

**MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT 6:00PM, ON
TUESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2021
ENGINE SHED, SAND MARTIN HOUSE, BITTERN WAY, PETERBOROUGH**

Committee Members Present: Warren Chairman (Chair), Councillors Ayres, (Vice Chair) Allen, Sandra Bond, Hiller, Joseph, Murphy, Wiggin, Mahboob Hussain, Ishfaq Hussain

Officers Present: Gareth Brighton, Licensing and Business Manager
Terri Martin, Strategic Regulatory Officer - Licensing
Karen S Dunleavy, Democratic Services Officer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 August and 1 September 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record, subject to the amendment to 1 September 2021 minutes:

The Committee Members believed that no form of mediation that was appropriate, given the position adopted by all parties, to be amended as follows:

The Committee Members believed that there was no form of mediation that was appropriate, given the position adopted by all parties.

4. STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES – GAMBLING ACT 2005

The Licensing Committee received a report in relation to the Gambling Act 2005.

The purpose of the report was to make members aware of the amendments to the Statement of Principles following revision and consultation responses.

Members of the Committee were advised that the proposed policy put before them had been updated in line with the latest guidance, prior to undergoing a consultation, which ran from 6 August to 23 September 2021.

Members were asked to note that there were four responses to the consultation. These responses were fully considered, and the proposed policy had been updated in consideration of two of the responses received. Namely, HMRC postal contact details had been updated and, paragraph 18.7 of the policy had been modified to remove some outdated text.

In summary the proposed Statement of Principles contained minimal amendments. The Strategic Regulatory Officer - Licensing introduced the report and asked Committee Members to consider and approve the revised Statement of Principles as recommended that it was adopted by Council on 08 December 2021.

6:10pm At this point Councillor Allen arrived joined the meeting.

The Licensing Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Members were advised that the Local Area Profile (LAP) was guidance that had been recently introduced by the Government and used to highlight the risks to residents that may be more susceptible to gambling issues. It was further advised that a high risk could be where there was a gambling anonymous group in operation and in this example, it would not be appropriate place a gambling establishment in that location.
- 6:15pm. At this point Councillor Mahboob Hussain joined the meeting.
- All applicants and gambling licence holders were required to complete a Local Area Risk Assessment (LARA). If the premises was to be located near a school the applicant may need to implement a Security Industry Authority (SIA) licensed member of staff on the door to ensure that no school children entered.
- There had been no information to suggest that there had been any gambling issues in Peterborough. In addition, Peterborough had not adopted the LAP, however, there was a scoping exercise currently being undertaken.
- 6:20pm At this point Councillor Joseph joined the meeting.
- Members of the Committee were advised that a LAP if adopted, would be published online next to the Authority's Gambling policy and would list areas of risk such as schools or Doctors surgeries. Members were also advised that the LAP could be presented to the Licensing Committee if you they wished, however there was no obligation to do so.
- Although the Local Authority could not use the LAP to refuse a gambling license, they could attach some conditions to a premises if it was felt necessary.
- Members were advised that the use of the LAP could demonstrate that the LA were trying to tackle local issues that were as a result of gambling, however the LAP was only a guidance document currently and could not be used in the same way as the current Cumulative Impact policy. It was also felt that if implemented for use, the LAP could work in the same way and compliment the LA's current Cumulative Impact (CI) policy. The CI policy was used within specific areas in the City, such as The Triangle on Lincoln Road, where there had been a saturation of premises licenses and where social issues and anti-social behaviour issues were common.
- Members were advised that the saturation of gambling premises in specific areas in Peterborough were known to the LA, however when some LAs had attempted to tackle these issues they have had their decision to refuse a licence overturned. It was very difficult for the LA to refuse a gambling license unless officers could demonstrate that the gambling act objectives were being undermined.
- There had been no inclination that the LAP would be introduced as a document in which to control the placement of gambling establishments. There had been some changes introduced by the Government to control gambling issues such as the restriction of amounts being fed into slot machines from £100 to £2. Furthermore, Members were advised that the Government had mainly concentrated their efforts on tackling issues with online gambling sources.

- The gambling industry was heavily regulated by the LCCP (License Conditions and Codes of Practice). Therefore, all establishments would control emerging risks by following and implementing Government guidance prior to being regulated.
- 6:30pm At this point Ishfaq Hussain joined the meeting.
- Members felt that the policy renewal and the LAP had been very well explained and that they had no concerns about renewing the Statement on Principles Gambling Act 2005 policy.

The Licensing Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to **APPROVE** the revised post consultation Statement of Principles and recommended that it was adopted by Council on 08 December 2021.

AGREED ACTIONS

The Licensing Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to **APPROVE** the revised post consultation Statement of Principles and recommended that it was adopted by Council on 08 December 2021.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- I. To comply with our statutory requirement under section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005, to produce, consult, adopt and publish a Statement of Principles.
- II. To comply with our statutory requirement under section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005, to produce, consult, adopt and publish a Statement of Principles

CHAIRMAN
END 6:34pm