

Briefing Report

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Under the Gambling Act 2005, it is the responsibility of the Council to develop and publish a Statement of Principles. The published document then provides the framework for all decisions on applications relating to the Gambling Act 2005 and the way the Council carries out its functions in relation to the legislation.
- 1.2 Licensing authorities are also required to review their Statement of Principles (Gambling Policy) at least every three years. With the current Statement of Principles due to expire on the 31 January 2019, the Council needs to start the review/consultation process to enable a new Statement of Principles to be in place by January 2022.
- 1.3 There are only minor changes suggested for this review. The draft Statement of Principles (2022 – 2025) is attached in Appendix A. The same document with tracked changes is attached in Appendix B, so that the revised changes can be easily identified during the consultation.
- 1.4 The main changes are as follows:

Minor Updates

The Policy was updated in detail in 2019 and therefore only minor changes are required.

Minor updates have been made to:

- update any out of date website links/contact details for example to the Gambling Commission guidance notes and responsible authority contacts.
- include references to the specific parts of the Gambling Commission guidance and code of practices.
- include more detail with regards to how the Licensing Authority will deal with applications in buildings which are divided into more than one premises and what is expected of applicants (see page 15 – 18).

Local Risk Assessments and Local Area Gambling Profile

Since the last Statement of Principles came into effect on 31 January 2019, the Council have published the following guidance on their websites and these have been referred to within the draft document:

- **Guide to undertaking local gambling risk assessments (April 2020)** – this guide has been produced to assist gambling operators when undertaking and preparing their local premises risk assessments.
- **Local Area Gambling Profiles (April 2020)**

The local area profile has been produced with our Public Health colleagues and is an assessment of the key characteristics of Plymouth in the context of gambling related harm. The information obtained for the assessment helps to provide a better understanding of the types of people that are at risk of being vulnerable to gambling related harm, where they are located and any current or emerging problems that

may increase that risk. The profiles can be used by gambling operators to assess local risks to the licensing objectives, posed by the provision of gambling facilities at each of their premises and to have policies, procedures and control measures in place to mitigate the risks. The profiles will also assist gambling operators in undertaking and preparing their local premises risk assessment.

1.5 It is intended that the public consultation on the policy will be open for six weeks. It is planned that the consultation process will provide all stakeholders, interested parties and the public in general the opportunity to have their say on the content of the draft.

Persons to be consulted will include:

- Citizen's Advice Bureau
- Safer Plymouth
- Devon and Cornwall and Somerset Constabulary
- Plymouth City Council Adult Social Care
- Plymouth City Council Children's Social Care
- Plymouth City Council Planning Services
- Office of Director of Public Health
- Plymouth City Council Environmental Health Service
- Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
- Gamblers Anonymous
- Gambling Commission
- Gamcare
- Local Chambers of Commerce and Federation of Small businesses
- Representatives of local faith groups
- Local residents groups
- Mencap
- NSPCC
- Representatives of existing licence-holders
- Voluntary and Community Organisations working with children and young people
- Ward Councillors
- Team Plymouth Managers

1.6 The final version of the draft Statement of Principles will then go before City Council for approval on the 22 November 2021
