

Title of Report:	Gambling Act 2005
Report to be considered by:	Licensing Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 June 2012
Forward Plan Ref:	n/a

Purpose of Report: To consider the Council's review of its Gambling Policy Statement

Recommended Action: To approve the Reviewed Statement

Reason for decision to be taken: Statutory Requirement

Other options considered: None

Key background documentation: Gambling Act 2005 and associated Regulations

The proposals will help achieve the following Council Plan Themes:

- CPT7 - Safer and Stronger Communities**
- CPT11 - Protecting Vulnerable People**
- CPT16 - Excellent Performance Management**

The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the above Council Plan Priorities and Themes by:

Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling. 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.

Portfolio Member Details	
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Date Portfolio Member agreed report:	8 June 2012

Contact Officer Details	
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Implications

Policy: Existing policy must be reviewed every three years or sooner if felt appropriate

Financial: None
Personnel: None
Legal/Procurement: Statutory requirement
Property: None
Risk Management: None
Equalities Impact Assessment: None

Is this item subject to call-in?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If not subject to call-in please put a cross in the appropriate box:		
The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council		<input type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Commission or associated Task Groups within preceding six months		<input type="checkbox"/>
Item is Urgent Key Decision		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Executive Summary

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Gambling Act 2005 received Royal Assent on 7 April 2005 and became active on 31st January 2007.
- 1.2 It is a requirement of the Act that the Council form and publish a Licensing Authority Statement of Policy which will have effect for three years with a revision every three years after first publication. The second three year revision is now due.

2. Proposals

- 2.1 Council agree the adoption of the reviewed policy.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 It is a mandatory requirement that the revised policy is adopted and brought into effect by the 31st January 2013.
- 3.2 There is no intention to change the policy statement other than to carry out an update of the relevant statutory authorities.

Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The existing policy statement was consulted upon widely throughout the District prior to adoption, with all licensed gambling operators with premises in West Berkshire, religious groups and Parish/Town Councils being involved as well as the statutory bodies. The draft policy and consultation information was also published on the Council's website.
- 1.2 Following the conclusion of the consultation period the policy statement was presented to the Licensing Committee for approval and from there to Council. The policy was formally adopted on 14th December 2006 by Council.
- 1.3 Although the Licensing Authority could, if it felt it necessary, alter, by review, the policy during the initial or any subsequent three year period it has not been necessary to do so since adoption and publication.
- 1.4 A revision and adoption of the policy is now due by the 31st January 2013. Although the document must be published by the 31st January 2010 a notice of the Council's intention to publish must be advertised no later than 4 weeks before the policy takes effect.

Appendices

Appendix A – West Berkshire Council's Licensing Policy on Gambling (not yet updated)

Consultees

Local Stakeholders: Consultees and Gambling Operators

Officers Consulted: None

Trade Union: None