

COUNTY COUNCIL
12TH DECEMBER, 2018

REVIEW OF GAMBLING POLICY

Executive Board Recommendations:

That the amended Gambling Policy be approved.

Reasons:

- The attached revised Gambling Policy document reflects the results of the consultation and review process and complies with relevant legislation and guidance

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted : YES - Environmental & Public Protection
1st October 2018

EXECUTIVE BOARD / COUNCIL / COMMITTEE:

Scrutiny Committee recommendations / comments:

- UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO EXECUTIVE BOARD that the amended Gambling Policy be approved.

Exec Board Decision Required YES – 19th November, 2018

Council Decision Required YES - 12th December, 2018

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. P M Hughes (Public Protection Portfolio Holder)

Directorate Department for
Communities

Name of Head of Service:
Jonathan Morgan

Report Author:
Emyr Jones

Designations:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY COUNTY COUNCIL 12TH DECEMBER, 2018

REVIEW OF GAMBLING POLICY

Context

The current Gambling Policy was adopted by the authority in February 2016 and came into effect on the 11th of March 2016. The legislation requires it to be reviewed at least every three years to ensure that it reflects feedback from the local community that the statutory objectives are being met.

Consultation

As part of the review, the authority is required to undertake a consultation exercise aimed at the chief officer of Police, representatives of gambling businesses and persons representing the interests of residents and businesses in the area, in order for their views to be formally considered by the authority.

The consultation began on the 3rd of April and finished on the 1st of June 2018.

Over one thousand individuals and organisations, including licence holders and their representatives, town and community councils, members of parliament, assembly members, county councillors, council departments and responsible authorities received consultation documents. The responsible authorities include, The Licensing Authority, Dyfed Powys Police, Police and Crime Commissioner, Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Gambling Commission, Environmental Health (Pollution Section), Planning Authority, HMRC, Children Services, Neighbouring Licensing Authorities.

The survey was again undertaken using the consultation facility on the Council's web site. This enabled the majority of consultees to be contacted via e-mail, thus reducing the cost whilst increasing the accessibility of the consultation.

The key issues raised as a result of the consultation exercise and review were:-

- No clear evidence that specific areas of the county are suffering with gambling related problems.
- There is evidence of a link between alcohol and gambling behaviours and awareness training should be provided to staff in licensed premises.

The authority's licensing section in conjunction with the council's legal department have reviewed the policy document in light of revisions to Gambling Commission guidance and best practice. The authority has liaised closely with the Gambling Commission to ensure that the revised document embraces the changes being introduced by the Commission. This included hosting meetings with representatives of the Gambling Commission as well as the licensing sections of, Pembrokeshire, Powys and Ceredigion licensing authorities, with the aim of ensuring as far as possible a consistent approach to the revised Gambling Policy.

The key changes to Gambling Policy document include :-

1. New section inserted regarding safeguarding advice for licence holders.(Page 13)
2. Notification of premises licence applications to the Health Board.(Page 13)
3. Information on how to access training courses for staff on drug and alcohol issues. (Page 13)
4. Signposting Gambling premises operators to the report of the Chief Medical Officer for Wales – Annual Report 2016/17 Gambling with our Health (Page 13)
5. Advising premises licence holders to keep premises risk assessments at the premises alongside the premises licence.(Page 23)
6. Require applicants for unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres to provide basic criminal conviction disclosures from the Disclosure and Barring Service (Page 24)
7. Require applicants for Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits to provide plans of the premises as well as additional information regarding the supervision of the proposed machines, the nature of the premises and access for under 18s. (Page 26)

A revised gambling policy document, incorporating amendments to reflect the relevant consultation responses is attached.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?	YES –
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gambling Policy Consultation Report • Gambling Policy – Gambling Act 2005

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Jonathan Morgan

Acting Head of Homes and Safer Communities

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The proposed amendments to the Gambling Policy promote the prevention of crime and disorder. The Policy complies with the Authority’s duty under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act. An Equalities impact assessment has been undertaken and no negative impacts have been identified.

2. Legal

Legal services are satisfied that the proposed amendments comply with the Gambling Act 2005 and the statutory guidance issued by the Gambling Commission.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Jonathan Morgan Acting Head of Homes and Safer Communities

1. Scrutiny Committee Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee was consulted on the 1st of October 2018.

2. Local Member(s) Local Members were consulted through correspondence.

3. Community / Town Council Town and Community Councils were consulted through correspondence.

4. Relevant Partners Relevant partners were consulted through correspondence and consultation meetings.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Consultation Responses	Review of Gambling Policy 2018	3, Spilman Street, Carmarthen
Gambling Commission Guidance	Review of Gambling Policy 2018	3, Spilman Street, Carmarthen