

Licensing Act Committee 28th November 2006 Decision Item

Gedling Gambling Statement of Principles

Purpose of this Report

To inform Members of the progress made producing the Gedling Gambling Statement of Principles and to receive approval for the document to be placed before a meeting of the full Council for adoption.

Information

Members will be aware that Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 requires all licensing authorities to prepare and publish a statement of the principles they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the legislation during the three years in which the policy applies.

Local authorities are working against a national time frame which requires that all Gambling Statement of Principles must be published by the end of December and will come into force on the first appointed day (31st January 2007).

Within Nottinghamshire all of the licensing authorities have been working very closely under the auspices of the Nottinghamshire Area Licensing Group (NALG) to produce a common draft statement template for all authorities to use as a template. Each local authority has undertaken statutory consultation in their respective areas and amended their draft statement in line with responses.

Within the Gedling area the consultation was carried out over a twelve-week period in line with national best practice and consultation, and which ended on the 27th of October. The responses arising from the consultation have been collated and a 'Summary of Responses' document has been subsequently prepared which is attached to this report. The document has also been placed on the Gambling web page for information purposes.

The amended Gambling Statement of Principles is also attached for the information and approval of Members.

Implications

Adoption of the Gambling Statement of Principles by this Authority will meet with the statutory requirements of the gambling legislation and enable Members and officers to correctly exercise their functions under the legislation.

It will be necessary for full Council to formally appoint Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board as the body designated in writing as competent to advise about the protection of children from harm. It will also be necessary

to ask full Council to delegate all necessary statutory functions and regulations under the Gambling Act 2005 to the Licensing Act Committee

Recommendations

Members are recommended to approve the Gambling Statement of Principles and that the Statement be forwarded to full Council for adoption by this Authority.