision on an application for this permit the Authority does not need to have regard to the Licensing Objectives but must have regard to any guidance produced by the Commission.

Club Gaming and Club Machines Permits

11.26 Before granting the permit the Authority will need to satisfy itself that the premises meet the requirements of a members’ club and may grant the permit if the majority of members are over 18.

11.27 The Authority may only refuse an application on the grounds that:

- The applicant does not fulfil the requirements for a members' or commercial club or miners' welfare institute and therefore is not entitled to receive the type of permit for which it has applied;
- The applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons;
- An offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities;
- A permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or
- An objection has been lodged by the Commission or the police.

Tracks

11.28 Tracks are different from other premises in that there may be subject to one or more Premises Licences, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track.

11.29 The Authority will have particular regard to the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling and the need to ensure that entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling areas where they are not permitted to enter.

11.30 The Authority would expect applicants to demonstrate suitable measures to ensure that children do not have access to adult only gaming facilities. However, children and young persons will be permitted to enter track areas where facilities for betting are provided on days when dog-racing and/or horse racing takes place, although they are still prevented from entering areas where gaming machines (other than category D machines) are provided.

11.31 The Authority may attach a condition to track Premises Licences requiring the track operator to ensure that the rules are prominently displayed in or near the betting areas, or that other measures are taken to ensure that they are made available to the public. For example, the rules could be printed in the race card or made available in leaflet form from the track office.

11.32 The Authority also notes that in the Commission's view, it would be preferable for all self-contained premises operated by off-course betting operators on track to be the subject of separate premises licences, to ensure that there is clarity between the respective responsibilities of the track operator and the off-course betting operator running a self-contained unit on the premises.

Travelling Fairs

11.33 The Authority will decide whether, where category D machines and / or equal chance prize gaming without a permit is to be made available for use at travelling fairs, the statutory requirement that the facilities for gambling amount to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair is met.

11.34 The Authority will also consider whether the applicant falls within the statutory definition of a travelling fair.

11.35 The 27-day statutory maximum for the land being used as a fair is per calendar year, and it applies to the piece of land on which the fairs are held, regardless of whether it is the same or different travelling fairs occupying the land. The Authority will work with its neighbouring authorities to ensure that land that crosses our boundaries is monitored so that the statutory limits are not exceeded.

Door Supervisors

11.36 The Authority may consider whether there is a need for door supervisors in terms of the Licensing Objectives of protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling, and also in terms of preventing premises becoming a source of crime. However, it is noted that the Security Industry Authority cannot license door supervisors at casinos or bingo premises. The Authority therefore may produce specific requirements for door supervisors working at casinos or bingo premises. This is in recognition of the nature of the work in terms of searching individuals, dealing with potentially aggressive persons, etc.

11.37 Where conditions requiring the presence of door supervisors may be attached to Premises Licences or other permissions, the Authority will take account of available evidence, trading history and whether the presence of door supervisors is both necessary and proportionate.

12.0 Casinos

12.1 In accordance with Section 166 of the Act, the Authority has passed a 'no casino' resolution. This was determined on 26th April 2006 by full Council.

13.0 Provisional Statements

13.1 When considering Provisional Statements, it is a question of fact and degree whether premises are finished to a degree that they can be considered for a Premises Licence. Similarly, requiring the building to be complete ensures that the Authority can inspect it fully.

13.2 In terms of representations about Premises Licence applications, following the grant of a provisional statement, no further representations from relevant authorities or interested parties can be taken into account unless they concern matters which could not have been addressed at the provisional statement stage, or they reflect a change in the applicant's circumstances. In addition, the Authority may refuse the Premises Licence (or grant it on terms different to those attached to the provisional statement) only by reference to matters:

- Which could not have been raised by objectors at the provisional licence stage; or
- Which, in the Authority's opinion, reflect a change in the operator's circumstances.

13.3 The Authority will not take into account irrelevant matters. An example of such an irrelevant matter would be the likelihood of the applicant obtaining planning permission or building regulations approval for the proposal.

14.0 Reviews

14.1 Responsible Authorities and Interested Parties may request a review of a Premises Licence at any time. However, it is for the Authority to decide whether the review is to be conducted. This will be on the basis of whether the request for the review is relevant to the matters listed below, as well as consideration as to whether the request is frivolous, vexatious, or whether it is substantially the same as previous representations or requests for review.

- In accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Commission;
- In accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Commission;
- Reasonably consistent with the Licensing Objectives; and
- In accordance with this statement.

14.2 The Authority can also initiate a review of a licence on the basis of any reason that it considers is appropriate.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Map detailing key locations in West Lancashire



Appendix 2: List of Responsible Authorities

For the purposes of this Act, the following are Responsible Authorities in relation to premises:

1. The Licensing Authority in whose area the premises are wholly or mainly situated (“West Lancashire Borough Council”);
2. The Gambling Commission;
3. Lancashire Constabulary;
4. Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service;
5. Development Control, Planning Dept, West Lancashire Borough Council;
6. Environmental Protection Service, West Lancashire Borough Council;
7. Children and Young Persons Division, Lancashire County Council;
8. HM Customs and Excise.

Lancashire Constabulary
Licensing Unit: C Division
County Police Office, St Thomas's Road
Chorley Lancashire PR7 1DR

Telephone: 01257 246215
Fax: 01257 246217
Email:
anthony.bushell@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

West Lancashire Borough Council
Development Control Service
52 Derby Street, Ormskirk
Lancashire L39 2DF

Telephone: 01695 577177
Email: plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk

HM Customs and Excise
Boundary House
Cheadle Point
Cheadle
Cheshire
SK8 2JZ

Telephone: 0845 010 9000
Email: enquiries.nw@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

Gambling Commission
Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4BP
Telephone: 0121 230 6500
Fax: 0121 233 1096

Email: info@gamblingcommission.gov.uk

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service
Fire Safety Officer - Skelmersdale Fire Station
Tanhouse Road, Skelmersdale,
Lancashire WN8 9NN

Telephone: 01695 723853
Fax: 01695 731172
Email:
skelmersdaleFireSafety@lancsfireandrescue.org.uk

Andrew Hill - Environmental Protection &
Community Safety Manager
West Lancashire Borough Council
Robert Hodge Centre, Stanley Way, Skelmersdale
Lancashire WN8 8EE

Telephone: 01695 585243
Fax: 01695 585126
Email: a.hill@westlancs.gov.uk

Lancashire County Council
Lancashire Safeguarding Children's Board Manager
Room B52, PO Box 61
County Hall
Preston
Lancashire PR1 8RJ

Appendix 3: Useful contacts

Further information on West Lancashire Borough Council's Statement of Licensing Policy or the Gambling Act 2005 can be obtained from the Council's Licensing Service:

West Lancashire Borough Council, Licensing Service, Robert Hodge Centre, Stanley Way, Skelmersdale, Lancashire WN8 8EE

Telephone: 01695 577177
Fax: 01695 585126
Email: licensing.enquiries@westlancls.gov.uk
Webpage: www.westlancls.gov.uk/licensing

Information on the Gambling Act 2005 is also available from:

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street,
London SW1Y 5DH
Telephone: 020 7211 6200
Email: enquiries@culture.gov.uk
Internet: www.culture.gov.uk

Gambling Commission
Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4BP
Telephone: 0121 230 6500
Fax: 0121 233 1096
Email: info@gamblingcommission.gov.uk