



Full Council	Tuesday, 05 April 2022	Matter for Information and Decision
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Report Title: **Statement of Gambling Policy (2022-2025)**

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

Purpose of Report:	To consider the final version of the proposed Statement of Gambling Policy (the Policy) 2022-2025, approve and adopt its contents and agree implementation from 9 May 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 version attached at Appendix 1 has been consulted on 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):	That the final proposed Statement of Gambling Policy 2022-2025 (as set out at Appendix 1) be approved and adopted for commencement on 9 May 2022.
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	David Gill (Head of Law and 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 and the final policy 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 1 of the Statement of Gambling Policy 2022-2025
Background Papers:	None.
Appendices:	1. 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.
- 1.2 Section 349 of the Act requires Licensing Authorities to review their statement every three years, and this is now due.

2. Policy Review

- 2.1 The current statement has been reviewed and arising from that a final proposed document has been produced.
- 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 proposed policy is fundamentally unchanged. The changes made are therefore those focussed on local information and the local area profile of gambling premises.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 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 to those detailed in Appendix 2 of the Policy. The draft policy was also considered and approved by the Licensing and Regulatory Committee on 10 March 2022. The final proposed document is now attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 No representations have been received during this process.

4. Approval Process

4.1 On approval, the Statement must be published by way of a public notice in a local newspaper and on the Council's website four weeks prior to it coming into force on 9 May 2022.