
Council



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Title of Report:	Referrals Report of Recommendations from the Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee	
Report No:	COU/SE/18/021	
Report to and date:	Council	30 October 2018
Documents attached:	Appendix 1: West Suffolk Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Policy Appendix 2: Local Area Profile 2019	

(A) Referrals from Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee: 2 October 2018

1. West Suffolk Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Policy 2019 to 2022

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Susan Glossop

[Report No: CAB/JT/18/035](#) and
[Appendix 1;](#)
[Appendix 2;](#)
[Appendix 3](#)

RECOMMENDED

That the revised West Suffolk Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Policy for the period 2019 to 2022, as contained in Appendices 1 and 2 to Report No: COU/SE/18/021, be adopted.

- 1.1 The Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee at their meeting on 2 October 2018, considered Report No: CAB/JT/18/035 which sets out the results of the public consultation and sought approval for adoption of a revised joint West Suffolk Councils' Statement of Policy in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005, 2016-2019.
- 1.2 A statement of policy typically runs for a period of three years, although there is nothing to prevent the Councils from updating the policy more frequently, if so wished. The current West Suffolk policy will expire on 30 January 2019 and a revised version has been consulted on with statutory

consultees. This will then require review in 2021 for re-adoption by January 2022.

1.3 The Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee particularly discussed the regulatory and enforcement powers of local authorities in relation to fixed odds betting terminals in betting shops and the harm that gambling could cause to some individuals. In particular, reference was made to the Local Area Profile for Newmarket and the Joint Committee requested to ensure that this adequately reflected the Town's particular local circumstances and that the most up-to-date and relevant data was used when applying the licensing principles.

1.4 Therefore, the Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee had *RECOMMENDED*:

That, subject to the approval of Forest Heath District and St Edmundsbury Borough Councils, the revised West Suffolk Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Policy for the period 2019 to 2022, as contained in Appendix 2 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/035, be adopted, subject to:

- 1) *Ensuring that the future Local Area Profile, as set out in Appendix 3 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/035, adequately reflects the particular local circumstances in Newmarket, and to ensure the most up-to-date and relevant data is used when applying the licensing principles.*
- 2) *Further clarification being provided on the regulatory and enforcement powers of the local authority regarding fixed odds betting terminals.*

1.5 Following on from the discussions and recommendations from the Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee on 2 October 2018, the Statement of Policy and the Local Area Profile has since been amended as set out below (these amended documents are attached at Appendices 1 and 2 to this Council report, with the changes highlighted in red text):

- West Suffolk Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Policy (Appendix 1)
 - Additional text to clarify the role of the Gambling Commission in comparison to that of licensing authorities (Part A; Sections 8.4 to 8.6).
 - Additional paragraph outlining the Gambling Act definition of 'gaming machines' in order to distinguish them from 'betting machines' (Part B; Section 8.1).
 - Added the Gambling Commission guidance and requirements to Schedule C:
 - Betting machines categories according to their use in different premises
 - Betting machines categories according to their maximum stake and prizes
 - Summarising the requirements specifically for fixed odds betting machines.

- Local Area Profile (Appendix 2)
 - Updated the bullet points on page 4 of the Local Area Profile where there were anomalies within the statistical information presented.
 - Removed the references to the Dog Track (Mildenhall area). As of October 2018 this Track was no longer in operation. (The licence had not been revoked at the time of the preparation and consideration of the Joint Committee report).
- 1.6 In relation to the specific circumstances which has been referred to with regards to gambling in Newmarket, Officers will be reviewing the Local Area Profile in line with the West Suffolk Council to add specific information about different wards and this will then include information about Newmarket.
- 1.7 This referrals report is also due for consideration by Forest Heath District Council at their meeting on 21 November 2018.
- 1.8 Members may also view the full Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee report and its Appendices on the Council's website via the above links or may request a paper copy from Democratic Services.