

## **CABINET**

**10 JULY 2018**

### **GAMBLING ACT 2005**

## **REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY (POLICY FRAMEWORK) ADDENDUM REPORT**

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Jane Chitty, Planning, Economic Growth and Regulation

Report from: Perry Holmes, Chief Legal Officer

Author: Mark Lees, Licensing Manager (Shared with Gravesham)  
Michael Turner, Democratic Services Officer

### **Summary**

To provide Cabinet with the views of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee which considered the report on 5 July 2018.

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Members considered a report regarding proposed amendments to the draft Statement of Gambling Policy, in conjunction with the consultation responses.
- 1.2 Reference was made to the two paragraphs relating to a Voluntary Partnership Agreement in Part B, section 15 of the draft policy. A Member queried whether this partnership was still meeting and, if not, suggested the wording either be removed or the partnership revived. The Chief Legal Officer commented that the self exclusion scheme which had come out of this partnership working had led to a national scheme and the partnership was no longer meeting, therefore this part of the policy could be removed.
- 1.3 A Member asked if a greater focus on public health could be incorporated in the policy by referencing, for example, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment as well as including details of where assistance could be found, such as Gamblers' Anonymous.
- 1.4 Members welcomed the clear summary of the proposed changes which had been included and suggested this approach be used in the future across the Council.

1.5 The Committee agreed to:

- a) note the minor administrative change to Appendix C of the Policy as outlined in section 7 of the report;
- b) note the proposed amendments to the draft Policy in conjunction with the consultation responses;
- c) refer the revised policy to the Cabinet for consideration and to Council for approval in accordance with the policy framework Rules with a request that a greater focus on public health be incorporated in the policy by referencing, for example, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment as well as including details of where assistance could be found, such as Gamblers' Anonymous, and;
- d) recommend that a clear summary of proposed changes to a policy be included in future reports and this approach be adopted across the Council.

**2. Chief Legal Officer's Comments**

- 2.1 With regards to the comments in paragraph 1.2 regarding removal of the self exclusion scheme from the Policy, this will be removed from the version of the Policy being submitted to Council for approval on 19 July 2018, in line with the decision made at Licensing and Safety Committee on 27 June 2018 to note the recommendations set out in Appendix 3 to the report and instruct the Licensing Manager to amend the draft policy in accordance with those recommendations.
- 2.2 With regards to the comments in paragraph 1.3 seeking a greater focus on Public Health, the version of the Gambling Statement of Policy being submitted to Council on 19 July 2018 will be updated so that it includes appropriate references as requested by the Committee.
- 2.3 Members are thanked for their comments at paragraph 1.4 and this will be taken forward through Corporate Management Team.

**3. Recommendation**

- 3.1 The Cabinet is asked to note the comments of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

**Lead officer contact**

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