

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO LICENSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2024
 title: GAMBLING ACT 2005 – REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES –
 OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION
 submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
 principal author: STEPHEN BARKER, SOLICITOR

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To consider and approve the Council's Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005 for 2025-2028.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives }
- Corporate Priorities }
- Other Considerations }

The Council seeks to be a well-managed Council. Reviewing policies which guide the Council when making decisions contributes to this objective.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Gambling Act 2005 (the "**Act**") gave the Council responsibility for licensing a variety of types of premises, for example betting offices and arcades. There are very few premises in the Council's area, which hold such licences. However, many premises licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 also hold permits under the Act for gaming machines.

2.2 The Act requires Councils to have a statement of principles, to publish it every three years and to review it from time to time. The Council's revised statement is required to be in place by January 2025.

2.3 On 3 September 2024, the Council's Licensing Committee reviewed the Council's Statement of Principles on Gambling ("**Statement**") as required by the Act. The Statement was approved by Committee to form the basis of a consultation exercise. That consultation ran from 9 September 2024 to 24 October 2024.

2.5 At the date of this report the Council has received one response from those consulted. The Lotteries Council have commented that most local authorities set out what their obligations are in relation to the registration of Small Society Lotteries, noting that although the draft statement acknowledges responsibility for doing so, the draft statement is otherwise silent on the issue. This is not an issue previously raised by the Lotteries Council, and a number of neighbouring authorities also restrict their reference to Small Society lotteries to a general acceptance of responsibility. However, to address the issue, the draft statement has been amended to include an explanation of the approach which will be taken on applications for registration of such lotteries in part C 7 of the draft statement at Appendix 1. If further responses are received before the consultation closes, they will be reported to Committee at the meeting.

3 ISSUES.

3.1 Taking into account the response received, Committee is asked to approve the Statement as set out in **Appendix 1** to this report and recommend its adoption to Full Council.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – N/A
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – It is a statutory requirement to review the policy.
- Political – No implications identified.
- Reputation – Reviewing the statement will enhance the Council's reputation as a well-managed Council.
- Equality & Diversity – No implications identified.

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COUNCIL**

5.1 Approve the Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005 for 2025-2028 and recommend its adoption to Full Council.

STEPHEN BARKER

SOLICITOR

MARSHAL SCOTT

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Report to Licensing Committee 3 September 2024

For further information please ask for Stephen Barker, extension 3216