

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 17 October 2018

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Enterprise, Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Gambling Policy

WARDS: Boroughwide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To adopt the Statement of Gambling Policy.

2. RECOMMENDED: That the Council:

(1) **adopts the Statement of Gambling Policy attached to this 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 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 4 July 2018 the Regulatory 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 2019. The current Statement of Gambling Policy is due to expire at midnight on 30th January 2019 and the new Statement of Gambling Policy must be in place on 31st January 2019.
- 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 on 31 August 2018.
- 3.4 At its meeting on 3 October 2018 the Regulatory Committee received a report on the consultation exercise. Only one response was received to the consultation. That response was from the Gambling Commission. It was taken into account by the Regulatory Committee and resulted in a

change to the draft Statement in the section dealing with Bingo Premises consequent upon including the updated guidance from the Commission. The Committee resolved to recommend the draft Statement (as amended) for adoption by the Council. The amended draft statement is attached as Appendix 1.

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.

