

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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COMMITTEE	ABERDEEN CITY LICENSING BOARD
DATE	23 JUNE 2015
DIRECTOR	ANGELA SCOTT (CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE)
TITLE OF REPORT	GAMBLING POLICY STATEMENT
REPORT NUMBER	CG/15/87
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	N/A

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Members that the three year Statement of Policy in terms of Section 349(1) of the Gambling Act 2005 ('the Act') requires to be reviewed and revised.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

To note the contents of the report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 5.1 Section 349 (1) of the Act requires all licensing authorities to prepare and publish every three years a statement of the principles that they propose to apply in exercising their function under the Act during the three year period to which the policy applies.

The Licensing Authority Statement of Policy will last for a maximum of three years, but can be reviewed at any time. The Board's current policy runs from January 2013 to January 2016. Members are invited

to view the policy on the Board's website at [aberdeencity.gov.uk/law\\_licensing/licences/licensing/lic\\_gamblingact.asp](http://aberdeencity.gov.uk/law_licensing/licences/licensing/lic_gamblingact.asp)

The Policy requires to be reviewed, revised and published by 3 January 2016. Officers have carried out a review of the existing Policy and a draft Statement of Policy for 2016-2019 is attached ("appendix 1").

5.2 Section 349 (3) of the Act requires the licensing authority to consult with the following on the Statement of Policy or any subsequent revision:

- Chief Constable
- 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 function under this Act.

The Gambling Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities 4th Edition suggests that licensing authorities may wish to consider consulting 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 trusts, and advocacy organisations, other tiers of local government, holders of gambling premises licences and responsible authorities named in the Act.

Officers will conduct a written consultation allowing 12 weeks for responses to the draft Statement of Policy 2016-2019. The results of the consultation will thereafter be reported back to the Board for its consideration.

## 6. IMPACT

An Equality Impact Assessment will be carried out.

## 7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The Policy Statement will address the management of risk in respect of the regulation of gambling and problem gambling in Aberdeen, specifically through the requirement on holders of premises licences to provide to the Licensing Board risk assessments. The Board may also carry out a Local Area profile of gambling and problem gambling to identify risk. It is advised that such an exercise would be unnecessary at this stage however the Board could decide to undertake a Local Area profile at a later date if issues were to arise. In the meantime

consultation with the various organisations noted in this report should highlight any concerns regarding gambling in Aberdeen.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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