

Appendix 3

Consultation questions - Proposed changes to the council's Gambling Policy 2025 – 2028

1. One of the three licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005 is preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder, being associated with crime or disorder, or being used to support crime.

The council's main role is to try and promote this objective with regard to actual premises. So, where an area has known high levels of organised crime the council will carefully consider whether gambling premises are suitable to be located there and whether conditions may be required such as the provision of door supervision or reduced operating hours.

Do you feel the policy does enough to promote this objective? Yes/ No / Don't know

2. One of the three licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005 is ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.

This objective is generally addressed by the Gambling Commission, via operating and personal licences. The council will communicate any concerns to the Gambling Commission about misleading advertising or any absence of required game rules or other information.

Do you feel the policy does enough to promote this objective? Yes/ No / Don't know

3. One of the three licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005 is protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

This licensing objective seeks to prevent children from taking part in gambling (as well as restriction of advertising so that gambling products are not aimed at or are particularly attractive to children). The council will therefore consider whether specific measures are required at particular premises with regard to this licensing objective. Appropriate measures may include supervision of entrances/machines, segregation of areas etc. The council will pay particular attention to any Codes of Practice which the Gambling Commission issues regarding this licensing objective.

Do you feel the policy does enough to promote this objective? Yes/ No / Don't know

4. A proposal has been made to retain the council's long standing 'no casino' resolution, but to allow flexibility to possibly remove this in future.

Do you agree with this proposal ? Yes/ No / Don't know

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5. Our new local area profile includes information on 5 gambling vulnerability zones which have been identified as some of the most vulnerable areas of the borough (more information on these areas is included in the local area profile attached to this consultation). Our proposed policy suggests that any new applications for adult gaming centres, betting shops or bingo premises should be refused in these areas.

Do you agree with the introduction of vulnerability zones, and the proposal to refuse applications in these areas ? Yes/ No / Don't know / Other (please specify)

6. A suggestion has been made to introduce the principle of cumulative impact into the current policy, to try and address the clustering of gambling premises in the borough. There are now three proposed cumulative impact areas outlined in the new Local Area Profile. Our proposed policy also explains that we would look to refuse any new applications for adult gaming centres, betting shops or bingo premises in these areas.

Do you agree with the introduction of these cumulative impact areas in the revised policy and our local area profile ? Yes/ No / Don't know / Other (please specify)

7. A proposal has been made to reduce the terminal hour for Adult Gaming Centres and Bingo premises to 10pm. Any premises wishing to operate after this time would be asked to provide a robust risk assessment, and also commit to employing more than one member of staff after 10pm. This proposal has been suggested to try and combat an issue with crime linked to lone working in these type venues.

Do you think that it is a good idea to include this proposal in the revised policy? Yes/ No / Don't know / Other (please specify)

8. Please add any other comments you wish to make regarding the proposed changes to the current Statement of Gambling Policy, or the Gambling Act itself.

When submitting any comments on the revised policy, please include reference to the paragraph numbers, where possible.

Please be aware that all responses are made publicly available. If you intend to include information of a commercially sensitive nature, please make sure this is clearly stated.