

TO: LICENSING COMMITTEE

DATE: 28TH SEPTEMBER 2006

SUBJECT: GAMBLING ACT 2005

BY: SENIOR SOLICITOR

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report details the requirement and recommendations for members to approve the second draft of the Gambling Licensing Policy following consultation and prior to being taken before Full Council.

Implications: Human Resources Implications, Minimal

Finance Implications, Minimal

Legal Implications, statutory requirement

Crime & Disorder Implications, None

Sustainability Implications, None

Risk Implications, None

Decision Required: To approve the second draft of the policy, following consultation.

Introduction/Background

Consultation on the draft policy (as approved by this committee in May) has been carried out. The organisations/persons consulted with are as follows: All Swale Councillors, Kent Police, Swale Fire Safety, Swale Borough Councils Environmental Health and Planning Departments, Child Protection Agency, Trading Standards, The gambling Commission, The association of British Bookmakers, Gamblers Anonymous, Shepherd Neame, Enterprise Inns, The LVA, Swale PCT and Representatives from religious groups.

In addition the draft policy was available for viewing in all Council Offices and Public Libraries for the requested 12 weeks.

Only one representation was received from The Association of British Bookmakers, a copy of which is attached. They have made several recommendations which are in **bold** text in the attached copy of the draft policy.

A full list of delegations has also been added.

Issue for decision

Approval of the draft policy including the amendments as highlighted.

Options (where appropriate) and why they are not recommended

There is the option to reject the proposals from the Association of British Bookmakers and approve the draft policy as it stands. However due to the in depth knowledge of this organisation their proposals should be given consideration.

Recommendation

I recommend that Members approve the second draft of the Policy, including the amendments. The policy will then go before Full Council in November for final resolution.

Reasons for the Recommendation

It is a statutory requirement to publish a policy. The suggested document has been drafted in line with all other Kent Authorities in order to achieve consistency. I am also satisfied that the proposals from the Association of British Bookmakers are not too prescriptive and will add weight to the policy.

Author: Mike Hawkins - Ext. 7325

Date: 1st September 2006

List of background documents –

Gambling Act 2005 and guidance issued by DCMS