



GEDLING
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Statement of Principles

Gambling Act 2005, Section 349

Published on *(Insert date)*

Consultation Draft

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1. INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

Introduction

- 1.1 Section 349(1) of the Gambling Act 2005 ["the Act"] imposes a statutory requirement upon Gedling Borough Council as the statutory Licensing Authority ["the Authority"] to prepare a Statement of Principles ["the Statement"].
- 1.2 The Act sets out three licensing objectives which this Statement will promote. The three objectives are as follows:
 - Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime;
 - Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way; and
 - Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.
- 1.3 The aim of the Authority in this Statement is to address the impact of licensed premises in terms of crime and disorder arising from gambling and to ensure that their location and internal layout are appropriate with a view to protecting children and vulnerable persons. The Authority is committed to partnership with all stakeholders with a view to the promotion of this aim. It is the duty of licensing authorities to aim to permit the use of premises for gambling.
- 1.4 The Authority will in the statutory discharge of its functions have particular regard to the principles to be applied in exercising its powers:
 - under Section 157 of the Act to designate in writing a body competent to advise the Authority about the protection of children from harm;
 - under Section 158 of the Act to determine whether a person is an interested party in relation to a premises licence or in relation to an application for or in respect of a premises licence.
- 1.5 Subject to statutory provision, a review of this Statement will take place periodically and any revisions to the Statement will be made taking into account information collated over a period of time; the outcomes of related initiatives at central and local government level and following appropriate consultation.
- 1.6 Nothing in this Statement should be regarded or interpreted as any indication that any statutory requirement of gambling or other law is to be overridden.
- 1.7 The Authority in preparation of this Statement have had due regard to;
 - the Gambling Act 2005

- the Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006
- Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission and by the Secretary of State under Section 25 of the Act.
- responses from those consulted on the Statement.

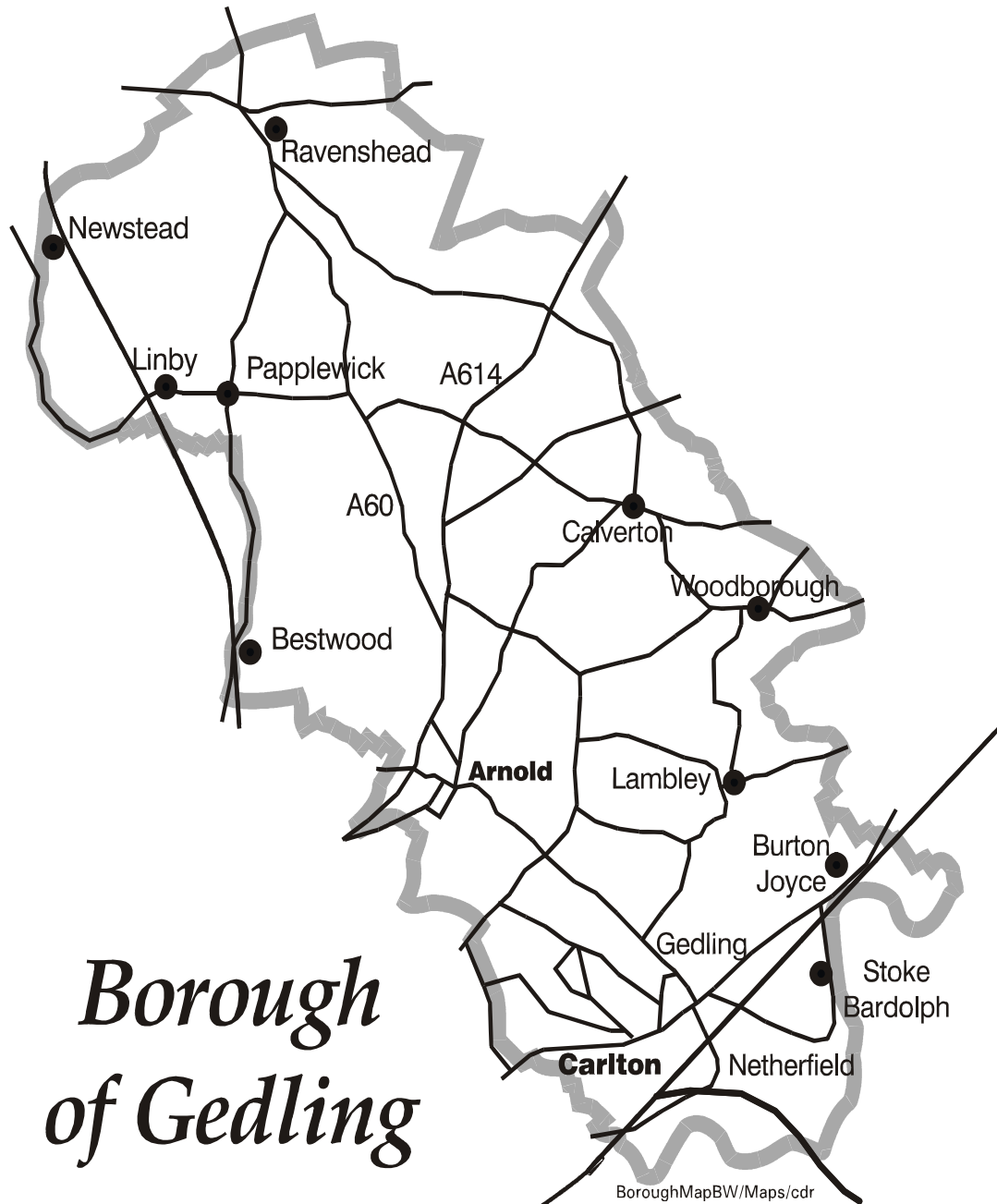
Consultation

- 1.8 In developing this Statement the Authority has consulted widely to ascertain an appropriate licensing framework for its area and those bodies which have been consulted in accordance with Regulations are set out in Appendix 1.

Description of Gedling Borough Council area

- 1.9 The Borough of Gedling covers 11998 hectares to the north and east of the City of Nottingham. The Borough includes the commutable suburbs to the City Centre of Arnold, Mapperley, Carlton, Gedling and Netherfield, together with ten rural villages, the largest of which are Ravenshead in the north, Burton Joyce to the east, and the former colliery village of Calverton. The Borough of Gedling also shares boundaries with three other local authorities namely Rushcliffe Borough Council, Newark and Sherwood District Council and Ashfield District Council. Around 112,000 people live in the Borough in total.
- 1.10 Gedling Borough Council is a non-metropolitan district council providing a wide range of statutory and non-statutory services for the community.
- 1.11 5.16% of the local population come from black and minority ethnic (BME) backgrounds. The BME population is spread throughout the Borough and there are no distinct geographical BME communities.

1.12 Map of the Gedling Borough area



Authorised activities

1.14 The Authority recognises the wide variety of premises which will require a licence or permit which include casinos, betting shops, bingo halls, clubs and amusement arcades. Within the area there are 16 betting shops and 5 amusement arcades mostly

located in the main suburban areas of Arnold, Carlton and Netherfield. In carrying out its licensing functions within the framework established by this Statement, the Authority will have particular regard to:

- maintaining a close working relationship with the responsible authorities;
- taking necessary and appropriate steps for the protection of children and other vulnerable persons;
- the need to treat each application on its own merits taking into account the individual circumstances at each premise.

Relationship with other legislation

1.15 In complying with the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005, whilst the Authority recognises the requirements of the following, this Statement is not intended to duplicate the existing legislation and regulatory orders which incur statutory obligations:

- Crime and Disorder Act 1988 [Section 17]
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003
- Race Relations Act 1976 [as amended]

1.16 In particular, in making a determination in respect of any application, the Authority will not take into account irrelevant matters, such as the likelihood of the application receiving planning permission, or building regulation approval.

“Demand” for gaming premises

1.17 The Authority will not consider the demand for gaming premises when making decisions about applications for a premises licence under the Act.

Rights of applicants and third parties

1.18 This Statement does not override the right of any person to make an application under the Act and have that application considered on its individual merits.

- 1.19 Similarly this Statement does not undermine the right of any third party to make representations on an application or to seek a review of a licence where provision has been made for them to do so.

Data sharing, data security and the principles of better regulation

- 1.20 The Authority will act in accordance with all the relevant legislation and guidance from the Commission with regard to data protection and the freedom of information. Additionally the Authority will adopt and apply the principles of better regulation.
- 1.21 It is the intention of the Authority to establish protocols for the exchange of information with other regulatory bodies and ensure that, as far as is reasonably practicable, the confidentiality of those making representations will be maintained.

2. MAKING REPRESENTATIONS

Who can make a representation?

- 2.1 The Gambling Act allows “responsible authorities” (identified in section 157 of the Act) and “interested parties” to make representations to applications relating to **premises licences and provisional statements**. In the case of reviews that right is also given to the licensee. With regard to other forms of notification and permit, the right to object is restricted to specified bodies. The following section therefore only relates to representations in respect of **premises licences and provisional statements**.
- 2.2 Premises licences are only necessary for the types of gambling listed below and interested parties may therefore only make representations in respect of:
- Casino premises
 - Bingo premises
 - Betting premises (including tracks)
 - Adult gaming centres
 - Licensed family entertainment centres (i.e. one which operates machines with a £25 maximum prize)

Interested parties

- 2.3 Interested parties are defined as persons who **in the licensing authority’s opinion**
- Live sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities
 - Have business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities, or
 - Represent either of the above.

Policy One

- 2.4 **In determining if someone lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities or have business interests that are likely to be affected, the authority may take any or all of the following into account:**
- **The proximity of their home or business to the application premises**
 - **The nature of their residency (e.g. private resident, resident in home for the vulnerable etc)**
 - **The nature of the business making the representation**
 - **The nature of the authorised activities to be conducted on the application premises**
 - **The size and capacity of the application premises**

- **The likely catchment area for the application premises**
- **The routes likely to be taken to and from the application premises**
- **The character of the area**
- **The density of the built up area**
- **The topography of the area**

REASON: To ensure that those who are likely to be directly affected by the proposed activities can exercise their right to be heard.

- 2.5 The Authority will interpret the phrase “business interest” widely and not merely confine the phrase to meaning those engaged in trade and commerce. It may therefore include charities, churches, medical practices, schools and other establishments and institutions.
- 2.6 Similarly a wide interpretation will be given to those categories of persons and organisations that represent residents and businesses. These may include residents and tenants associations, trade unions and other associations, as well as individuals whose role is to represent the interests of one or more residents or businesses such as a councillor, MP or legal representative.
- 2.7 It is for the Authority to determine on a case by case basis whether or not a person making a representation is an “interested party”. The Authority may ask for evidence to identify who is being represented and show that they have given authority for representations to be made on their behalf. In cases which are not clear-cut the benefit of the doubt will usually be exercised in favour of the person making the representation.

Form and content of representation

- 2.8 The Act places a duty on the Authority to aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as the Authority thinks the application is in accordance with:
- this Policy Statement,
 - the Commission’s Guidance,
 - the Codes of Practice, and;
 - where the application is reasonably in accordance with the licensing objectives.
- 2.9 As these are the criteria against which an application is to be assessed representations which address these issues are more likely to be accepted and given weight.

- 2.10 All representations must be made in writing and must be received by the Authority within the time limits set by the relevant regulations. For a representation to be relevant it should:
- be positively tied or linked by a causal connection to particular premises, and;
 - relate to the licensing objectives, or;
 - raise issues under this policy, the Commission's Guidance or Codes of Practice.
- 2.11 Representations received outside the statutory period for making such representations or which otherwise does not comply with the Regulations will be invalid and will not be taken into consideration when the application is determined. In addition the Authority expects representations to be made in accordance with policy two.

Policy Two

2.12 A representation should indicate the following:

- (i) The name, address and a contact number for the person making the representation.**
- (ii) The capacity in which the representation is made (e.g. interested party, responsible authority, licensee) and if made as a representative should indicate who is being represented.**
- (iii) The name and address of the premises in respect of which the representation is being made.**
- (iv) The licensing objective(s) relevant to the representation.**
- (v) Why it is felt that the application;**
 - **is not reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives or;**
 - **is not in accordance with this Policy, the Commission's Guidance or the relevant Code's of Practice or;**
 - **otherwise should not be granted or;**
 - **should only be granted subject to certain specified conditions**
- (vi) Details of the evidence supporting the opinion in (v).**

REASON: To ensure the representation is made by a responsible authority or interested party and that it is relevant and directly related to the application premises.

- 2.13 A preferred form of representation is available (see appendix two). A copy of the form can be downloaded from the appropriate Gambling Act page at www.gedling.gov.uk or requested directly from the service (see appendix three for contact details). Whilst representations which are not in the preferred form or which do not fully comply with

Policy Two will not automatically be rejected, they may be less likely to comply with the law relating to representations resulting in them ultimately being rejected or given little or no weight.

- 2.14 Ordinarily where representations are received the Authority will hold a hearing, however, a hearing does not have to be held where the Authority thinks that a representation is frivolous, vexatious, or will certainly not influence the authority's determination of the matter. It is for the licensing authority to determine whether a representation falls within these categories, however, representations which comply with Policy Two are unlikely to do so.
- 2.15 It is in the interest of those making representations that they include as much detail and evidence as possible at the time the representation is made. The Authority will determine whether a representation should be excluded as frivolous or vexatious based on the normal interpretation of the words. A representation may therefore be excluded if it obviously lacks seriousness or merit, or is designed to be antagonistic. An example may be a representation received from a rival operator which is based solely on the fact that the new premises would compete with their own.

Irrelevant considerations

- 2.16 Whilst not intended to provide an exhaustive list the following matters cannot be taken into account and representations relating to them are likely to be discounted:
- Need and demand for the relevant premises
 - Issues relating to nuisance
 - Traffic congestion and parking
- 2.17 Any person seeking to operate gambling premises must first have obtained an operating licence from the Gambling Commission. The Commission will therefore have made a judgement as to the applicant's suitability to operate the proposed form of gambling and therefore this issue is not relevant to the subsequent assessment of the premises licence application. The only exception is in relation to track premises licences. In this case an operator's licence is not required and the suitability of the applicant may, in appropriate cases, be taken into consideration.

3. CRIME AND DISORDER

Preventing gambling from being a source of Crime and Disorder

- 3.1 The Authority places considerable importance on the prevention of crime and disorder, and will fulfil its duty under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area. A high standard of control is therefore expected to be exercised over licensed premises.
- 3.2 The Authority will, when determining applications, consider whether the grant of a premises licence will result in an increase in crime and disorder. In considering licence applications, the Authority will particularly take into account the following:
- The design and layout of the premises;
 - The training given to staff in crime prevention measures appropriate to those premises;
 - Physical security features installed in the premises. This may include matters such as the position of cash registers or the standard of CCTV that is installed;
 - Where premises are subject to age restrictions, the procedures in place to conduct age verification checks;
 - The likelihood of any violence, public order or policing problem if the licence is granted.
- 3.3 Where an application is received in relation to premises in an area noted for particular problems with organised crime, part of this determination will include consultation with the police and other relevant authorities. The Authority may then consider whether specific controls, such as a requirement for the provision of door supervisors, need to be applied in order to prevent those premises being a source of crime.
- 3.4 As far as disorder is concerned, there are already powers in existing anti-social behaviour and other legislation to deal with measures designed to prevent nuisance, whether it arises as a result of noise from a building or from general disturbance once people have left a building. The Authority does not therefore intend to use the Act to deal with general nuisance issues, for example, parking problems, which can easily be dealt with using alternative powers. The Authority has no jurisdiction under the Act to deal with general nuisance issues.
- 3.5 In accordance with the Guidance, the Authority will only seek to address issues of disorder under the Act if the disorder amounts to activity which is more serious and disruptive than mere nuisance. A disturbance could be serious enough to constitute disorder if police assistance were required to deal with it. Another factor the Authority is likely to take into account is how threatening the behaviour was to those who could see or hear it, whether those people live sufficiently close to be affected or have business interests that might be affected.

- 3.6 The Authority will consult with the police and other relevant authorities when making decisions in this regard and will give due weight to any comments made by the police or other relevant authorities.

Policy Three

- 3.7 The Authority will have particular regard to the likely impact of licensing on related crime and disorder in the district particularly when considering the location, impact, operation and management of all proposed licence applications.**

REASON: Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 local authorities must have regard to the likely effect of the exercise of their functions on, and do all they can to prevent, crime and disorder in their area.

Ensuring gambling is conducted in a Fair and Open Way

- 3.8 The Gambling Commission does not expect local authorities to become concerned with ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way as this will either be a matter for the management of the gambling business (and therefore relevant to the Operating Licence), or will be in relation to the suitability and actions of an individual (and therefore relevant to the Personal Licence).
- 3.9 Both issues will be addressed by the Commission through the operating and personal licensing regime. This is achieved by:
- operating and personal licences are issued only to those who are suitable to offer gambling facilities or work in the industry;
 - easily understandable information is made available by operators to players about, for example: the rules of the game, the probability of losing or winning, and the terms and conditions on which business is conducted;
 - the rules are fair;
 - advertising is not misleading;
 - the results of events and competitions on which commercial gambling takes place are made public; and
 - machines, equipment and software used to produce the outcome of games meet standards set by the Commission and operate as advertised.
- 3.10 Because betting track operators do not need an operating licence from the Commission, the Authority may, in certain circumstances attach conditions to a licence to ensure that the betting is conducted in a fair and open way.

4. PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND OTHER VULNERABLE PERSONS

Access to licensed premises

- 4.1 With limited exceptions, the access of children and young persons to those gambling premises which are adult only environments will not be permitted.
- 4.2 The Authority will seek to limit the advertising for premises so that gambling products are not aimed at children or advertised in such a way that makes them particularly attractive to children.
- 4.3 The Authority will consult with the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board on any application that indicates there may be concerns over access for children or vulnerable persons.
- 4.4 The Authority will judge the merits of each separate application before deciding whether to impose conditions to protect children on particular categories of premises. This may include such requirements as:
 - Supervision of entrances;
 - Segregation of gambling areas from areas frequented by children;
 - Supervision of gaming machines in non-adult gambling specific premises.
- 4.5 The Act provides for a Code of Practice on access to casino premises by children and young persons and the Authority will work closely with the Police to ensure the appropriate enforcement of the law in these types of premises.

Vulnerable persons

- 4.6 The Authority does not seek to prohibit particular groups of adults from gambling in the same way that it seeks to prohibit children, but it will assume for regulatory purposes, that “vulnerable persons” include:
 - People who gamble more than they want to;
 - People who gamble beyond their means;
 - People who may not be able to make an informed or balanced decision about gambling due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.

5. PREMISES LICENCES

General Principles

- 5.1 The procedure for obtaining Premises Licences will be set by regulations. Should a licence be granted it may be made subject to mandatory and/or default conditions set by the Secretary of State. The Authority may choose to exclude default conditions if it thinks it appropriate and may also impose other specific conditions which are appropriate to the application.
- 5.2 The Gambling Commission will play a leading role in preventing gambling from being a source of crime and will maintain rigorous licensing procedures that aim to prevent criminals from providing facilities for gambling. With the exception of applicants for track premises anyone applying to the Authority for a premises licence will have to hold an operating licence from the Commission before a licence can be issued. The Authority will not generally therefore be concerned with the suitability of an applicant. Where concerns arise about a person's suitability, the Authority will bring those concerns to the attention of the Commission.
- 5.3 The licensing authority will however be concerned with issues such as the impact of the licensed premises in terms of crime and disorder and matters such as the location of the premises and their internal layout in terms of protecting children and vulnerable persons. Such issues are discussed in more detail in the paragraphs below relating to the specific types of gambling premises.

Betting Premises and Tracks

- 5.4 Betting premises relates to those premises operating off-course betting. That is other than at a track.
- 5.5 Tracks are sites where races or other sporting events take place. Betting operators may operate self-contained betting premises within track premises although they would normally only open on event days. There may be several licensed premises at any track.
- 5.6 Permitted activities include:
- off-course betting;
 - on-course betting for tracks;
 - betting by way of betting machines, and;
 - up to four class B2, B3, B4, C or D category machines
- 5.7 Factors for consideration when determining the application will be:

- location, particularly in relation to vulnerable persons;
- suitability of the premises;
- size of premises in relation to the number of betting machines;
- the ability of staff to monitor the use or abuse of such machines and;
- the provision for licence holders to ensure appropriate age limits are adhered to.

5.8 This is not an exhaustive list and each application will be judged on its merits. Any effective measures to support the licensing objectives will be taken into account.

5.9 Conditions may be applied by the Authority in support of the licensing objectives if it is felt necessary. Mandatory or default conditions may be attached by regulations issued by the Secretary of State.

Adult Gaming Centres (AGCs)

5.10 These premises must be operated by a gaming machine general operating licence from the Gambling Commission as well as a premises licence from the Authority.

5.11 Permitted activities include:

- up to four category B machines and;
- unlimited category C and D machines. The Category B machines are limited to B3 and B4.

5.12 Factors for consideration when determining the application for an AGC will include:

- the location;
- the ability of operators to minimise illegal access by under 18's to the premises.

5.13 This is not an exhaustive list and each application will be judged on its merits. Any effective measures to support the licensing objectives will be taken into account.

5.14 Conditions may be applied by the Authority in support of the licensing objectives if it is felt necessary. Mandatory or default conditions may be attached by regulations issued by the Secretary of State. No one under the age of 18 is permitted to enter an AGC.

Club Gaming Permits and Club Machine Permits

5.15 These permits are required where members clubs and Miners' Welfare Institutes premises provide a gambling facility but either the stakes and prizes are low or gambling is not the main function of the premises.

- 5.16 Club gaming permits authorise qualifying clubs to provide gaming machines as well as equal chance gaming and games of chance as prescribed in regulations.
- 5.17 Club machine permits allow the provision of gaming machines where the premises licence holder **does not** wish to operate equal chance gaming or games of chance. In both cases the gaming machines are limited to any three of category B4, C or D.
- 5.18 Commercial clubs may in some circumstances operate with club machine permits but not club gaming permits.
- 5.19 The Authority may only refuse an application on the following grounds:
- (a) the applicant does not fulfill the requirements for a members' or commercial club or miners' welfare institute and therefore is not entitled to receive the type of permit for which it has applied;
 - (b) the applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons;
 - (c) an offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities;
 - (d) a permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or
 - (e) an objection has been lodged by the Commission or the police;
- and in the case of (a) or (b) must refuse the permit.
- 5.20 The Authority may grant or refuse a permit, but it may not attach conditions to a permit.

Alcohol Licensed Premises

- 5.21 The Act provides an automatic entitlement to provide two gaming machines of category C or D. The premises licence holder must notify the Authority of his or her intention and pay the prescribed fee. Although the Authority has no discretion to refuse the notification, the authorisation may be removed if gaming has taken place on the premises that breaches a condition of section 282 of the Act.
- 5.22 The Authority may also issue "licensed premises gaming permits" to premises in this category on application for any number of category C and/or D machines. This would generally replace any automatic entitlement under section 282 of the Act.
- 5.23 The Authority must have regard to the licensing objectives and the Gambling Commission Guidance when granting these permits. Other factors for consideration will include:
- location, particularly in relation to vulnerable persons;

- suitability of the premises, size of premises in relation to the number of betting machines;
- the ability of staff to monitor the use or abuse of such machines, and;
- the provision for licence holders to ensure appropriate age limits are adhered to.

5.24 This is not an exhaustive list and each application will be judged on its merits. Any effective measures to support the licensing objectives will be taken into account.

5.25 It is a condition of the automatic entitlement to make available two gaming machines (of category C or D), that any relevant provision of a code of practice under section 24 about the location and operation of a gaming machine is complied with. The Authority will take account of these provisions and relevant extracts from the code of practice are contained in appendix four.

Family Entertainment Centres

5.26 There are two classes of Family Entertainment Centres (FECs) dependent upon the type of gaming machines provided on the premises:

- FECs with category C and D machines require a Premises Licence.
- Unlicensed FECs provide only category D machines and are regulated through FEC gaming machine permits.

5.27 In determining the suitability of the location, consideration will be given to the following factors:

- Proximity of premises to schools and vulnerable adult centres (e.g. a centre for gambling addicts);
- Proximity to residential areas where there may be a high concentration of families with children;
- Town Centre or edge of Town Centre locations.

5.28 It should be noted that a permit cannot be issued in respect of a vessel or a vehicle.

5.29 An applicant must be 18 years of age or over. Relevant convictions will be taken into account, especially with respect to child protection issues.

Prize Gaming Permits

5.30 These permits cover gaming where the nature and size of the prize is not determined by the number of people playing or the amount paid for or raised by the gaming - the prize is determined by the operator before play commences.

5.31 Consideration will be given to the following factors:

- Proximity of premises to schools and vulnerable adult centres (e.g. a centre for gambling addicts);
- Proximity to residential areas where there may be a high concentration of families with children;
- Town Centre or edge of Town Centre locations.

5.32 It should be noted that a permit cannot be issued in respect of a vessel or a vehicle.

5.33 The applicant must be 18 years of age or over. Relevant convictions will be taken into account, especially with respect to child protection issues.

Travelling Fairs

5.34 Provided a travelling fair allows only category D gaming machines to be made available, and the facilities for gambling (whether by way of gaming machine or otherwise) amount together to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair, then no application for a licence is required under the Act. The Authority will want to satisfy itself from time to time that gambling at a travelling fair is within the definition of section 286 of the Act.

Small Society Lotteries

5.35 Small Society lotteries are distinguished from large society lotteries by the amount of the proceeds that they generate. A lottery is small if the total value of tickets put on sale in a single lottery is £20,000 or less and the aggregate value of the tickets put on sale in a calendar year is £250,000 or less. Other lotteries are dealt with by the Gambling Commission.

5.36 Small society lotteries are required to be registered with the local authority in the area where their principal office is located.

Temporary Use Notices

5.37 There are a number of statutory limits as regards Temporary Use Notices. It is noted that it falls to the Authority to decide what constitutes a “set of premises” where Temporary Use Notices are received relating to the same building/site (see Gambling Commission’s Guidance to Licensing Authorities).

Occasional Use Notices

5.38 The Authority has very little discretion as regards these notices aside from ensuring that the statutory limit of eight days in a calendar year is not exceeded. The Authority will need to consider whether a Notice in respect of premises can be dealt with under

the definition of a “Track”. It will also need to consider whether the Applicant is permitted to avail him/herself of the notice.

Casinos

Proposal for a Casino-No Casino Resolution

5.39 The Authority has not passed a “no Casino resolution” under Section 166 of the Gambling Act 2005, but is aware that it has the power to do so. Should the Authority decide in the future to pass such a resolution, it will update this Policy Statement with details of that resolution.

Casinos and Competitive Bidding

5.40 The Authority is aware that where the Authority is enabled to grant a Premises Licence for a new style Casino (i.e. the Secretary of State has made such regulations under Section 175 of the Gambling Act 2005) there are likely to be a number of operators which would want to run a Casino. In such situations, the Authority will run a “competition” under Schedule 9 of the Gambling Act 2005. The Authority will run such a competition in line with any Regulations issued under the Gambling Act 2005 by the Secretary of State.

Bingo

5.41 The Authority notes the Gambling Commission’s guidance which states:

- a) “Licensing Authorities will be able to find information about the restrictions that apply in the Codes of Practice that will be published on the Commission’s website”.
- b) “Further guidance will be issued in due course about the particular issues that Licensing Authorities should take into account in relation to the suitability and layout of Bingo premises”.

Once this information is available the Authority will apply it to applications for a Bingo premises licence.

6. INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

General Statement

- 6.1 The Authority will have regard to its General / Corporate Enforcement Policy, the relevant provisions of the Act, any relevant guidance and / or codes of practice when considering taking enforcement action.
- 6.2 It is the intention of the Authority to establish and maintain enforcement protocols with other enforcement agencies.

Inspections

- 6.3 The Authority will inspect gambling premises and facilities for compliance with the Act and any licence conditions through the application of a risk based inspection programme.
- 6.4 The inspection programme will in principle operate a light touch in respect of low-risk premises whilst applying greater attention to those premises which are considered to present a higher risk.
- 6.5 In addition to programmed inspections the Authority will also investigate any evidence based complaints that it receives.

Policy Four

- 6.6 **The Authority will adopt a risk based assessment approach for determining the frequency of compliance inspections. The risk rating will be based broadly on the following factors:**
- **location of the premises and their impact on the surrounding area,**
 - **enforcement history of the premises,**
 - **nature of the licensed or permitted operation,**
 - **potential to have an adverse affect on the licensing objectives, and;**
 - **management record.**

REASON: To provide a targeted and cost efficient enforcement service which will encourage and improve operating practice, promote the licensing objectives, and drive out poor practices; whilst at the same time meet accepted best practice principles of compliance inspection.

Enforcement

- 6.7 In general the Gambling Commission will take the lead on the investigation and where appropriate, the prosecution of illegal gambling. There may be occasions on which the Authority is better placed to take the lead, particularly where there is illegal activity on a smaller scale confined to the Authority's area.
- 6.8 Where a licensed premise is situated in more than one administrative area then this Authority will liaise with the other authority to determine the most appropriate course of action and who will lead any investigation or prosecution.
- 6.9 Part 15 of the Act gives "authorised persons" power of investigation and section 346 enables licensing authorities to institute criminal proceedings in respect of offences described in that section. In exercising these functions the licensing authority will endeavour to follow the Better Regulation and Hampton principles. The principles require that enforcement should be:
- **Proportionate:** regulators should only intervene when necessary: remedies should be appropriate to the risk posed, and costs identified and minimised;
 - **Accountable:** regulators must be able to justify decisions, and be subject to public scrutiny;
 - **Consistent:** rules and standards must be joined up and implemented fairly;
 - **Transparent:** regulators should be open, and keep regulations simple and user friendly; and
 - **Targeted:** regulation should be focused on the problem, and minimise side effects
- 6.10 The Authority will work closely with the Gambling Commission and exchange information on suspected illegal gambling and any proposed action that the Authority considers necessary.
- 6.11 The main enforcement and compliance role for the Authority in terms of the Gambling Act 2005 will be to ensure compliance with the Premises Licences and other permissions which it authorises. The Gambling Commission will be the enforcement body for Operator and Personal Licences. It is also worth noting that concerns about manufacture, supply or repair of gaming machines will not be dealt with by the Authority but will be notified to the Gambling Commission.
- 6.12 The Authority may institute proceedings in respect of a number of offences as identified in section 346 of the Act.
- 6.13 The Authority will avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes.

Glossary of terms

Many of the terms used in this statement of licensing policy are defined in the appropriate section of the Act. Section 353 identifies various terminologies and directs the reader to the relevant section of the Act, where appropriate, for a full and complete meaning of the term.

In the interests of clarity the following terms, which are used in this statement of licensing policy, are defined below.

Terminology	Definition
“the Act”	The Gambling Act 2005 (c19)
“the Authority”	This refers to the “licensing authority” as defined by section 2 of the Act
“authorised person”	An officer of a licensing authority, and an officer of an authority other than a licensing authority, both of whom have been authorised for a purpose relating to premises in that authority’s area
“authorised local authority officer”	An officer of a licensing authority who is an authorised person for a purpose relating to premises in that authority’s area
“gambling commission”	An organisation established under section 20 of the Act that is responsible for regulating gambling in Great Britain
“guidance”	“Guidance to licensing authorities”, April 2006, issued by the gambling commission under section 25 of the Gambling Act 2005
“interested parties”	Defined at paragraph 2.3 of this statement of licensing principles
“mandatory condition”	A condition that must be placed on a licence by virtue of regulations
“regulations”	Refers to regulations made under the Gambling Act 2005
“responsible authorities”	Public bodies that must be notified of applications for premises licences and they also have the right to make representations in relation to those applications. They are listed in full in section 157 of the Act.

Appendix One – List of bodies and organisations consulted

Holders of current licences within the Gedling Borough Council area:

Betting shops

Amusement arcades

Premises licence holders

Organisations and Businesses:

Nottinghamshire Police

Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue

Gedling Borough Council

- Cabinet Office
- Legal and Democratic Services
- Planning and Environment
- Leisure Services

Child Protection, Social Services Department

HM Revenue & Customs

Nottingham and Mansfield Licensing Magistrates'

Gamblers Anonymous

Advice for Alcohol and Drug Problems (APAS)

Licensing solicitors

Gedling area Pub Watch Groups

British Amusement Catering Trades Association

The Association of British Bookmakers

The Remote Gambling Association

Appendix Two – Standard form for submitting a representation



Representation under the Gambling Act 2005

Please note that the contents of this representation will be disclosed to the Applicant, other interested parties and responsible authorities. They may also be discussed at a public hearing. If you do not want your telephone number and e-mail address to be disclosed please let us know.

1. Please state the following:
 - (a) Your name
 - (b) Your address
 - (c) Your phone number
 - (d) Your e-mail address

2. In what capacity ⁽¹⁾ are you making this representation? (please tick as appropriate)
 - (a) A person living close enough to the application premises to be affected by it.
 - (b) A person having business interests which might be affected by the authorised activities.
 - (c) A Responsible Authority as defined by the Gambling Act 2005.

Or do you:

- (d) Represent a person living close enough to the application premises to be affected by it
 - (e) Represent a person having business interests which might be affected by the authorised activities
-
3. If you are acting as a representative please identify:

- a. The names and addresses of those that you are representing:
.....
.....
.....

Or

b. Whether you are a representative person or body acting without specific instruction from any individual person or business.

4. Please state the name and address of application premises:

.....
.....
.....

5. Which of the licensing objectives ⁽²⁾ does your representation relate to? (Please tick as appropriate).

(a) Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime and disorder, or being used to support crime.

(b) Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.

(c) The protection of children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

6. Please give details of your representation(s) on a separate sheet, including details as to why you feel the application would be unlikely to promote the objective(s) you have ticked above and including as much evidence as possible in support of your representation. In doing so, if you are able to answer questions 7 to 10 it would be helpful.

7. Do you feel that the application is reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives?

- Yes
- Don't know
- No for the following reasons:

.....
.....
.....
.....

8. Do you feel that the application is in accordance with the Authority's policy statement?

- Yes
- Don't know
- No for the following reasons:

.....
.....

.....
.....

Thank you for making your representation.

Please now send it to: The Licensing Office, Planning and Environment Department, Gedling Borough Council, Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Notts. NG5 6LU

The Licensing Team will contact you in due course regarding the next stage of the process and the applicant or other interested parties may choose to contact you to discuss this matter further.

Notes:

- (1) If you do not fall within any of these categories the Licensing Authority cannot take your representation into account. If you are acting as a representative you should indicate who it is that you represent and, where applicable, evidence that you are authorised to make the representation e.g. letter of authority, extract of minutes where the matter has been discussed etc.
- (2) If your representation does not relate to any of the licensing objectives your representation cannot be considered by the Licensing Authority.

Appendix Three – Useful contact details

(Insert the details of relevant organisations)

Appendix Four – Extracts from codes of practice in relation to the location and operation of a gaming machine

(See paragraph 5.25, page 19, which refers to the automatic entitlement to have 2 gaming machines in alcohol licensed premises. It is the intention that this appendix will include extracts from the relevant code of practice made under section 24 of the Act which will in practice be the section which relates to the location and operation of a gaming machine(s)).