



**Licensing and
Regulatory Committee**

**Thursday, 10 March
2022**

**Matter for
Information and
Decision**

Report Title: Statement of Gambling Policy (2022-2025)

Report Author(s): Jon Wells, Senior Strategic Development Manager

Purpose of Report:	To consider the draft Statement of Gambling Policy 2022-2025 ("the Policy") so the final document can be considered at Full Council on 5 April 2022.
Report Summary:	The current Policy expires in 2022 and it is essential that this is refreshed and updated to ensure the effective ongoing regulation of gambling. An updated draft version is attached at Appendix A which is currently out to consultation and this gives a framework that applicants can use when formulating an application as well as giving an overview of how the Council will determine applications.
Recommendation(s):	A. That the Draft Statement of Gambling Policy 2022-2025 be approved and its adoption recommended to Full Council subject to any amendments arising from the consultation process; and B. That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Law and Democracy to consider any other amendments as may be necessary in consultation with the Chair of Licensing & Regulatory Committee.
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	David Gill (Head of Law & Democracy / Monitoring Officer) (0116) 257 2626 david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk Jon Wells (Senior Strategic Development Manager) (0116) 257 2692 jon.wells@oadby-wigston.gov.uk
Corporate Objectives:	Providing Excellent Services (CO3)
Vision and Values:	Accountability (V1) Customer Focus (V5)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 imposes a statutory requirement on the Council (as the Licensing Authority) to prepare and publish a 'Statement of Principles' (known as a Policy) once every three years. Following public consultation, any amendments to the Policy are required to be considered at this Committee and then approved by Full Council. Section 349(2) of the Gambling Act 2005 allows the Licensing Authority to review its Statement/Policy from time to time. The Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006 sets out the legal requirement and procedure for drafting and preparing the

	Statement/Policy and any revisions to this which must be considered and adhered to.
Financial:	There are no implications directly arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Regulatory Governance (CR6) Reputation Damage (CR4)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	Gambling Act 2005 applications and notifications are not assessed based on the characteristics of the applicant; they are issued in accordance with the law and depend on the application being correctly submitted.
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	As detailed in Appendix 2 of the draft Statement of Gambling Policy 2022-2025.
Background Papers:	None.
Appendices:	1. Draft Statement of Gambling Policy 2022-2025

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Under section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 (the Act), Licensing Authorities are required to prepare and publish a policy which they intend to apply when exercising their functions under the Act.

2. Policy review

- 2.1 The Act requires the Council to review such policies every three years. The current policy has been reviewed and updated and a draft is provided at Appendix A.
- 2.2 There has been very little in the way of major reviews of the legislation since the start of the current policy and consequently the draft policy is fundamentally unchanged. The main changes are therefore focussed on local information and the local area profile of gambling premises.
- 2.3 The Act requires that the proposed Policy is subject to wide consultation. Consultation therefore commenced on 28 February 2022 for four weeks, ending on 28 March 2022.
- 2.4 Should any representations be made after the consultation is closed, it is proposed they are resolved by delegated authority.
- 2.5 The final draft of the Policy will be taken to Council on 5 April 2022 for approval. Once approved it must be published four weeks prior to coming into force.

