

COUNCIL

DATE OF MEETING: 8 JUNE 2022

REPORT BY: COUNCILLOR EARLE (CHAIRMAN OF THE REGULATORY BOARD)

At its meeting on 8 June 2022 the Regulatory Board considered a report of the Head of Environmental Health bringing the draft statement of Principles, together with the consultation responses, to this Board for approval for recommendation so that it can be adopted at Council. The statutory consultation exercise in respect of this Statement has been completed.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

- i) Considers the draft document and incorporates any amendments as necessary; and**
- ii) Recommends to Council the final draft Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles for adoption by Council.**

PART I MINUTES - MEETING HELD 8 JUNE 2022

GAMBLING – REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Consideration was given to a report of Head of Environmental Health. The Council required to review its Gambling Statement of Principles every three years, the current three-year period ended in February 2022. The purpose of the report is to bring the draft statement of Principles, together with the consultation responses, to the Board for approval for recommendation so that it can be adopted at Council. The statutory consultation exercise in respect of this Statement has been completed.

The Board was advised that it was a document introduced in 2005 that had to be reviewed every 3 years. The Board was advised that there were few changes and that there were seldom any issues with premises licensed for gambling within the Borough.

The statement of principles needed to be considered every 5 years and that there were currently 6 gambling premises, 3 adult shops and a family entertainment venue. The policy had been written by two barristers in 2005 and was well suited for its purpose, the only amendments had been to make some elements of it simplified.

The Board was advised that there was a small amendment to remove the word Fareham and replace it with Gosport.

It was clarified that consultations were advertised on the Council's consultation page and that premises permit holders were contacted directly with the proposed policy for comment.

Members recognised that there was no great amendments to be made as the Policy had served its purpose well.

The Board was advised that gambling machines had been removed from take away establishments as part of a change in the Gambling Act and that when take away premises were inspected checks were made to insure that none were present.

The Board were advised that if there was doubt as to the classification of the gambling machine in situ in a venue, the Gambling Commission were very quick to offer support and guidance.

RESOLVED: That the Board:

- i) Considers the draft document and incorporates any amendments as necessary; and**
- ii) Recommends to Council the final draft Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles for adoption by Council.**