



**Customer First Analysis:
Revised Statement of Principles – Gambling Act 2005**

1. Purpose

- What are you trying to achieve?
 - a) To publish a Statement of Principles (Policy) that the Council will apply in exercising their functions under the Gambling Act 2005.
 - b) To promote the three licensing objectives under the Gambling Act 2005, namely-
 - (i) Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder, being associated with crime and disorder or being used to support crime.
 - (ii) Ensuring that it is conducted in a fair and open way.
 - (iii) Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.
 - c) To ensure all gambling applications are treated fairly and in a consistent manner.
 - d) To further statutory objectives which are in place to protect vulnerable groups such as younger and older people, people with disabilities etc.
- Who defines and manages it?
 - a) The draft policy has been put together by the Licensing Manager. The policy must however be approved by Council before it becomes formal Council policy.
- Who do you intend to benefit from it and how?

Licence holders
Potential licence holders
Residents
Local businesses
Responsible Authorities, Police, Fire & Rescue, Trading Standards, HM Revenue & Customs, Gambling Commission
Council departments such as Planning, Safeguarding children etc.
Councillors as the decision makers and representatives of residents

 - a) All the above will benefit because the policy will outline how the Council will exercise their functions under the Gambling Act 2005. This will help to ensure greater fairness in decision making by promoting transparency and consistency.

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b) To provide advice and information to the above list on how the Council will enforce, administer and make decisions under the Gambling Act 2005.

- What could prevent people from getting the most out of the change?

Not applicable, The Statement of Principles is controlled by legislation and the Council is required to produce one.

- How will you get your customers involved in the analysis and how will you tell people about it?

The proposed new policy has been the subject of consultation for 12 weeks. Details of the consultation are set out in the report.

2. Evidence

- How will you know if the policy delivers its intended outcome?

a) No legal challenge to the policy. A low level of complaints about the Council's dealings with the licensing of gambling activity and its handling of gambling issues generally.

- How satisfied are your customers and how do you know?

a) The content of the Statement of Principles is heavily controlled by legislation and so there is very little room for local discretion. As it is a Statement of Principles historically there has been very little interest in the document and so satisfaction levels have not been measured.

- What existing data do you have on the people that use the service and the wider population?

General

The Council's Gambling Policy covers the whole of Hyndburn. Any resident of the Borough of Hyndburn who engages in gambling with licensed operators has the potential to be affected.

Licence or permit holders

There is no data available specifically in respect of the demography of licence or permit holders in Hyndburn. This is primarily because application forms are prescribed by the Home Office and currently do not request equalities information. Furthermore licence holders are often businesses. Therefore when considering the impact on licence holders and the public we need to rely on data covering the whole of the Borough whilst bearing in mind that spatially the demography of Hyndburn varies.

The Gambling Commission gathers national data on gambling participation the last of which was published in April 2020, detailed below;

-46% of people have gambled in the last four weeks

-50% of men have gambled in the last four weeks

-43% of women have gambled in the last four weeks

-21% of people have gambled online in the last four weeks

Health and lifestyle Related Data

GamCare is the leading national provider of information, advice, support and free counselling for the prevention and treatment of problem gambling. GamCare highlights the impact of

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gambling on mental health. According to the Royal College of Psychiatrists problem gamblers are more likely than others to suffer from low self-esteem, develop stress-related disorders, to become anxious, to have poor sleep and appetite, to develop a substance misuse problem and to suffer from depression.

Sex and gender

The Gambling Commission data indicates that both men and women gamble – men are about 5% more likely to gamble than women. GamCare data of 30,000 callers each year indicates that both men and women can develop problem gambling habits and men and women gamble in different ways. Men are more likely to use betting shops and women are more likely to use fruit machines and Bingo.

Ethnicity

We do not have data on the ethnicity of people who gamble. The 2007 and 2010 British Gambling Prevalence Surveys have shown a consistent relationship between ethnicity and the people who gamble. In both studies, problem gambling prevalence rates were higher among those from non-White ethnic backgrounds.

More recently, Gamcare have included information on the ethnicity of their 30,000 callers a year who report concerns about their own gambling, or the gambling of a family member or partner. This data indicates problem gambling affects people of all ethnicities therefore we can assume that Black, Asian and minority ethnic people gamble in similar proportions to their representation within the community.

Disability

There is some research which indicates people with health and social care needs may be disproportionately vulnerable to gambling related harm.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Reassignment

We do not have reliable data about the prevalence of problem gambling for LGBTQ people, however there may be some particular patterns of use for LGBTQ problem gamblers.

Religion and belief

Religions have differing views on gambling, and problem gamblers from some faith groups may be reluctant to seek help within their own community because it is forbidden. There is no data on what proportion of people with a faith and those with no faith participate in gambling.

- What other information would it be useful to have? How could you get this?
 - a) Not applicable, The Statement of Principles is controlled by legislation.
- Are you breaking down data by equality groups where relevant?
 - a) Not relevant
- Are you using partners, stakeholders, and councillors to get information and feedback?
 - a) Yes – details of the consultation undertaken is given in the report to Council.

3. Impact

- Are some people benefiting more – or less - than others? If so, why might this be?

No negative impact anticipated. The Act is a permissive regime and applications must be granted unless there are good reasons not to do so and each licence application, where representations are made, will be considered against the three key Gambling Act objectives, namely:

1. Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime,
2. Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way, and
3. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling

Age

This policy will have a Positive impact on age. Actions and objectives are state in the policy that will help protect vulnerable and young people. The policy outlines what the licensing authority's duty is in and what the Council expects from licence holders in respect of protecting young people from harm. The policy makes provision for Children and Young Peoples services to act as the responsible authority for matters relating to the protection of children from harm and enables them to comment on variations/new applications and request reviews of licences.

Disability

No positive or negative impact anticipated but each licence application, where representations are made, will be considered against the three key Gambling Act objectives, namely:

1. Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime,
2. Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way, and
3. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling

Applicants will be expected to propose steps to ensure that the physical layout of the premises does not present any risks to 'vulnerable' people, some of whom may be disabled.

Ethnicity and race

The policy will ensure that all services are aware of the need to abide by the Equality Act (2010)

Sex and Gender

There is some evidence to support a higher risk of problem gambling in men rather than women. In 2015-16 over 70% of calls to Gamcare support-line were from men, and the majority of calls from women were as an 'affected other'

http://www.gamcare.org.uk/sites/default/files/file_attach/GamCare%20Annual%20Statistics%202015-16.pdf

Pregnancy and maternity

No expected impact

LGBT

No expected impact

Religion and belief

Most religions do not condone gambling for money; consequently some sectors could view the gambling policy as an endorsement of this kind of activity. There is however no expected significant negative impact.

Gender re-assignment

No expected impact

Marriage and Civil Partnership

No expected impact

4. Actions

- If the evidence suggests that the service benefits a particular group is there a justifiable reason for this and if so, what is it?
 - a) Not applicable
- Is it discriminatory in any way?
 - a) No
- Is there a possible impact in relationships or perceptions between different parts of the community?
 - a) No
- What measures can you put in place to reduce disadvantages?
 - a) Not applicable
- Do you need to consult further?
 - a) No
- Have you identified any potential improvements to customer service?
 - a) No
- Who should you tell about the outcomes of this analysis?
 - a) The report will go Council along with the analysis. The trade and public will be made aware of the revised policy by way of public notice on the Councils website.
- Have you built the actions into your Business Plan with a clear timescale?
 - a) Yes
- When will this assessment need to be repeated?
 - a) 2028

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