

**Wiltshire Council**

**Council**

**29 September 2015**

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**Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Gambling Principles**

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**Extract from Minutes of the Licensing Committee – 21 September 2015**

**Recommendation to Council**

Linda Holland (Public Protection Team Leader) presented a report which asked the Committee to note the consultation undertaken and subsequent proposed amendments made to the Council's draft Statement of Gambling Principles.

She highlighted the following:

- Three responses were received from the public consultation; one from a Responsible Authority (Children's Services, Wiltshire Council); one from a consultee (Coral Racing) and one from Power Leisure Bookmakers Limited;
- There has been very little increase in the number of gambling permits or licences issued by Wiltshire Council in the last three years. They are currently 421 gambling premises in Wiltshire, 36 of which are betting shops, 2 are bingo halls and 271 are pubs with gaming machines;
- To date Wiltshire Council has not been required to hold a hearing to consider a gambling premises application and there had only been one complaint in relation to a gambling premise in the last 5 years, and
- Proposals to amend the wording of the Statement in light of the comments were detailed in a table (attached as Appendix 4) for the Committee to consider; and
- Following the responses it was confirmed that each application would be considered on a case by case basis, and local risk assessments for premises are due to come into effect from April 2016. The Council would seek to add an appendix to its new Statement once the finalised guidelines are published but believe the Statement addresses most of the requirements within the new statement of Gambling Principles.

Councillor Peter Hutton, Portfolio Holder wished to express his thanks to the Officers for their work in preparing the statement and carrying out the consultation.

**Resolved:**

**That the Licensing Committee notes the amendments made to the Statement of Gambling Principles (as shown in red on the Statement attached as Appendix 5) and commends the final draft to Council for approval and adoption at its meeting on 29 September 2015.**