

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council

25th November 2015

Report of the Head of Legal Services – David Michael

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Gambling Act 2005 - Draft Statement of Principles 2016

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider adopting a revised Statement of Principles, following the end of the consultation period and to consider passing a new "No Casino" resolution.

Executive Summary

2. This report seeks to obtain approval from Council to adopt a revised Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles following the end of the consultation period.
3. Consultation was carried out with interested parties for 6 weeks between the 23rd September and the 4th November. No responses were received.
4. A revised Statement of Principles needs to be effective from the 31st January 2016.

5. The Council have previously passed a "No Casino" resolution, this resolution is due to expire and members are asked to consider passing a new resolution.

Background

6. The Council, as the Licensing Authority under the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 is required to adopt a Statement of Principles, setting out how it will deal with various applications for licences and permits.
7. The current Statement of Principles was approved by Council in December 2013. The Gambling Act 2005 requires that the Statement is reviewed at least every three years and it is necessary to have a new Statement of Principles in effect by the 31st January 2016.
8. The draft Statement of Principles 2016 was amended to take account of revised guidance issued by the Gambling Commission and the introduction of new codes of practice.

Consultation

9. At the Council meeting of the 2nd September 2015, members determined to issue the draft Statement of Principles 2016 for consultation.
10. Consultation was carried out with interested parties for 6 weeks between the 23rd September and the 4th November 2015. A full list of consultees is shown at appendix 2 of the final document, which attached at appendix 1 of this report.
11. There were no responses received in respect of the consultation.
12. A minor alteration has been made to paragraph 6.2 of the draft Statement of Principles in relation to contact details for the responsible authorities. The reference to contact details being available at appendix 3 has been removed and details will only be available on the Licensing Authority's website. This will enable officers to keep the contact details up to date without having to bring an amendment to Council for approval.
13. As a consequence of this change, appendix 3 has also been removed and references to other appendices updated.

No Casino Resolution

14. Council has previously passed a "No Casino" resolution, this resolution will expire on the 31st January 2016 and a new resolution is needed if members decide that there should be no casinos permitted in Neath Port Talbot.

Equality Impact Assessment

15. A Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment it has been determined that this Statement of Principles does not require an Equality Impact Assessment.

Legal Impacts

16. Not applicable

Risk Management

17. Not Applicable

Consultation

18. Consultation was carried out for 6 weeks between 23rd September and 4th November 2015.

Recommendation

19. That the draft Statement of Principles 2016 be adopted as submitted
20. That members agree to pass a new "No Casino" resolution.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

21. To enable a revised Statement of Principles to be effective by the 31st January 2016 to comply with legal requirements

Implementation of Decision

22. The decision is for immediate implementation

Appendices

23. Appendix 1 - Draft Statement of Principles 2016

List of Background Papers

24. Gambling Commission Guidance to Local Authorities September 2015

Officer Contact

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