

# **REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE**

## **GAMBLING ACT 2005 STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

1. The Gambling Act 2005 received Royal Assent in April 2005. The Act creates a new system of licensing and regulation for commercial gambling. The Gambling Commission will be responsible for issuing operators and personal licenses and local authorities will issue premises licenses.
2. The Council a licensing Authority under the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 is required in accordance with section 349 of the act to formulate, consult and adopt a Gambling Statement of Licensing Policy which will guide the Council when considering applications under the act.
3. In producing the Statement the licensing Authority had regard to the licensing objectives set out in the Act, the April 2006 Gambling Commission guidance and responses from those consulted. The approval of the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy is a matter for Full Council.
4. The Gambling Act Statement of Licensing Policy must be approved and published by 3 January 2007.
5. Consultation on the draft Statement took place from the 24 July to 13 October 2006. The authority as the government recommended consulted with a wide list of persons including those parties outlined in section 349(3) of the Act.  
The draft policy has been reviewed in the light of the representations that were received in the consultation period. The representations received and proposed responses are set out in an appendix attached to this report. Council is asked to approve the attached Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy.
6. There are no direct HR implications associated with this report
7. The resources required to deal with the Gambling Act 2005 are in with provisions made within the draft estimates for 2007/08. This will generate additional income for the Council.

### **Recommendation**

The Council is recommended to:

- a) In accordance with section 349 of the Act, the 'Gambling Act Statement of Licensing Policy' is approved with respect to the

exercise of the Licensing Authorities Functions under the Gambling Act 2005.

- b) That the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services be authorised to publish the approved Statement of Licensing Policy prior to the statutory deadline of 3 January 2007.
- c) That in accordance with section 157(h) of the act designates Lancashire County Council Children and young persons division as being the body competent to advise the Authority about the protection of children from harm.

COUNCILLOR I SMITH  
Chairman of Statutory Licensing Committee