

Review of Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles 18.1.2016 – 17.1.2019

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION - SCHEDULE OF CHANGES

Section	Change
Foreword	Insert Councillor's name and their Foreword once Statement of
	Principles finalised
1 Introduction and	Change 'Guidance to Licensing Authorities (4th edition)' to
Consultation	'Guidance to Licensing Authorities (5th edition)'
	Date of the Full Council when the Final Statement of Principles is
	approved to be inserted once this has happened
2 Strategic	Replace 2.1 – 2.2 with
Context	·
	2.1 Gateshead Council's 5 year corporate plan agreed in March
	2018 includes the following pledges:
	 putting people and families at the heart of everything we do
	- tackling inequality so people have a fair chance
	- supporting our communities to support themselves and each
	other
	- investing in our economy to provide sustainable opportunities
	For employment, innovation and growth across the borough
	 working together and fighting for a better future for Gateshead
	2.2 Gateshead Strategic Partnership's vision for Gateshead as
	described in Vision 2030 is 'local people realising their full
	potential, enjoying the best quality of life in a healthy, equal,
	safe, prosperous and sustainable Gateshead'. This Statement
	of Principles plays an important role in realising this vision.
	Updated to reflect the Council's 5 year plan agreed in March 2018.
4 Local Context	Replace 4.1 - 4.5 with:
	Prevalence of Gambling and Gambling Harm in Gateshead
	4.1 No local data is currently available on the prevalence of
	gambling in Gateshead. However, there is national data.
	This suggests 63% of adults (aged 16+) had gambled in the
	previous year, or 45% if we exclude the National Lottery – this
	is equivalent to 75,400 people.
	The great majority of these will be non-problem or low-risk
	gamblers, but a small proportion will be at moderate risk or be
	problem gamblers. Nationally, it is estimated less than 1% of
	the population is a problem gambler, and this equates to just
	over 1000 people locally, most of whom (more than 90%) will
	be men.

Factors associated with problem gambling include:

- being male
- being from Black/Black British, Asian/Asian British or other non-White backgrounds
- having low mental wellbeing
- having ever had high blood pressure.
- 4.2 Gateshead Council acknowledges that problem gamblers are more likely than other people to experience the following harms:
 - financial harms: overdue utility bills; borrowing from family friends and loan sharks; debts; pawning or selling possessions; eviction or repossession; defaults; committing illegal acts ike fraud, theft, embezzlement to finance gambling; bankruptcy etc
 - family harms: preoccupied with gambling so normal family life becomes difficult; increased arguments over money and debts; emotional and physical abuse, neglect and violence towards spouse /partner and/or children; relationship problems and separation/divorce
 - health harms: low self esteem; stress-related disorders; anxious, worried or mood swings; poor sleep and appetite; substance misuse; depression, suicidal ideas and attempts; etc
 - school/college/work harms: poor school, college or work performance; increased absenteeism; expulsion dismissal
- 4.3 Gateshead Council is committed to developing an improved understanding of the prevalence of gambling and gambling harm in the borough so that applicants, licensees and Members of the Licensing Committee have access to the best information available. The outcome of research projects and best practice from across the UK will be considered as it becomes available and adopted as a means of gathering and presenting relevant data where appropriate.

Local Licensing Guidance

4.4 In addition to having an understanding of the prevalence of gambling and gambling harm in Gateshead, it is important for applicants and licensees to have an understanding of the different localities within the Borough, their different characters and challenges, both of which can change over time depending on a range of factors. From time to time the Council may therefore publish and update local licensing guidance documents on its website. The Council will draw on the expertise and knowledge of all those who can contribute to the development of this guidance.

- 4.5 This guidance will seek to include a wide range of information that is relevant to those who seek to and currently carry on licensable activities within an area, for instance
 - the physical environment (including the proximity of sensitive premises)
 - existing licensed premises
 - relevant health data
 - crime and/or disorder hotspots
 - known areas of congregation
 - local initiatives
 - local concerns about the promotion of the licensing objectives (including from Ward Members, community leaders, GPs, schools, etc)
- 4.6 The local licensing guidance will be presented to the Council's Licensing Committee from time to time.
- 4.7 The Council will expect that applicants and licensees have regard to the local licensing guidance when considering their activities and any appropriate control measures.

These changes are to reflect the fact there are some difficulties in understanding the prevalence of gambling and gambling harm in a particular area but commits the Council to making every effort to obtain relevant data.

The changes also reflect the need for information to be gathered and shared about localities which should be taken into account by those seeking to carry out and those who currently carry out gambling activities in the borough.

Local Risk Assessments

Remove 'From 6 April 2016' as the requirement for local risk assessments is well embedded now.

Gateshead Community Safety Board

Replace

Licensees are expected to have regard to any such initiatives from time to time

with

The Community Safety Board will engage with those carrying out gambling activities where any such issues arise.

This change is to reflect the way that the Community Safety Board will engage with gambling operators where necessary.

10 Licensing	Replace section 10.6
Objective: Protecting children and other vulnerable people from being harmed or exploited by	In seeking to protect vulnerable people the Licensing Authority will include people who gamble more than they want to, people who gamble beyond their means, and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling, perhaps due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.
gambling	with
	In seeking to protect vulnerable people the Licensing Authority will include people who gamble more than they want to, people who gamble beyond their means, and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling, perhaps due to intellectual disability, an addiction or mental ill health.
	insert
	10.7 In seeking to protect children and other vulnerable people from being harmed or exploited by gambling, the licensing authority considers gambling related harm to include a consideration of the potential harm or neglect caused to them by family members and carers who are problem gamblers.
	to reflect the Council's view that problem gambling has a wider impact than on problem gamblers themselves
15 Conditions of Licence	15.5 replace 'young persons' with 'other vulnerable people' to reflect the wording of the Gambling Act 2005.
18 Betting	delete section 18.3:
	18.3 The Licensing Authority has the power to restrict the number of fixed odds betting terminals, their nature and the circumstances in which they are made available. It will not generally exercise this power though unless there are good reasons to do so taking into account, among other things, the size of the premises and the level of management and supervision especially where vulnerable people are concerned.
	as the Council has been advised by the Gambling Commission that licensing authorities do not have this power
26 General Principles	Section 26.2 (2)
i illicipies	Replace 'Gateshead Protection of Vulnerable Adults Multi Agency Committee' with 'Gateshead Safeguarding Adults Board'
	to reflect the correct name of the body
	Insert 'Training of staff to recognise vulnerability to gambling harm'
	to reflect the importance that Gateshead Council places on this issue

33 Enforcement	Section 33.7
	replace list of primary authority agreements with:
	 William Hill - City of Westminster Ladbrokes Coral Group - Milton Keynes Welcome Break - Reading Paddy Power - Reading MOTO - Reading
	as there are new Primary Authority agreements since the approval of the previous Statement of Principles