

REPORT TO: Regulatory Committee
DATE: 16 September 2015
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Policy & Resources
PORTFOLIO: Resources
SUBJECT: Gambling Act 2005 - Statement of Gambling Policy
WARDS: Boroughwide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To approve a draft Statement of Gambling Policy for recommendation to the Council for adoption.

2. RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) Having undertaken a consultation exercise the draft Statement of Gambling Policy approved by the Committee be recommended to full Council for adoption.**
- (2) An appropriate form of wording for the Council resolution would be: "The Council:**
 - (1) adopts the Statement of Gambling Policy attached to the report to come into effect immediately following the expiry of the current Policy; and**
 - (2) directs that the Operational Director-Legal and Democratic Services publishes the Statement in accordance with section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 and the Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006."**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 At its meeting held on 17 June 2015 the Committee considered a report on the Statement of Gambling Policy which must be adopted by the Council to replace the current policy which will expire in January 2016. The current Statement of Gambling Policy is due to expire at midnight on 30th January 2016 and the new Statement of Gambling Policy must be in place on 31st January 2016. Full details are set out at Minute REG 17 and agenda item 5 to the meeting.
- 3.2 The Committee authorised the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services (OD-LD) to undertake a consultation exercise in respect of the Council's Statement of Gambling Policy in accordance with section 349 Gambling Act 2005.
- 3.3 The consultation exercise was completed at the end of July 2015. No responses were received to the consultation exercise which indicates that there was general satisfaction with the draft Statement.
- 3.4 The original consultation draft Statement is therefore attached as Appendix 1.
- 3.5 The appropriate Council meeting to consider this matter will be held on 14th October 2015.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Once it comes into effect, the Statement of Gambling Policy will be used in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no other implications arising out of this report.

6 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCILS PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Council's Statement of Gambling Policy operates under a separate statutory code but since it involves licensable activities it is designed to contribute to licensing objective of the protection of children from harm.

6.2 Employment Learning and Skills in Halton

N/A

6.3 A Healthy Halton

N/A

6.4 A Safer Halton

N/A

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

N/A

7 RISK ANALYSIS

N/A

8 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

N/A

9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

This report is based on the Gambling Act 2005. See also the Council's existing Statement of Gambling Policy.