

## Report to Planning and Licensing Committee



Date of Meeting	4 November 2021
Portfolio	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Sustainability
Report Author	Nicola Rogers
Public Document	

## Gambling Licensing Policy Statement 2022-2025

### Executive Summary

- 1.1 To enable the Council to meet its statutory obligations to adopt and publish a Gambling Licensing Policy, in accordance with Section 349 of the Gambling Act.
- 1.2 To report on the results of consultation on the Council's draft Gambling Licensing Policy Statement and seek agreement from Members on amendments where necessary and to recommend adoption of the Gambling Licensing Policy to full Council.

### Recommendation

2. Planning and Licensing Committee are recommended to;
  - 2.1 Note the response and comments received from the consultation process;
  - 2.2 Agree the proposed amendments to the draft policy in response to the consultation feedback; and
  - 2.3 Recommend that the revised Gambling Licensing Policy Statement 2022-2025 be approved by Cabinet on 23 November 2021 for adoption by full Council on 15 December 2021.

### Reason for Recommendation

3. Councils have a statutory duty to prepare and publish a statement of principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Gambling Act 2005. This is valid for a three year period and therefore the Council is required to review its policy statement every three years to meet its statutory requirements and adopt and publish a Gambling Licensing Policy Statement. The first statement was effective from 31 January 2007, with the current policy statement running until 31 January 2022.

### Key Points for Consideration

- 4.1. The existing statement of Gambling Licensing Policy has been reviewed and updated. This year, the ten Greater Manchester Licensing Authorities have agreed to take a common approach to refreshing their Gambling Licensing policies and so the draft policy reflects the principles to be adopted across the region.
- 4.2 In order to comply with statutory requirements, the Council has consulted with the Responsible Authorities under the Act, national bodies, representatives of licensees, residents and with representatives of businesses. A list of consultees forms part of the draft Gambling Licensing Policy.
- 4.3 The 8 week consultation period ran from 19 July 2021 and concluded on 10 September 2021.
- 4.4 1 consultation response was received, the contents of which have been carefully considered.
- 4.5 The amended draft Gambling Licensing Policy Statement is detailed in Appendix 1.
- 4.6 The detail of the consultation comments and the responses to the various points raised are detailed in Appendix 2.

### Alternatives Considered

- 4.7 None, the Gambling Act 2005 places a statutory duty on local authorities to prepare and publish a Gambling Licensing Policy Statement. The Council would be in breach of its statutory duty if it was to take any other action.

### Costs and Budget Summary

5. There are no financial implications.

### Risk and Policy Implications

- 6.1 The statement of Gambling Licensing Policy sets out the approach that will be taken when dealing with permissions it grants and enforces thereafter.
- 6.2 The Policy also identifies how the Authority seeks to promote the three licensing objectives under the Act, namely:-
- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime and disorder or being used to support crime.
  - Ensuring gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.
  - Protecting children and other vulnerable people from being harmed or being exploited by gambling.
- 6.3 There are no legal implications other than the statutory duty already identified in the report.
- 6.4 There are no personnel implications.

### Consultation

7. As detailed above in paragraphs 4.2 to 4.6 and Appendix 2.

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
8. None	N/A

<b>For Further Information Contact:</b>	Nicola Rogers, Tel: 01706 924124, nicola.rogers@rochdale.gov.uk
---	--