

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 15 DECEMBER 2015
 title: APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY – GAMBLING 2016-2019
 submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
 principal author: MAIR HILL, SOLICITOR

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To consider and approve the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy – Gambling 2016-2019.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives } The Council seeks to be a well-managed Council.
- Corporate Priorities } Reviewing polices which guide the Council when
- Other Considerations } 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 gambling 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 2016.

2.3 On 15 September 2015, the Council's Licensing Committee reviewed the Council's Statement of Principles on Gambling as required by the Gambling Act 2005. A copy of the policy is enclosed as **Appendix 1**.

2.4 The statement was approved by Committee to form the basis of a consultation exercise. The Act and best practice guidance require that a 12 week consultation take place. The consultation concluded on 9 December 2015.

2.5 At the date of this report the Council had received one response from those consulted. A copy of that response is enclosed as **Appendix 2**. If any further responses are received before the consultation closes they will be reported to Council at the meeting.

3 ISSUES

3.1 Three issues are raised in on page 5 the response contained at Appendix 2. The Council considers that these are an interpretation of the policy and are simply a restatement of the statutory position which would be taken into account by any Officer or Sub-committee considering a matter. It is not proposed therefore to amend the policy.

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 Licensing Policy Gambling 2016-2019.

MAIR HILL
SOLICITOR

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Report to Licensing Committee 15 September 2015

REF: MJH/FullCouncil/15 December 2015

For further information please ask for Mair Hill, extension 3216