

REPORT TO: Council

DATE: 4 December 2024

REPORTING OFFICER: Director – Legal and Democratic Services

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Gambling Policy

WARD(S) Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To adopt the Statement of Gambling Policy

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That 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 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.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Council's current Statement of Gambling Policy is due to expire on 30 January 2025. A new policy must therefore be in place on 31 January 2025.

3.2 At a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on 3 July 2024, a new Statement of Gambling Policy was considered, a copy of which is appended to this report, and the Committee authorised the Director – Legal and Democratic Services 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 23 August 2024 and one response was received.

3.4 At its meeting on 9 October 2024, the Regulatory Committee received a report on the consultation exercise and, as there was only one comment received (by Gamcare) it has been addressed (by publishing details of Gamcare on the Council website), when the Committee recommended the new Statement of Gambling Policy for adoption by the Council.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

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

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 Improving Health, Promoting Wellbeing and Supporting Greater Independence

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 Building a Strong, Sustainable Local Economy

None

6.3 Supporting Children, Young People and Families

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.

6.4 Tackling Inequality and Helping Those Who Are Most In Need

NONE

6.5 Working Towards a Greener Future

NONE

6.6 Valuing and Appreciating Halton and Our Community

NONE

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 NONE

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 NONE

9.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 NONE

13.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

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