



AGENDA ITEM:

**LICENSING & GAMBLING
COMMITTEE:
3 DECEMBER 2024**

**COUNCIL:
11 DECEMBER 2024**

Report of: Assistant Director of Planning and Regulatory Services

Relevant Lead Member: Councillor G Dowling

**Contact for further information: Lyndsey Key (ext 3236)
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**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY AND
AUTHORISATIONS REQUIRED BY THE GAMBLING ACT 2005**

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To approve the revised Statement of Licensing Policy required by the Gambling Act 2005.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS THE LICENSING AND GAMBLING COMMITTEE

2.1 That the Statement of Licensing Policy attached at Appendix 3 be endorsed, prior to submission to Council for final approval and publication.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

3.1 That the Statement of Licensing Policy attached at Appendix 3 be approved.

3.2 That the Assistant Director of Planning and Regulatory Services be given delegated authority to publish and administer the Statement of Licensing Policy attached as Appendix 3 to this report.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Members of the Licensing and Gambling Committee will recall the report of 1 October 2024 attached as Appendix 2 to this report (excluding Appendices), which requested approval of a revised draft statement of Licensing Policy (the Policy).

- 4.2 In accordance with relevant legislation, the draft Policy was subject to public consultation between 14th October 2024 and 25th November 2024. Relevant statutory consultees were contacted directly in writing, requesting their comments on the draft statement.

5.0 ISSUES

- 5.1 An analysis of the consultation responses can be found in Appendix 4.
- 5.2 Final approval of the Policy must be granted by 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 3 to this report must be approved for publication and use.
- 5.3 The Licensing and Gambling Committee is requested to review Appendix 3 and determine whether the draft document be approved. Subject to the draft Policy being approved by Licensing and Gambling Committee on 3rd December 2024, Council is requested to approve the Policy and approve on 11th December 2024.

6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The legislation and policy has the potential to impact upon many areas within the Community, particularly upon the leisure time of the public of West Lancashire. They also serve as a means to address crime or the fear of crime through the focus on any potential offences associated with regulated activities under the Act.

7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

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.

9.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Gambling is a legitimate leisure activity that many people enjoy. However, the controls contained in the legislation and policy are needed to balance this against the wider negative impacts that problem gambling can create. This includes direct links to poverty, ill health, adverse family relationships, and the psychological and social impact on the vulnerable and/or children.
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Background Documents

The following background documents (as defined in Section 100D (5) of the Local Government Act 1972) have been relied on to a material extent in preparing this Report.

None.

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. Licensing and Gambling Committee report: 1 October 2024 and related minutes
3. Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Licensing Policy 2025
4. Consultation response analysis

Appendix 1

<h1 style="color: red;">Equality Impact Assessment Form</h1>	
Directorate: Planning and Regulatory Services	Service: Licensing
Completed by: Lyndsey Key	Date: 20/11/24
Subject Title: APPROVAL OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY AND AUTHORISATIONS REQUIRED BY THE GAMBLING ACT 2005	
1. DESCRIPTION	
Is a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	<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):	<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)?	Licensing Authorities, Responsible Authorities, gambling trade, service users, and members of the public.



<p>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)?</p>	<p>All sections of the public and businesses that use or operate the licences relevant to the Policy contained in this report.</p>
<p>Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?</p> <p>Age Gender Disability Race and Culture Sexual Orientation Religion or Belief Gender Reassignment Marriage and Civil Partnership Pregnancy and Maternity</p>	<p><i>*delete as appropriate</i></p> <p>No No No No No No No No No No</p>
<p>4. DATA ANALYSIS</p>	
<p>In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?</p>	<p>All sections of the public and businesses that use or operate the licences relevant to the Policy contained in this report.</p>
<p>What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?</p>	<p>The draft Policy has been subject to consultation and the responses have been considered in compiling the final document.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>The draft Policy has been subject to consultation and the responses have been considered in compiling the final document.</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>The draft Policy has been subject to consultation and the responses have been considered in compiling the final document.</p>
<p>If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS</p>	
<p>In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT</p>	
<p>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.).</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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?	The Gambling Act requires that the Policy be reviewed every 3 years. This assessment will be reviewed at that time.