

# Public Document Pack

**Date of meeting** Thursday, 4th October, 2012  
**Time** 7.00 pm  
**Venue** Civic Offices, Merrial Street, Newcastle Under Lyme, Staffordshire ST5 2AG  
**Contact** Julia Cleary 01782 742227

## Licensing Committee

### AGENDA

#### PART 1- OPEN AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST  
To receive declarations of interest from Members on items included on the agenda.
- 3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 1 - 2)  
To consider the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 July 2012.
- 4 Minutes of Sub Committee Meetings (Pages 3 - 12)
- 5 Rizwan News Appeal (Pages 13 - 16)
- 6 Revised Statement of Gambling Policy (Pages 17 - 64)
- 7 Briefing Note Regarding the Live Music Act 2012 (Pages 65 - 66)
- 8 URGENT BUSINESS  
To consider any business which is urgent within the meaning of Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**Members:** Councillors Mrs Bates, Cooper, Eastwood, Hambleton (Chair), Mrs Heames, Lawton, Miss Mancey, Mrs Simpson, Tagg, Welsh, Wemyss, White, Williams, Mrs Williams and Mrs Winfield (Vice-Chair)

**'Members of the Council: If you identify any personal training / development requirements from the items included in this agenda or through issues raised during the meeting, please bring them to the attention of the Committee Clerk at the close of the meeting'**

Officers will be in attendance prior to the meeting for informal discussions on agenda items.

This page is intentionally left blank

## LICENSING COMMITTEE

Wednesday 4 July 2012

**Present:-** Councillor T Hambleton – in the Chair

Councillors Mrs Bates, Cooper, Eastwood, Mrs Heames, Lawton,  
Miss Mancey, Mrs Simpson, Tagg, Williams, Mrs Williams and  
Mrs Winfield

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Wemyss.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 3. MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING

**Resolved:-** That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2012 be agreed as a correct record.

### 4. MINUTES OF SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**Resolved:-** That the minutes of the Sub-Committee meetings held on 19 March, 26 March, 16 April, 15 May and 29 May 2012 be agreed as correct records.

### 5. CHANGES TO THE LICENSING ACT 2003 AND RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

Consideration was given to a report advising Members of changes to the Licensing Act giving stronger powers in removing licences or refusing to grant licences to problem premises. It would also allow for delegation of powers of the licensing authority as a responsible authority to a recognised area of the Council.

Members were asked to consider how to delegate the function of responsible authority to an area of the Council.

The decision made by this Committee would be with immediate effect prior to being presented to Full Council in September.

Legal advice had been received from James Button & Co Solicitors who made several recommendations as below which were agreed by this Committee.

**Resolved:-** (a) That the Committee make a recommendation to Council that 'Community Safety' have delegated responsibility as the responsible authority under the Licensing Act 2003.

(b) That the decision outlined above (Resolution a) have immediate effect pending confirmation by Full Council at its meeting on 12 September 2012.

(c) That Community Safety be designated as the responsible authority under the Gambling Act 2005.

(d) That this decision have immediate effect pending confirmation by Full Council at its meeting on 12 September 2012.

**6. CHANGES TO THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

Consideration was given to a report outlining amendments to the Licensing Act 2003 following the granting of Royal Assent to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act on 15 September 2011.

Five new measures were identified:-

- Lowering the evidential household on licensing authorities.
- Removing the vicinity test for licensing representatives to allow wider local community involvement.
- Reforming the system of Temporary Event Notices.
- Suspension of premises licences due to non-payment of annual fees.
- The Licensing Authority becoming a responsible authority.

Fact sheets were attached to the agenda outlining the changes.

**Resolved:-** That the information be received.

**T HAMBLETON  
Chair**

## LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Friday, 13th July, 2012

**Present:-** Cllr Hambleton – in the Chair

Councillors Cooper and Miss Mancey

### 3. **APPLICATION FOR A REVIEW OF A PREMISE LICENCE, THE OLD BROWN JUG**

#### **Decision**

Dealing firstly with the conditions that had been negotiated by Environmental Health, the Police and the Licensee and agreed by the parties that morning the sub-committee approved and appended those conditions to the current premises licence.

The Committee listened carefully to the evidence that was submitted by the Police and by Counsel on behalf of the Premises Licence Holder in relation to the proposed condition about plastic/polycarbonate glasses to be used on a Wednesday, Friday and Saturday after 8pm. The Committee noted that the request for this condition arose out of an incident on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011 in which a door supervisor was injured during a scuffle.

The Committee viewed this as an isolated incident and noted that there had been no incidents involving injury from glass either since or prior – at least from 2005 and as such did not consider that the imposition of this condition was necessary to promote the licensing objectives.

The Committee also had regard to the difficulties in enforcing this condition and the potential detrimental financial impact that this may have on the Premises Licence Holder.

However the Committee was particularly concerned at the events leading up to this incident and warned the Licence Holder that if incidents of this type come before the Committee again it would not be so sympathetic.

The Committee considered that the incident could have been avoided through proper staff training and better management. Whilst the Committee was pleased to note the policy statement that had been submitted by the DPS regarding operating procedures it considered it necessary for the promotion of the licensing objective Public Safety to impose the following condition:-

“All training undertaken by staff shall be signed by the member of staff who has undergone the training and copies kept by the DPS”

**CLLR HAMBLETON**  
**Chair**

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

## **LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, 14th August, 2012

**Present:-** Cllr Hambleton – in the Chair

Councillors Hambleton, Williams and Mrs Williams

### **1. APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISE LICENCE SWAN INN, TALKE**

Having taken into account the Licensing Act 2003 and the guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act, the Councils Statement of Licensing Policy and also the fact that the Environmental Health Service and a number of interested parties had objected to the application on the basis that to grant the application would undermine the Public Nuisance objective.

The Committee considered that licensing objective in the light of what had been said and listened to the arguments and were persuaded that in the light of what had been said by the residents living in the vicinity of the premises and the evidence given by them and the Environmental Health Officers. It would not promote that Licensing objective to grant the application at the present time.

The Committee was concerned about the incidents of noise nuisance that had hitherto taken place which all interested parties who had given evidence seemed to have witnessed which included unacceptable levels of shouting, bad language, loud music and general disturbance from patrons of the premises and their vehicles and taxis in the early hours of the morning.

The Environmental Health Officers had given evidence to the effect that the premises are situated in a primarily residential area in rural settings and that allowing regulated entertainment to continue until 1am would fail to address the impact from noise from the property on the surrounding residents and that the times proposed in the application would have an impact from patrons and their vehicles leaving the site.

The Committee also take the view that extending the hours at the proposed times could make the premises a magnet for other alcohol fuelled persons from other premises after they have closed as other pubs in the area have earlier closing times. Other concerns are that the extension of hours on Fridays and Saturdays would hinder dispersal from the area leading to the potential for further noise nuisance and disorder.

The Committee however considered the Seasonal Variations applied for as set out as items 4,5 and 6 on page 7 and on page 11 and were disposed to grant these.

The Committee were therefore disposed to refuse the application, except for the Seasonal Variation referred to and a notice would be issued to that effect.

**Chair**

This page is intentionally left blank

## RIZWAN NEWS APPEAL

**Submitted by:** Head of Central Services

**Portfolio:** Safer Communities

**Ward(s) affected:** All Wards

### **Purpose of the Report**

To inform the Committee of the outcome of the appeal from the sub-committee's decision to the Magistrates Court.

### **Recommendation**

**That the report be received.**

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 On 15 May 2012 a licensing sub-committee heard an application by Staffordshire County Council Trading Standards to review the premises licence for Rizwan News, 123 Knutton Lane. The application set out a number of areas of concern relating to test purchase failures and the sale of alcohol and tobacco to minors.

### **The Sub-Committee's Decision**

The decision of the committee was to:-

- (1) Suspend the premises licence for a period of 2 weeks to enable the premises to put in place the remedial actions agreed with Trading Standards and to ensure that all relevant staff were trained.
- (2) Impose conditions:-
  - (a) A challenge 25 policy to be adopted.
  - (b) Challenge 25 posters to be displayed at the premises to reinforce this policy. The posters will be displayed prominently and in sight of customers and staff.
  - (c) A Refusals Register is to be used to record all incidents when a sale is refused. The register is to be kept in the store at all times unless it is requested by the police or officers of responsible authorities. The Refusals Registers are available from Trading Standards
  - (d) All staff working at the premises involved in the sale of age restricted products including the sale and sale of alcohol to receive ongoing training. This will be recorded in a staff training register and will also include a written test of knowledge. The training records must be made available to police and officers of responsible authorities on request. Records shall be retained at the premises.
  - (e) A recording CCTV system to be fitted:-

A benchmark recording without recording any people will be made to check against subsequent images recorded in the future.

The picture will be clear enough to identify people; the time and date displayed will be correct.

The cameras will cover all vulnerable areas and will be sited to cover all entrances and exits.

The lighting will be sufficient to enable the camera to see.

All recordings to be retained for a minimum period of 28 days from the date of the recording.

All recordings are to be made available to the police and officers of responsible authorities on request. Recordings must be provided in a downloadable format (preferably to a disc) suitable for use in any criminal proceedings.

- (3) Furthermore the sub-Committee warned the licence holder that any further underage sales could result in a further review of the Premises Licence and possible revocation.

2. **Issues**

**The Court's Decision**

The licence holder was represented by a solicitor and the appeal was heard before the Magistrates sitting at Fenton Magistrates Court on 18 July 2012 who dismissed the appeal.

3. **Options Considered**

N/A

4. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

- 4.1 Directly linked to creating a greener and safer Borough

5. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

- 5.1 The licence holder has exercised his statutory right of appeal from committee's decision to the Magistrates Court. There are no further legal or statutory implications arising therefrom.

6. **Equality Impact Assessment**

No Equality issues

7. **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 7.1 No order made as to costs in this case.

8. **Major Risks**

None

9. **Key Decision Information**

This is not a Key decision

10. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

Licensing Sub-Committee decision 15 May 2012

11. **List of Appendices**

There are none.

12. **Background Papers**

Legal file reference L54/140  
Agenda

This page is intentionally left blank



## **GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY**

**Submitted by: Democratic Services Manager**

**Portfolio: Culture and Leisure and Safer Communities**

**Ward(s) affected: All**

### **Purpose of the Report**

To discuss and agree upon the consultation process for the Council's Gambling Policy. Under Section 349 of the Gambling act 2005, the Council has a statutory duty to review its Gambling statement as set out in the Gambling Policy before December 2012.

### **Recommendations**

- 1. That the Gambling Policy for Newcastle under Lyme be sent out for a 6 week consultation period.**
- 2. That the Consultees for the Gambling Policy be agreed upon.**
- 3. That the documentation for the consultation be agreed upon.**
- 4. That the Committee consider the existing Policy and provide any initial comments on the content.**
- 5. That an additional meeting of this Committee be held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November to consider any responses received to the consultation and to allow the recommendations of this Committee to be included in the final report to Full Council.**
- 6. That the updated Policy be presented for approval to Full Council at its meeting on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012.**

### **Reasons**

Under section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 the Council has a statutory duty to review its Gambling statement set out in the Gambling Policy before December 2012.

## **1. GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY**

### **Background**

Under section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 the Council has a statutory duty to review its Gambling statement set out in the Gambling Policy before December 2012.

In preparing a statement for revision the Council must consult:

- The Chief Officer of Police for the authority's area
- 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 Gambling Act

A list of groups and individuals previously consulted is attached at Appendix B.

## 2. Issues

It is suggested that the current policy be sent out for Consultation on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October** following discussions at this meeting. Due to the fact that the meeting of Full Council has this year been brought forward to November 28<sup>th</sup>, this will allow us to consult for 6 weeks on the current policy. It is suggested that the consultation period will end on **15<sup>th</sup> November** thus allowing us to incorporate any comments received in the final report to Full Council.

The legislation specifies certain groups and organisations that must be consulted regarding the revised policy under Section 349 (3) of the Gambling Act 2005:

- The Chief Officer of Police for the authority's area
- 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 Gambling Act

The legislation is however deliberately wide to enable Licensing Authorities to undertake a comprehensive consultation exercise with anyone who may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in the Licensing Authority Statement of Licensing Policy.

Licensing Authorities may wish to consider the following:

- Consultation with a range of organisations including faith groups, voluntary and community organisations working with children and young people, organisations working with people who are problem gamblers, medical practices or primary care trust and advocacy agencies such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau and trade unions.
- Consultation with other tiers of local government where they exist.
- Consultation with businesses that are, or will be, holders of a premises licence
- Consultation with the organisations named as responsible authorities in the Act.

It is intended to advertise the consultation on the Council's website, at local libraries, on the Council's notice board, by writing to all elected members and to the Consultees detailed in the list attached at Appendix B. Any further suggestions for potential Consultees are welcomed.

## 3. Timetable

4 <sup>th</sup> October 2012	Initial discussions at Licensing Committee
5 <sup>th</sup> October 2012	Gambling Policy sent out for consultation
15 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	End of Consultation period
15 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	Additional Meeting of Licensing Committee to discuss responses to the consultation
16 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	Agenda sent out for Full Council
28 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	Meeting of Full Council to agree updated Policy

**4. Legal and Statutory Implications**

Under section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 the Council has a statutory duty to review its Gambling statement set out in the Gambling Policy before December 2012.

**5. List of Appendices**

Appendix A Current Gambling Policy  
Appendix B List of previous Consultees  
Appendix C Draft Statement of Gambling Policy Consultation Questionnaire  
Appendix D Draft Consultation Notices and letters.

**6. Background Papers**

Newcastle under Lyme Gambling Policy 2009

This page is intentionally left blank



# **STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY**

DECEMBER 2009

## **CONTENTS**

	<u><b>PAGE</b></u>
<b>PART A – THE GAMBLING ACT 2005</b>	
1. The Licensing Objectives	3
2. The Newcastle-under-Lyme District	3
3. The purpose of the Gambling Policy	4
4. The Licensing Framework	5
5. Declaration	5
6. Responsible Authorities	5
7. Interested Parties	6
8. Exchange of Information	6
9. Licensing Authority functions	7
10. Definition of children and young persons	8
<b>PART B – PROMOTION OF THE LICENSING OBJECTIVES</b>	
11. Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime	9
12. Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way	9
13. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling	9
- protection of children	
- protection of vulnerable persons	
<b>PART C – PREMISES LICENCES</b>	
14. Introduction to Premises Licensing	11
- Definition of a premises licence	
- Location	
- Duplication with other regulatory regimes	
- Conditions	
- Door supervision	
15. Adult gaming centres and licensed family Entertainment centres	13
16. Casinos	14
17. Bingo premises	15
18. Betting premises	16
19. Tracks	16
20. Travelling fairs	18
21. Provisional statements	18

**PART D – PERMITS, TEMPORARY/OCCASIONAL USE NOTICES  
AND SMALL SOCIETY LOTTERY REGISTRATIONS**

<b>22.</b>	<b>Unlicensed family entertainment centre gaming machine permits</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>23.</b>	<b>Gaming machine permits in premises licensed for the sale of alcohol</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>24.</b>	<b>Prize gaming permits</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>25.</b>	<b>Club gaming and club machines permits</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>26.</b>	<b>Temporary use notices</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>27.</b>	<b>Occasional use notices (for tracks)</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>28.</b>	<b>Small society lottery registrations</b>	<b>24</b>

**PART E – ENFORCEMENT**

<b>29.</b>	<b>Enforcement principles</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>30.</b>	<b>Reviews</b>	<b>26</b>

**Appendix 1 – Gaming Machines**

<b>TABLE 1</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>TABLE 2</b>	<b>28</b>

## **PART A – THE GAMBLING ACT 2005**

### **1. The Licensing Objectives**

- 1.1 Under the Gambling Act 2005 (the Act), the Borough Council of Newcastle-under-Lyme is the licensing authority for Newcastle-under-Lyme and licences premises for gambling activities as well as granting various other gambling permits. In this document unless otherwise stated any references to the Council are to the Borough Council of Newcastle-under-Lyme Licensing Authority
- 1.2 The Council will carry out its functions under the Act with a view to promoting the three licensing objectives set out at Section 1 of the Act. The licensing objectives are:
- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime 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.
- 1.3 More information can be found about how the Council will promote the licensing objectives in Parts B and C of this document
- 1.4 The Council will also follow any regulations and statutory guidance issued in accordance with the Act and have regard to any Codes of Practice issued by the national gambling regulator, the Gambling Commission
- 1.5 The Council is aware that in making decisions about premises licences it should aim to permit the use of premises for gambling insofar 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; and
  - In accordance with the Council's Statement of Gambling Policy.

### **2. The Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme**

- 2.1 The Borough is the largest district in Staffordshire and has a population of 120,000. The majority of the population live in the urban centres of Newcastle-under-Lyme and Kidsgrove which are located in close proximity to the City of Stoke-on-Trent and forms part of the North Staffordshire Conurbation. The areas around the urban centre to the north, south and west are mainly rural comprising mostly Green Belt and Areas of Special Landscape where new development is restricted and population density is low



- 2.2 The Borough has a black and minority ethnic population of just over 2% made up of a number of different groups with no single largest minority community
- 2.3 Over recent years there has been significant growth in entertainment use within Newcastle town centre and Newcastle now has a vibrant night time economy
- 2.4 This Statement of Gambling Policy seeks to promote the licensing objectives within the Borough.

### **3. The Purpose of the Gambling Policy**

- 3.1 Licensing authorities are required by the Gambling Act 2005 to publish a statement of the principles which they propose to apply when exercising their functions under the Act. This document fulfils this requirement. Such statement must be published at least every three years. The statement can also be reviewed from time to time and any amendments must be consulted upon. The statement must then be re-published
- 3.2 The Council consulted widely upon this Policy Statement before finalising and publishing it. A list of the consultees is given below:
- Staffordshire Police
  - Staffordshire County Council
  - Representatives of local businesses (including the North Staffordshire Chamber of Trade and the Newcastle Chamber of Trade)
  - Local residents and their representatives
  - Town and Parish Councils in the Borough
  - Local Members of Parliament
  - National bodies representing the gambling trade
  - National charities concerned with the social impact of gambling
  - Representatives of existing licence holders
  - Renew and North Staffs Regeneration Zone
  - Newcastle Community Safety Partnership
  - Keele University
  - Local financial/debt management agencies
  - Department of Community Services, Newcastle Borough Council
  - Department of Regeneration and Planning Services, Newcastle Borough Council
  - Staffordshire County Council Trading Standards
  - Newcastle LSP
  - Aspire Housing
  - North Staffs Race Equality Council
- 3.3 The consultation took place between September and November 2006 and followed the Cabinet Office Code of Practice on consultations published in April 2004. This document is available from the Cabinet Office website at [www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk)
- 3.4 A copy of the consultation report containing a summary of the comments received and the consideration by the Council of those comments is available on request

- 3.5 The Policy was approved at a meeting of the Full Council on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2006 (resolution 563/06).

#### **4. The Licensing Framework**

- 4.1 The Gambling Act 2005 brought about changes to the way that gambling is administered in the United Kingdom. The Gambling Commission is the national gambling regulator and has a lead role in working with Central Government and local authorities to regulate gambling activity
- 4.2 The Gambling Commission issues operators' licences and personal licences. Any operator wishing to provide gambling at certain premises must have applied for the requisite personal licence and operator's licence before they can approach the Council for a premises licence. In this way, the Gambling Commission is able to screen applicants and organisations to ensure they have the correct credentials to operate gambling premises. The Council's role is to ensure premises are suitable for providing gambling in line with the three licensing objectives and any Codes of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission. The Council also issues various permits and notices to regulate smaller scale and/or ad hoc gambling in other locations such as pubs, clubs and hotels
- 4.3 The Council does not licence large society lotteries or remote gambling through websites. These areas fall to the Gambling Commission. The National Lottery is not licensed by the Gambling Act 2005 and continues to be regulated by the National Lottery Commission under the National Lottery Act 1983.

#### **5. Declaration**

- 5.1 This Policy Statement will not override the right of any person to make an application, make representations about an application or apply for a review of a licence, as each will be considered on its own merits and according to the statutory requirements of the Gambling Act 2005
- 5.2 In producing the final Statement of Gambling Policy, the Council declares that it has had regard to the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005, the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission and any responses from those consulted on the Policy Statement.

#### **6. Responsible Authorities**

- 6.1 The Act empowers certain agencies to act as responsible authorities so that they can employ their particular area of expertise to help promote the licensing objectives. Responsible authorities are able to make representations about licence applications or apply for a review of an existing licence. Responsible authorities will also offer advice and guidance to applicants
- 6.2 The Council is required by regulations to state the principles it will apply to designate, in writing, a body which is competent to advise the authority about the protection of children from harm. The 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.

6.3 In accordance with the regulations, the Council designates the Local Safeguarding Children Board for this purpose

6.4 The contact details of all the responsible authorities under the Gambling Act 2005 can be found in our application packs and on the Council's website at [www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](http://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk).

## **7. Interested Parties**

7.1 Interested parties are certain types of people or organisations that have the right to make representations about licence applications or apply for a review of an existing licence. These parties are defined in the Gambling Act 2005 as set out below.

For the purposes of this part, a person is an interested party in relation to an application for or in respect of a premises licence if, in the opinion of the licensing authority which issues the licence or to which the application is made, the person:

- (a) lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities;
- (b) has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities, or
- (c) represents persons who satisfy paragraphs (a) or (b).

7.2 The Council is required by regulations to state the principles it will apply to determine whether a person is an interested party. The principles are:

- Each case will be decided upon its merits. The Council will not apply a rigid rule to its decision making. It will consider the examples of considerations provided in the Gambling Commission's Guidance to Local Authorities. Within this framework, the Council will accept representations made on behalf of residents and tenants' associations
- In order to determine if an interested party lives or has business interests sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the gambling activities, the Council will consider factors such as the size of the premises and the nature of the activities taking place.

7.3 The Council will provide more detailed information on the making of representations in a separate guidance note.

## **8. Exchange of Information**

8.1 Licensing authorities are required to include in their Policy Statement the principles to be applied by the Authority with regard to the exchange of

information between it and the Gambling Commission, as well as other persons listed in Schedule 6 to the Act

- 8.2 The principle that the Council applies is that it will act in accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 in its exchange of information which includes the provision that the Data Protection Act 1998 will not be contravened. The Council will also have regard to any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission to local authorities on this matter when it is published, as well as any relevant regulations issued by the Secretary of State under the powers provided in the Gambling Act 2005.

## **9. Licensing Authority Functions**

9.1 Licensing authorities are responsible under the Act for:

- Licensing premises where gambling activities are to take place by issuing premises licences
- Issuing provisional statements
- Regulating members' clubs and miners' welfare institutes who wish to undertake certain gaming activities via issuing Club Gaming Permits and/or Club Machine Permits
- Issuing Club Machine Permits to commercial clubs
- Granting permits for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines at unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres
- Receiving notifications from alcohol licensed premises (under the Licensing Act 2003) of the use of two or less gaming machines
- Granting 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
- Registering small society lotteries below prescribed thresholds
- Issuing Prize Gaming Permits
- Receiving and endorsing Temporary Use Notices
- Receiving Occasional Use Notices (for tracks)
- Providing information to the Gambling Commission regarding details of licences issued (see section above on information exchange)
- Maintaining registers of the permits and licences that are issued under these functions

9.2 The Council will not be involved in licensing remote gambling at all. This will fall to the Gambling Commission via operators' licences.

**10. Definition of Children and Young Persons**

In this policy “child” means an individual who is less than 16 years old.

In this policy “young person” means an individual who is not a child but who is less than 18 years old.

## **11. PART B – PROMOTION OF THE LICENSING OBJECTIVES**

### **10. Preventing Gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime**

10.1 The Gambling Commission will take a lead role in keeping gambling crime-free by vetting all applicants for personal and operators' licences. The Council's main role is to try and promote this area with regard to actual premises. So, where an area has known high levels of organised crime the Council will consider carefully whether gambling premises are suitable to be located there (see paragraphs 13.8 and 13.9) and whether conditions may be required such as the provision of door supervision (see paragraph 13.15)

10.2 There is a distinction between disorder and nuisance. In order to make the distinction when incidents of this nature occur, the Council will consider factors such as whether Police assistance was required and how threatening the behaviour was to those who could see it

10.3 Issues of nuisance cannot be addressed by the Gambling Act provisions. However, problems of this nature can be addressed through other legislation as appropriate.

10.4 Examples of the specific steps the Council may take to address this area can be found in the various sections covering specific premises types in Part C of this document and also in Part D which covers permits and notices.

### **11. Ensuring that Gambling is conducted in a fair and open way**

11.1 The Council is aware that except in the case of tracks (see Section 18), generally the Gambling Commission does not expect licensing authorities to become concerned with ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way as this will be addressed via operating and personal licences.

11.2 The Council will however familiarise itself with operator licence conditions and will communicate any concerns to the Gambling Commission about misleading advertising or any absence of required game rules or other information.

11.3 Examples of the specific steps the Council may take to address this area can be found in the various sections covering specific premises types in Part C of this document, and also in Part D which covers permits and notices.

### **12. Protection of Children**

12.1 This licensing objective means preventing children from taking part in gambling (as well as restriction of advertising so that gambling products are not aimed at or are particularly attractive to children). The Council will therefore consider whether specific measures are required at particular premises with regard to this licensing objective. Appropriate measures may include supervision of entrances/machines, segregation of areas etc.

- 12.2 The Council will pay particular attention to any Codes of Practice which the Gambling Commission issues regarding this licensing objective in relation to specific premises such as casinos
- 12.3 Examples of the specific steps the Council may take to address this area can be found in the various sections covering specific premises types in Part C of this document and also in Part D which covers permits and notices.

***Protection of Vulnerable People***

- 12.4 Regarding the term 'vulnerable persons', the Council is not seeking to offer a definition but will, for regulatory purposes, assume that this group includes people who gamble more than they want to; people who gamble beyond their means and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to mental health needs, learning disability or substance misuse relating to alcohol or drugs. The Council will consider this licensing objective on a case by case basis having regard to any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission. Should a practical definition prove possible in future then this policy statement will be updated with it, by way of a revision
- 12.5 The Council will promote this objective by publishing information on the Council website about the symptoms of problem gambling and the various support organisations which are available to help problem gamblers. These web pages will be prepared in conjunction with these support agencies
- 12.6 The Council will also familiarise itself with operator licence conditions related to this objective which may include a requirement for operators to provide information to their customers on how to gamble responsibly and how to access information about problem gambling. The Council will communicate any concerns to the Gambling Commission about any absence of this required information
- 12.7 Examples of the specific steps the Council may take to address this area can be found in the various sections covering specific premises types in Part C of this document and also in Part D which covers permits and notices.

## **PART C – PREMISES LICENCES**

### **13. Introduction to Premises Licensing**

- 13.1 The Council will issue premises licences to allow those premises to be used for certain types of gambling. For example, premises licences will be issued to amusement arcades, bingo halls, bookmakers and casinos
- 13.2 Premises licences will be subject to the permissions/restrictions set out in the Gambling Act 2005 and regulations as well as specific mandatory and default conditions which will be detailed in regulations issued by the Secretary of State. Licensing authorities are able to exclude default conditions and also attach other conditions, where it is believed to be necessary and proportionate.

#### ***Definition of 'Premises'***

- 13.3 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 of the building can be reasonably regarded as being different premises. Whether different parts of a building can properly be regarded as being separate premises will always be a question of fact in the circumstances
- 13.4 The Council will take particular care in considering applications for multiple licences for a building and those relating to a discrete part of a building used for other non-gambling purposes. In particular, the Council will assess entrances and exits from parts of a building covered by one or more licences to satisfy itself that they are separate and identifiable so that the separation of different premises is not compromised and that people do not 'drift' into a gambling area
- 13.5 The Council will pay particular attention to applications where access to the licensed premises is through other premises (which themselves may be licensed or unlicensed). Issues that the Council will consider before granting such applications include whether children can gain access; compatibility of the two establishments and the ability to comply with the requirements of the Act. In addition, an overriding consideration will be whether, taken as a whole, the co-location of the licensed premises with other facilities has the effect of creating an arrangement that otherwise would, or should, be prohibited under the Act
- 13.6 An applicant cannot obtain a full premises licence until the premises in which it is proposed to offer the gambling are constructed. The Gambling Commission has advised that references to 'the premises' are to the premises in which gambling may now take place. Thus a licence to use premises for gambling will only be issued by the Council in relation to premises that are ready to be used for gambling. Whether a premises is finished to a degree that it can be considered for a premises licence will always be a question of fact in the circumstances. Requiring a building to be complete ensures that the Council can, if necessary, inspect it fully, as can other responsible authorities with inspection rights
- 13.7 Where a premises is not yet built or is about to be altered for the purpose of providing gambling and ultimately a premises licence will be required, the



applicant should in the first instance consider making an application for a provisional statement (see Section 20).

### ***Location***

13.8 The Council is aware that demand issues (e.g. the likely demand or need for gambling facilities in the area) cannot be considered with regard to the location of premises but that considerations in terms of the licensing objectives can. The Council 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

13.9 With regard to these objectives, it is the Council's policy, upon receipt of any relevant representations, to look at specific location issues including:

- The proximity of the premises to schools and vulnerable adult centres
- The proximity of the premises to residential areas where there may be a high concentration of families with children
- The size of the premises and the nature of the activities taking place
- Any levels of organised crime in the area.

Such information may be used to inform the decision the Council makes about whether to grant the licence, to grant the licence with special conditions or to refuse the application

13.10 This policy does not preclude any application being made and each application will be decided on its merits, with the onus being upon the applicant to show how the concerns can be overcome.

### ***Duplication with other regulatory regimes***

13.11 The Council will seek to avoid any duplication with other statutory/regulatory systems where possible, including planning. The Council will not consider whether a licence application is likely to be awarded planning permission or building regulations approval in its consideration of it. It will listen to and consider carefully any concerns about conditions which are not able to be met by licensees due to planning restrictions, should such a situation arise.

### ***Conditions***

13.12 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, and/or related to the area where the premises is based
- Fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises and
- Reasonable in all other respects

13.13 Decisions about individual conditions will be made on a case by case basis, although there will be a number of control measures the Council will consider using, such as the use of door supervisors, supervision of adult gaming machines, appropriate signage for adult only areas etc. There are specific comments made in this regard under each of the licence types below. The

Council will also expect the applicant to offer his/her own suggestions as to the way in which the licensing objectives can be met effectively

13.14 There are conditions which the Council cannot attach to premises licences which are:

- Any condition on the premises licence which makes it impossible for the applicant to comply with an operating licence condition
- Conditions relating to gaming machine categories, numbers or method of operation
- Conditions which provide that membership of a club or body be required (the Gambling Act 2005 specifically removes the membership requirement for casino and bingo clubs and this provision prevents it being reinstated) and
- Conditions in relation to stakes, fees, winnings or prizes.

#### ***Door supervision***

13.15 The Council will consider whether there is a need for door supervision 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. It should be noted that the Gambling Act 2005 has amended the Private Security Industry Act 2001 and that door supervisors at casinos or bingo premises are not required to be licensed by the Security Industry Authority. Where door supervisors are required at these premises, it is the operator's responsibility to ensure that any persons employed in this capacity are fit and proper to carry out such duties. Normally door supervisors will only be required in betting offices if there is clear evidence from the history of trading that it is necessary and proportionate. Possible ways to achieve this could be to carry out a criminal records (CRB) check on potential staff and also to ensure that staff members have attended Security Industry recognised training

#### **14. Adult Gaming Centres and Licensed Family Entertainment Centres (LFECs)**

14.1 Adult Gaming Centres are a new category of premises introduced by the Act that are most closely related to what are commonly known as adult only amusement arcades, seen in many city centres. Licensed Family Entertainment Centres (LFECs) are those premises which usually provide a range of amusements such as computer games and penny pushers and may have a separate section set aside for adult only gaming machines with higher stakes and prizes.

14.2 Under the Act a premises holding an adult gaming centre licence will be able to make certain numbers of category B, C and D gaming machines available and no-one under 18 will be permitted to enter such premises. LFECs will be able to make available a certain number of category C and D machines where there is clear segregation in place so children do not access the areas where the category C machines are located (see Appendix 1)

- 14.3 The Council will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling in the above premises. The Council will expect applicants to satisfy the Authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the premises or in the case of LFECs to the adult only gaming machine areas
- 14.4 The Council will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives. However, appropriate measures/licence conditions may cover issues such as:
- Proof of age schemes (e.g. PASS schemes)
  - The use of Challenge 21 policy
  - The use of 'No ID No Entry' policy
  - To train staff in the law and challenge people as to their age
  - CCTV
  - Door supervision
  - Supervision of machine areas
  - Physical separation of areas
  - Location of entry
  - Notices/signage
  - Specific opening hours
  - The appointment of a single senior named point of contact to assist in compliance.

This list is not mandatory nor exhaustive and is merely indicative of examples

- 14.5 The Council will refer to the Gambling Commission's website to familiarise itself with any conditions that apply to operating licences covering the way in which the area containing the category C machines should be delineated. The Council will also make itself aware of any mandatory or default conditions on these premises licences when they have been published.

## **15. Casinos**

- 15.1 The Gambling Act states that a casino is an arrangement whereby people are given the opportunity to participate in one or more casino games whereby casino games are defined as a game of chance which is not equal chance gaming. This means that casino games offer the chance for multiple participants to take part in a game competing against the house or bank at different odds to their fellow players

- 15.2 The Act introduces three new categories of larger casino –

- One super/regional casino
- Eight large casinos and
- Eight small casinos

These 17 casinos will be sited in various regions around Britain in line with decisions made by the Independent Casino Advisory Panel

### ***Casino Resolution***

- 15.3 With regard to the casinos referred to at paragraph 15.2, each local authority is required to publish information in its Statement of Gambling Policy about how the Authority has taken or will take a decision to pass (or not to pass) a casino resolution. A casino resolution is a judgment made by a local authority about whether it will allow any small, large or the regional casino to be located in its authority area. The Council has passed a resolution that there will be no casinos in the Newcastle-under-Lyme town centre.

### ***Proposal for a Casino***

- 15.4 The Council has not submitted a proposal for a large casino to the Independent Casinos Advisory Panel

### ***Casinos and Competitive Bidding***

- 15.5 Where a local authority area is enabled to grant a premises licence for a new style casino there are likely to be a number of operators who will want to run the casino. In such situations the Council will have regard to Schedule 9 of the Gambling Act 2005

### ***Licence Considerations/Conditions***

- 15.6 The Gambling Commission has indicated that further guidance will be issued in due course about the particular issues that licensing authorities should take into account in relation to the suitability and layout of casino premises. This guidance will be considered by the Council when it is made available

### ***Betting Machines***

- 15.7 The Council is aware that Section 181 of the Act contains an express power for licensing authorities to restrict the number of betting machines, their nature and the circumstances in which they are made available by attaching a licence condition to a casino premises licence (where betting is permitted in the casino). When considering whether to impose a condition to restrict the number of betting machines in particular premises, the Council, amongst other things, 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 the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable people.

## **16. Bingo Premises**

- 16.1 There is no official definition for bingo in the Gambling Act 2005. However, from a licensing point of view there will be a new category of premises licence specifically for bingo premises which will be used by traditional commercial bingo halls for both cash and prize bingo. In addition, they will also be able to provide a limited number of gaming machines in line with the provisions of the Act (see Appendix 1)
- 16.2 The Council is aware that it is important that if children are allowed to enter premises licensed for bingo that they do not participate in gambling, other than

on category D machines. Where category C or above machines are available in premises to which children are admitted then the Council will ensure that:

- 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 the 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.

16.3 The Council is also aware that the Gambling Commission is to issue further guidance regarding the particular issues that licensing authorities should take into account in relation to the suitability and layout of bingo premises. This guidance will be considered by the Council once it is made available.

## **17. Betting Premises**

17.1 Betting premises are premises such as bookmakers where various types of gambling are authorised to take place. The Act contains a single class of licence for betting premises. However, within this single class there are different types of premises which require licensing such as normal high street bookmakers, bookmakers located in self-contained facilities at racecourses as well as the general betting premises licences that track operators will require

17.2 **Betting machines** – the Council is aware that Section 181 of the Act contains an express power for licensing authorities to restrict the number of betting machines and the nature and circumstances in which they are made available by attaching a licence condition to a betting premises licence. When considering whether to impose a condition to restrict the number of betting machines in particular premises the Council, amongst other things, 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 the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable people.

## **18. Tracks**

18.1 Tracks are sites where races or other sporting events take place. Betting is a major gambling activity on tracks, both in the form of pool betting (often known as the 'totaliser' or 'tote'), and also general betting, often known as 'fixed odds' betting. Multiple betting outlets are usually located on tracks such as 'on course' betting operators who come on to the track just on race days to provide betting for the races taking place on that track. There can also be 'off course' betting operators who may operate self-contained facilities at the tracks which offer

customers the chance to bet on other events, not just those taking place on the track. All tracks will require an overriding 'general betting premises licence' that the track operator will hold

- 18.2 The Council is aware that tracks may be subject to one or more than one premises licence, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track. The Council is also aware that the track operator may not be required to hold an operator licence as there may be several premises licence holders at the track who will need to hold their own operator licences. The Council will consider the impact upon the protection of children licensing objective 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
- 18.3 Children and young persons will be permitted to enter track areas where facilities for betting are provided on days when racing takes place, although they are still prevented from entering areas where gaming machines (other than Category D machines) are provided
- 18.4 The Council will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives. However, appropriate measures/licence conditions may cover issues such as:
- Proof of age schemes (e.g. PASS schemes)
  - The use of Challenge 21 policy
  - The use of 'No ID No Entry' policy
  - To train staff in the law and challenge people as to their age
  - CCTV
  - Door supervision
  - Supervision of machine areas
  - Physical separation of areas
  - Location of entry
  - Notices/signage
  - Specific opening hours
  - The appointment of a single senior named point of contact to assist in compliance.

This list is not mandatory nor exhaustive and is merely indicative of examples.

- 18.5 **Betting machines** – the Council is aware that Section 181 of the Act contains an express power for licensing authorities to restrict the number of betting machines, their nature and the circumstances in which they are made available by attaching a licence condition to a betting premises licence. When considering whether to impose a condition to restrict the number of betting machines in particular premises, the Council, amongst other things, 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 the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable people. The Council will also consider the special implications that may arise at a track due to the size of the premises and the possibility that machines may be scattered around the site making it more difficult for the track operator to comply with the law and prevent children from betting on the machines

- 18.6 The Council agrees with the Commission's view that it is preferable for all self-contained premises operated by off-course betting operators on track to be the subject of separate premises licences. This ensures 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
- 18.7 **Condition on rules being displayed** – the Council will consider any Gambling Commission guidance about the application of conditions regarding rules being displayed. The Council may require the track operator to ensure that the rules are prominently displayed in or near the betting areas, or that the rules are displayed in the race card or made available in leaflet form from the track office.

## 19. Travelling Fairs

- 19.1 Travelling fairs have traditionally been able to provide various types of low stake gambling without the need for a licence or permit provided that certain conditions are met and this provision continues in similar fashion under the new Act
- 19.2 Travelling fairs have the right to provide an unlimited number of category D gaming machines and/or equal chance prize gaming (without the need for a permit) as long as the gambling amounts to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair (see Appendix 1)
- 19.3 The Council will consider whether any fairs which take up the above entitlement fall within the statutory definition of a travelling fair
- 19.4 The Council is aware that the 27 day statutory maximum for the land being used as a fair is per calendar year, and that 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 Council will work with its neighbouring authorities to ensure that land which crosses its boundaries is monitored so that the statutory limits are not exceeded.

## 20. Provisional Statements

- 20.1 A provisional statement application is a process which allows a developer to examine the likelihood of whether a building which has yet to be constructed or is about to be altered for the purpose of gambling would be granted a premises licence when the building work is complete. A provisional statement is not a licence and merely gives the holder some form of guarantee that a premises licence would be granted so the project can be started. Once works are complete a full premises licence would still be required
- 20.2 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 Council may refuse the premises licence (or grant it on terms different to those attached to the provisional statement) only by reference to matters:

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

20.3 When determining a provisional statement application the Council will operate in accordance with the Act and will not have regard to any issues related to planning consent or building regulations, e.g. the likelihood that planning consent will be granted.



## **PART D – PERMITS, TEMPORARY/OCCASIONAL USE NOTICES AND SMALL SOCIETY LOTTERY REGISTRATIONS**

### **Permits, Temporary/Occasional Use Notice**

#### **21. Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre Gaming Machine Permits (Statement of Principles on Permits)**

- 21.1 The term 'Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre' is one defined in the Act and refers to a premises which provides category D gaming machines along with various other amusements such as computer games and penny pushers. The premises are 'unlicensed' in that they do not require a premises licence but do require a permit to be able to provide category D machines. It should not be confused with a 'Licensed Family Entertainment Centre' which does require a premises licence because it contains both category C and D gaming machines
- 21.2 The Gambling Act 2005 contains a provision for local authorities to prepare a statement of principles that they propose to consider in determining the suitability of an applicant for a permit. Schedule 10, paragraph 7 of the Act states: "In preparing this Statement and/or considering applications, it [the Council] need not (but may) have regard to the licensing objectives and shall have regard to any relevant guidance issued by the Commission under Section 25"
- 21.3 In accordance with Gambling Commission guidance, the Council will give weight to child protection issues when considering applications for permits
- 21.4 The Council will expect 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. The Council will assess these policies and procedures on their merits. However, they may include appropriate measures/training for staff regarding suspected truant schoolchildren on the premises, measures/training covering how staff would deal with unsupervised children being on the premises, or children causing problems on or around the premises. The Council will also expect applicants to demonstrate a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible in unlicensed FECs, 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
- 21.5 The Council is aware that an application for a permit may only be granted if the Chief Officer of Police has been consulted on the application
- 21.6 In line with the Act the Council cannot attach conditions to this type of permit and the statement of principles only applies to initial applications and not to renewals.

#### **22. Gaming Machine Permits in premises licensed for the sale of alcohol**

- 22.1 There is provision in the Act for premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, to automatically have two gaming machines of

categories C and/or D. The premises merely need to notify the Council. The Council 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 Gambling 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 Gambling 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 Gambling Act has been committed on the premises.

22.2 If a premises wishes to have more than two machines, then it needs to apply for a permit and the Council must consider that application based upon the licensing objectives, any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission under Section 25 of the Gambling Act 2005, and 'such matters as it thinks relevant'. The Council considers that 'such matters' will be decided on a case by case basis, but generally regard will be had to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling. The Council will also 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

22.3 Measures which may satisfy the Council that there will be no access could include the adult machines being situated in close proximity to the bar, or in the sight of staff who will monitor that the machines are not being used by those under 18 years of age. Notices and signage may also help. Regarding the protection of vulnerable persons, applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets/helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare

22.4 It is recognised that some alcohol licensed premises may apply for a premises licence for their non-alcohol licensed areas. Any such application would need to be dealt with under the relevant provisions of the Act

22.5 The Council can decide to grant the application with a smaller number of machines and/or a different category of machines from that applied for. Conditions (other than these) cannot be attached

22.6 The holder of a permit must comply with any Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine

### **23. Prize Gaming Permits – Statement of Principles on Permits**

23.1 The Council will expect the applicant to set out the types of gaming that he or she is intending to offer and be able to demonstrate:

- That they understand the limits to stakes and prizes that are set out in regulations;

- That the gaming offered is within the law.

23.2 In making its decision on an application for prize gaming permits, the Council does not need to have regard to the licensing objectives but must have regard to any Gambling Commission guidance

23.3 There are conditions in the Gambling Act 2005 with which the permit holder must comply, but the Council cannot attach conditions. The conditions in the Act are:

- The limits on participation fees, as set out in regulations, must be complied with
- All chances to participate in the gaming must be allocated on the premises on which the gaming is taking place and on one day; the game must be played and completed on the day the chances are allocated, and the result of the game must be made public in the premises on the day that it is played
- The prize for which the game is played must not exceed the amount set out in regulations (if a money prize), or the prescribed value (if non-monetary prize); and
- Participation in the gaming must not entitle the player to take part in any other gambling.

## **24. Club Gaming and Club Machines Permits**

24.1 Members' clubs and miners' welfare institutes (but not commercial clubs) may apply for a club gaming permit or a club gaming machines permit. The club gaming permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (three machines of categories B, C or D), equal chance gaming and games of chance as set out in forthcoming regulations. A club gaming machine permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (three machines of categories B, C or D)

24.2 To qualify for these special club permits, a members' club must have at least 25 members and be established and conducted wholly or mainly for purposes other than gaming, unless the gaming is permitted by separate regulations. It is anticipated that this will cover bridge and whist clubs, which will replicate the position under the Gaming Act 1968. A members' club must be permanent in nature, not established to make commercial profit, and controlled by its members equally. Examples include workingmen's clubs, branches of the Royal British Legion and clubs with political affiliations

24.3 Before granting the permit, the Council will need to satisfy itself that the premises meet the requirements of a members' club and that the majority of members are over 18 years of age

24.4 The Council may only refuse an application on the grounds that:

- a) 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 they have applied
- b) the applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons
- c) an offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities
- d) a permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or
- e) an objection has been lodged by the Gambling Commission or the Police.

24.5 There is also a fast track procedure available for premises which hold a club premises certificate under the Licensing Act 2003. Under the fast track procedure there is no opportunity for objections to be made by the Gambling Commission or the Police, and the grounds upon which the Council can refuse a permit are reduced. The grounds on which an application under the process may be refused are:

- a) that the club is established primarily for gaming
- b) that in addition to the prescribed gaming, the applicant provides facilities for other gaming; or
- c) that a club gaming permit or club machine permit issued to the applicant in the last ten years has been cancelled.

## **25. Temporary Use Notices**

25.1 Temporary use notices allow the use of premises for gambling where there is no premises licence but where a gambling operator wishes to use the premises temporarily for providing facilities for gambling. Premises that might be useful for a temporary use notice would include hotels, conference centres and sporting venues

25.2 The Act makes a special reference, in the context of temporary use notices, to a 'set of premises' to try and ensure that large premises which cannot reasonably be reviewed as separate are not used for more temporary use notices than permitted under the Act. The Council considers that the determination of what constitutes a 'set of premises' will be a question of fact in the particular circumstances of each notice that is given. In considering whether a place falls within the definition of a 'set of premises', the Council will look at, amongst other things, the ownership/occupation and control of the premises. The Council will be ready to object to notices where it appears that their effect would be to permit regular gambling in a place that could be described as one set of premises.

## **26. Occasional Use Notices (for Tracks)**

- 26.1 There is a special provision in the Act which provides that where there is betting on a track on eight days or less in a calendar year, betting may be permitted by an occasional use notice without the need for a full premises licence. Track operators and occupiers need to be aware that the procedure for applying for an occasional use notice is different to that for a temporary use notice
- 26.2 The Council has very little discretion regarding these notices apart from ensuring that the statutory limit of 8 days in a calendar year is not exceeded. The Council will however consider the definition of a 'track' and whether the applicant is entitled to benefit from such notice.

## **27. Small Society Lottery Registrations**

- 27.1 The Act creates two principal classes of lotteries - licensed lotteries and exempt lotteries. Licensed lotteries are large society lotteries and lotteries run for the benefit of local authorities. These will be regulated by the Gambling Commission. Within the class of exempt lotteries, there are four sub classes, one of which is small society lotteries
- 27.2 A small society lottery is a lottery promoted on behalf of a non-commercial society as defined in the Act which also meets specific financial requirements set out in the Act. These may be administered by the Council for small societies who have a principal office in the area and wish to run such a lottery
- 27.3 A lottery is small if the total value of tickets put on sale in a single lottery is £20,000 or less and the aggregate value of the tickets put on sale in a calendar year is £250,000 or less
- 27.4 To be 'non-commercial', a society must be established and conducted:
- For charitable purposes
  - For the purpose of enabling participation in, or supporting, sport, athletics or a cultural activity; or
  - For any other non-commercial purpose other than that of private gain.
- 27.5 The other types of exempt lotteries are 'incidental non-commercial lotteries', 'private lotteries' and 'customer lotteries'
- 27.6 The National Lottery is not licensed by the Gambling Act 2005 and continues to be regulated by the National Lottery Commission under the National Lottery Act 1993.

## **PART E – ENFORCEMENT**

### **28. Enforcement Principles**

28.1 The Council will work closely with the responsible authorities in accordance with a locally established joint enforcement protocol and will aim to promote the licensing objectives by targeting known high risk premises following Government guidance around better regulation

28.2 In carrying out its enforcement duties with regard to the inspection of premises and the powers to institute criminal proceedings in respect of certain offences under the Act, the Council will try to be:

**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

**Targeted:**

Regulation should be focused on the problem and minimise side effects

28.3 The Council will endeavour to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes as far as possible

28.4 The Council will also adopt a risk-based inspection programme in line with Government recommendations around better regulation and the principles of the Hampton Review

28.5 The main enforcement and compliance role for the Council in terms of the Gambling Act 2005 will be to ensure compliance with the premises licences and other permissions which it authorises. The Gambling Commission will be the enforcement body for the operator and personal licences. Concerns about the manufacture, supply or repair of gaming machines will not be dealt with by the Council but will be notified to the Gambling Commission. In circumstances where the Council believes a premises requires a premises licence for gambling activities and no such licence is in force, the Council will notify the Gambling Commission

28.6 The Council will also keep itself informed of developments regarding the work of the Better Regulation Executive in its consideration of the regulatory functions of local authorities

28.7 The Council's enforcement/compliance protocols/written agreements will be available upon request

## **29. Reviews**

29.1 A review is a process defined in the legislation which ultimately leads to a licence being reassessed by the Licensing Committee with the possibility that the licence may be revoked or suspended or that conditions may be amended or new conditions added

29.2 Requests for a review of a premises licence can be made by interested parties or responsible authorities. However, it is for the Council to decide whether the review is to be carried out. This will be on the basis of whether the request for the review 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; and
- In accordance with this Authority's Statement of Gambling Policy.

In addition the Council may also reject the application on the grounds that the request is frivolous, vexatious, will not cause the Authority to wish to alter, revoke or suspend the licence, or is substantially the same as previous representations or requests for review

29.3 The Council can also initiate a review of a licence on the basis of any reason which it thinks appropriate.

## APPENDIX 1 – GAMING MACHINES

This Appendix describes the categories of gaming machine as set out in the Act (and in the Regulations) and the number of such machines that may be permitted in each type of gambling premises.

Table 1 below sets out the current proposals for the different categories with the maximum stakes and prizes that will apply. This table will be updated as soon as the proposals are confirmed.

Table 2 shows the maximum number of machines permitted and in the case of casinos the ratios between tables and machines.

**TABLE 1**

Category of Machine	Maximum Stake	Maximum Prize
A	Unlimited	Unlimited
B1	£2	£4,000
B2	£100	£500
B3	£1	£500
B4	£1	£250
C	50p	£25
D	10p or 30p when non-monetary prize	£5 cash or £8 non-monetary prize



**TABLE 2**

Premises type	Machine Category						
	A	B1	B2	B3	B4	C	D
Regional casino (machine/table ratio of 25-1 up to maximum)	Maximum of 150 machines Any combination of machines in categories B to D, within the total limit of 150 (subject to table ratio)						
Large casino (machine/table ratio of 2-1 up to maximum)		Maximum of 150 machines Any combination of machines in categories B to D, within the total limit of 150 (subject to table ratio)					
Small casino (machine/table ratio of 2-1 up to maximum)		Maximum of 80 machines Any combination of machines in categories B to D, within the total limit of 80 (subject to table ratio)					
Pre-2005 Act casinos (no machine/table ratio)		Maximum of 20 machines, categories B to D or C or D machines instead					
Betting premises and tracks operated by pool betting			Maximum of 4 machines, categories B2 to D				
Bingo premises				Maximum of 4 machines in category B3 of B4		No limit C or D machines	
Adult gaming centre				Maximum of 4 machines in category B3 of B4		No limit C or D machines	
Family entertainment centre (with premises licence)						No limit C or D machines	
Family entertainment centre (with permit)							No limit on category D machines
Clubs or miners' welfare institutes with permits					Maximum of 3 machines in categories B4 to D		
Qualifying alcohol licensed premises						1 or 2 machines of category C or D automatic upon notification	
Qualifying alcohol licences premises with gaming machine permit						Number as specified on permit	
Travelling fair							No limit on category D machines
	A	B1	B2	B3	B4	C	D

This page is intentionally left blank

# DRAFT STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY – CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

## Section 1

### Q.1

**Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime.**

The Gambling Commission will take the lead role in keeping gambling crime-free. Our draft Policy outlines how the Council will try and promote this area with regard to the actual premises. The policy states we will assess each application on its merits with specific regard to the location of the premises and the scale of the proposed activities. It states that the Council will establish a local enforcement protocol with Staffordshire Police and work closely with them to ensure high risk premises or premises within areas of considerable crime or disorder are targeted for suitable licence conditions such as door supervision. The Council will not issue any premises licences to businesses that have not already acquired the necessary personal and operators' licences from the Gambling Commission.

Do you feel the Policy does enough to promote this area?                      YES                      NO

If no, what changes do you think we should consider?

---

---

---

### Q.2

**Ensuring gambling is conducted in a fair and open way**

The Gambling Commission suggests that local authorities should not become concerned with ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way. The Policy does however contain an undertaking to communicate any concerns about fairness and openness to the Gambling Commission, for example if the Council became aware that signage about game rules is absent at a particular premises.

Do you feel the Policy does enough to promote this area?                      YES                      NO

If no, what changes do you think we should consider?

---

---

---

**Q.3**

**Protecting Children and the Vulnerable from Harm**

The Council's draft Policy states how it will protect children and vulnerable people from being harmed or exploited by gambling. In terms of children we will do this by considering attaching conditions to premises licences such as proof of age schemes, CCTV, door supervisors, supervision of entrances/machine areas, physical separation of areas, notices/signage etc. The Council also states that it will pay particular attention to those premises that provide automated betting machines and consider special conditions relating to the number of such machines and their position on the premises.

Do you feel the Policy does enough to promote this area?                      YES                      NO

If no, what changes do you think we should consider?

---

---

---

**Q.4**

The draft Policy includes information about the different categories of gaming machine which will operate under the Act in terms of the maximum stake and maximum prize. The Policy indicates that the Council will expect operators to carefully consider how their choice of machines will impact upon the protection of children and vulnerable persons licensing objective and that it may seek to impose special conditions on any premises licence where higher stake machines are offered. Particular attention will be paid to premises such as bingo halls and Licensed Family Entertainment Centres where children are permitted to play low stake category D gaming machines but are not allowed to enter the area where higher stake category C machines are placed.

Do you feel the Policy is too restrictive?                      YES                      NO

Do you feel the Policy is about right?                      YES                      NO

Do you feel the Policy is not restrictive enough?                      YES                      NO

What changes do you think we should consider?

---

---

---

**Q.5**

The draft Policy includes a special approach to location issues aimed at addressing the protection of children and vulnerable persons. The Policy states that upon receipt of any relevant representations about a premises licence application the Council will investigate issues such as:

- The proximity of the premises to schools and vulnerable adult centres

- The proximity of the premises to residential areas where there may be a high concentration of families with children
- The size of the premises and the nature of the activities taking place.

The Policy goes on to state that such information may be used to inform the decision the Council makes about whether to grant the licence, to grant the licence with special conditions or to refuse the application.

Do you feel this approach is needed? YES NO

What changes do you think we should consider?

---



---



---

**Q.6**

The draft Policy does not include a definition of a vulnerable person but does state

***‘That for regulatory assume that this group includes people who gamble more than they want to; people who gamble beyond their means; and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to mental health needs, learning disability or substance misuse relating to alcohol or drugs’***

The Policy states that the Council will promote this objective by posting information on the Council website about the support services available for problem gamblers and will undertake checks on gambling premises to ensure any necessary information regarding responsible gambling is on display.

Do you feel this approach is too restrictive? YES NO

Do you feel this approach is about right? YES NO

Do you feel this approach is not restrictive enough? YES NO

What changes do you think we should consider?

---



---



---

**Q.7**

Are there any other categories of persons who you feel the Council should mention in the Policy who fall under the category of vulnerable?

Who else do you think we should consider? \_\_\_\_\_

---

## **SECTION 2**

Please add any other comments you wish to make on the draft Policy or the new Gambling Act

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### **ABOUT YOU:**

**Where did you see a copy of the draft Policy?**

**Civic Offices** \_\_\_\_\_ **The Internet** \_\_\_\_\_

**Library** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other (please state)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate if you are responding as:**

**Member of the public** \_\_\_\_\_ **Community Group representative** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gambling business** \_\_\_\_\_ **Other business owner** \_\_\_\_\_

**Trade Association** \_\_\_\_\_ **Town/Parish Councillor** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other (please state)** \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Please return to:**

**Julia Cleary, Licensing Section,  
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council,  
Civic Offices,  
Merrial Street,  
Newcastle, Staffs, ST5 2AG**

**Or by email to [licensing@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk)**

## LIST OF CONSULTEES FOR THE GAMBLING POLICY 2009

- Staffordshire Police
- Staffordshire County Council
- Representatives of local businesses (including the North Staffordshire Chamber of Trade and the Newcastle Chamber of Trade)
- Local residents and their representatives
- Town and Parish Councils in the Borough
- Local Members of Parliament
- National bodies representing the gambling trade
- National charities concerned with the social impact of gambling
- Representatives of existing licence holders
- Renew and North Staffs Regeneration Zone
- Newcastle Community Safety Partnership
- Keele University
- Local financial/debt management agencies
- Staffordshire County Council Trading Standards
- Staffordshire Social Services
- Aspire Housing
- North Staffs Race Equality Council
- Newcastle PCT
- Community Council of Staffordshire
- Newcastle LSP
- Staffordshire Parish Councils Association
- Newcastle Community Safety Partnership
- Newcastle Library
- Newcastle Citizens Advice Bureau
- Newcastle Community and Voluntary Support
- Staffordshire Probation Service
- Bar Entertainment and Dancing Association
- The British Beer and Pub Association

The Notice of Consultation and copies of the current Gambling Policy were also made available at the Civic Offices, The Guildhall, local libraries and on the Council's internet.

This page is intentionally left blank





## **NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **GAMBLING ACT 2005**

### **CONSULTATION**

Under the terms of the Gambling Act 2005 the Council's statement of Gambling Policy has to be reviewed every three years. The current Policy was adopted by the Council in December 2009 and a revised statement must therefore be published by December 2012.

If you would like to comment on the Council's Gambling Policy copies are available here and at the Civic Offices, Merrial Street, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffs, ST5 2AG.

A copy of the Policy is also available on our website:  
[www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](http://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk)

Any comments must be received by 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at the very latest. The Council will consider all representations received at its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012

The address to return any correspondence to is:

Licensing Office  
Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council  
Civic Offices  
Merrial Street  
Newcastle  
ST5 2AG

Or email any responses to [licensing@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank



## **NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **GAMBLING ACT 2005**

### **CONSULTATION**

Under the terms of the Gambling Act 2005 the Council's statement of Gambling Policy has to be reviewed every three years. The current Policy was adopted by the Council in December 2009 and a revised statement must therefore be published by December 2012.

If you would like to comment on the Council's Gambling Policy copies are available here and at the following libraries:

Newcastle Library, the Iron Market, Newcastle  
Silverdale Library, High Street, Silverdale  
Talke Library, Chester Road, Kidsgrove  
Kidsgrove Library, Meadows Road, Kidsgrove  
Clayton Library, Dartmouth Avenue, Clayton  
Audley Library, Hall Street, Audley

A copy of the Policy is also available on our website:  
[www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](http://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk)

Any comments must be received by 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at the very latest. The Council will consider all representations received at its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

The address to return any correspondence to is:

Licensing Office  
Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council  
Civic Offices  
Merrial Street  
Newcastle  
ST5 2AG

This page is intentionally left blank

When calling or telephoning please ask for: Julia Cleary

Direct Line or ext: 01782 742227

My ref: Revisedgambling

21 September 2012

The Chief Librarian

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Gambling Act 2005 – Revised Statement of Gambling Policy**

The Council is currently consulting all its key partners on its current Statement of Gambling Policy which I have enclosed. I would be grateful if you could arrange for this to be available for people to look at. Also enclosed is a notice informing members of the public of the consultation and I would be grateful if you could please display this in the library.

If required, copies of the current policy are available free of charge from the Main Reception at the Civic Offices or the document can be accessed via the Council's website at [www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](http://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk).

Observations on the draft Licensing Policy are required by the **15<sup>th</sup> November 2012**, and can be made either by completing the enclosed questionnaire or by emailing the Licensing Office at [licensing@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk).

I would like to thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Julia Cleary  
Democratic Services Manager

This page is intentionally left blank

When calling or telephoning please ask for: Julia Cleary

Direct Line or ext: 01782 742227

My ref: Revisedgambling

21 September 2012

Dear Councillor,

**Re: Gambling Act 2005 – Revised Statement of Gambling Policy**

Following the adoption of the Gambling Act 2005, the Borough Council became the Licensing Authority for Newcastle under Lyme which requires it to licence premises for gambling activities as well as granting various other gambling permits. In December 2009 the Council approved a revised Statement of Gambling Policy.

Under section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 the Council has a statutory duty to review its Gambling statement every three years and I would therefore request your views on the existing Policy.

**I would be grateful if you could respond to this consultation by 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 by completing the attached questionnaire and returning it in the envelope provided or emailing the Licensing Department at [licensing@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk).**

The Council will consider all representations received at its meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012 when the revised Statement of Gambling Policy will be finally approved.

Yours sincerely,

Democratic Services Manager

This page is intentionally left blank



**BRIEFING NOTE: The Live Music Act 2012**

- The Live Music Act passed into law on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2012. It is due to take effect from 1 October 2012.
- The Act disapplies live music related conditions if the following criteria are satisfied:
  - There is a premises licence or club premises certificate in place permitting “on sales”;
  - The premises are open for the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises;
  - Live music is taking place between 8am and 11pm;
  - If the live music is amplified, the audience consists of no more than 200 people.
- Live amplified music also ceases to be classed as regulated entertainment if the above criteria are satisfied.
- The Act also creates a general exemption that live unamplified music provided anywhere shall not be regarded as the provision of regulated entertainment if it takes place between 8am and 11pm, regardless of the number of people in the audience.
- There are a number of mechanisms for the protection of residents and these are:
  - Upon a review of the premises licence the Licensing Authority can determine that conditions on the premises licence relating to live music will apply even between 8am and 11pm;
  - If the licence doesn't presently authorise live music the Licensing Authority can add conditions to the Premises Licence as though the live music were regulated entertainment authorised by that licence, again to apply between 8am and 11pm.
  - The Licensing Authority can determine that live music at the premises is a licensable activity and live music can no longer be provided without permission on the Premises Licence or a Temporary Event Notice.
  - Other noise legislation, for example in the Environmental Protection Act 1990, will continue to apply. The Live Music Act does not allow licensed premises to cause a noise nuisance.
- The Act removes the need to licence entertainment facilities completely – regardless of time or audience size. This means that dance floors, microphone stands, pianos made available for use by the public etc. will not be licensable once the Act comes into effect. Health & safety law will of course continue to apply.

This page is intentionally left blank