

## ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Licensing

**Date:** 04 April 2023

**Subject:** Gambling Act 2005 - Statement of Licensing Principles

**Chairman:** Councillor R Morgan

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### **Recommending:**

**That Full Council adopt the revised statement of licensing principles.**

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1. On 22 March 2023, the Licensing Committee considered a report on renewing the Council's Statement on the Gambling Act 2005 – statement of licensing principles.
2. The Gambling Act 2005 requires all licensing authorities to prepare and publish a statement of licensing principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Act, commonly known as a policy statement. The policy must be reviewed every 3 years and where reviewed and changes proposed, licensing authorities must consult on any revision. The statement must then be re-published.
3. The policy statement sets out the licensing authorities' general approach to regulation under the Act, guides administration of its functions and its expectations in relation to operators with premises in the locality. It will assist in ensuring that an appropriate balance is drawn between the interests of those wishing to provide and take part in legal gambling, and those who might be affected by such activities.
4. The current policy was approved by the Council in 2020 and only minor amendments have been made to reflect the latest guidance and to update the area profile in line with the Essex County Council Census 2021 and the Office for National Statistics data.
5. The proposed Statement of Licensing Principles is attached at Appendix 1 of this report.
6. We recommend as set out at the commencement of this report.