

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 8 December 2021

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Enterprise, Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Corporate Services

SUBJECT: Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Gambling Policy

WARDS: Boroughwide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To adopt the Statement of Gambling Policy.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council:

- 1) adopt 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 of Gambling Policy 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 The Council's current Statement of Gambling Policy is due to expire on 30 January 2022. A new policy must therefore be in place on 31 January 2022.
- 3.2 At a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on 30 June 2021, a new Statement of Gambling Policy was considered, a copy of which is appended to this report, and the Committee authorised the Operational Director - Legal and Democratic Services (OD-LD) to undertake a consultation exercise in respect of its contents as required by section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005.
- 3.3 The consultation exercise was completed on 31 August 2021 and no responses were received.

3.4 At its meeting on 6 October 2021, the Regulatory Committee received a report on the consultation exercise and, as there were no responses, the Committee recommended the new Statement of Gambling Policy for adoption by the Council.

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 the 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.

