

Equality Impact Assessment

Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Principles

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

Version 4: February 2020

Title of proposal (include forward plan reference if available)	Gambling Act 2003 - Statement of Principles
Directorate and Service Area	Adult Social Care, Health & Well Being, Regulated Services
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Tracy Hubball – Operations Manager
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Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	N/A
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	N/A
Date EIA completed	14 February 2020
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	Neil Cox, Director – Prevention & Protection
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions

1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required

(Please provide as much information as possible)

This document provides an assessment of the equalities impact of the updated Gambling Act 2005, Statement of Principles following the completion of consultation on the proposed document. The Statement of Principles is proposed for implementation, subject to approval.

The Gambling Act 2005 requires the Council as the Licensing Authority to prepare and publish its Statement of Principles as to how it intends to carry out its licensing functions under the Act.

The Council's current Statement of Principles was approved by full council in 2016

The Act requires the Council, in respect of each three-year period, to determine its policy with respect to the exercise of its licensing functions and publish and updated statement of that policy.

The Licensing Authority has now concluded the consultation process, and as required by the Gambling Act 2005 it has consulted with the following: -

- the Chief Officer of Police;
- the Fire and Rescue Authority for the area;
- representatives of persons holding premises licences
- representatives of businesses, Cllrs and residents.

This report therefore seeks permission to implement the revised version of the Statement of Principles now that the consultation process has been completed.

2. Evidence used/considered

The updated Statement of Principles was drafted in conjunction with partners, in recognition of the impact gambling has on the borough's population.

Whilst licensing decision making is limited to the scope of the three licensing objectives as outlined in the statement of principles we believe that a revised licensing policy should contain information which provides the applicant or license holder with a clear understanding of the impact of gambling on borough to raise their awareness of the responsibility they hold.

On this basis the proposed Statement of Principles was put forward for consultation containing updated local profiles and guidance relating to modern-day slavery.

To accompany the policy document, it is proposed to provide a guidance document for applicants and license holders to support them to understand the practical steps they can take to manage their responsibilities as a License Holder effectively and support the long-term health and wellbeing of the boroughs residents.

Following consultation on the Statement of Principles all feedback has been reviewed in conjunction with Legal Services. Any appropriate amendments and additions have been reflected in the Statement of Principles, which is now put forward for implementation.

3. Consultation

Cabinet Office guidance on public consultations state that the time required for a public consultation 'will depend on the nature and impact of the proposal (for example, the diversity of interested parties or the complexity of the issue, or even external events), and might typically vary between two and twelve weeks'.

In consideration of the changes proposed, a consultation period of six weeks was completed. The duration was determined in the context that the changes do not have any implications upon groups with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act, there are no financial implications and the changes will not adversely affect licensed premises.

The following key organisations and agencies were consulted in accordance with Section 349(3) of the Act.

West Midlands Police

Chief Constable, West Midlands Police Headquarters, Lloyd House, Birmingham

Other Key Agencies / Responsible Authorities

West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service
Planning and Development Services
Local Safeguarding Children Arrangements
Local Safeguarding Adults Board
Director of Public Health

Environmental Health (incl. Air Pollution / Noise Control)
Health and Safety
HM Revenue and Customs
Safer Sandwell Partnership

Persons / Bodies Representative of the interests of persons carrying gambling businesses in Sandwell

Chamber of Commerce
Licensing Solicitors
British Beer & Pub Association
Association of British Bookmakers
General Secretary Casino Operators Association of the UK
National Casino Industry Forum
British Amusement Catering Trade Association (BACTA)
Responsibility in Gambling Trust
Gamcare
The Gambling Commission
The Bingo Association
The British Casino Association
Business in Sport & Leisure
British Beer and Pub Association BBPA Midland Counties
Breweries
Gaming Machine Companies
Operators of Gambling Premises in Sandwell
Amusement Arcades
Bingo Halls
Casinos
Betting Offices and/or their Registered Offices

Persons representative of the interests of the local community, residents and others likely to be affected by the exercise of the Council's functions:

All Members of the Council (Councillors)
Members of Parliament for the Sandwell area
MEP's for the Sandwell area

The revised statement of principles is now proposed for adoption

4. Assess likely impact

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

The updated Gambling Act 2003 - Statement of Principles will impact on the regulation of gambling activity in the borough to ensure the Licensing Authority fulfils its licensing responsibilities in a safe and compliant way. It will also promote responsible activity by licence holders.

Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics

4a. Use the table to show:

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact ✓	Negative Impact ✓	No Impact ✓	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
Age			✓	The proposed Statement of Principles is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Disability			✓	The proposed Statement of Principles is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics

Gender reassignment			✓	The proposed Statement of Principles is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Marriage and civil partnership			✓	The proposed Statement of Principles is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Pregnancy and maternity			✓	The proposed Statement of Principles is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Race			✓	The proposed Statement of Principles is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Religion or belief			✓	The proposed Statement of Principles is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics

Sex			✓	The proposed Statement of Principles is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Sexual orientation			✓	The proposed Statement of Principles is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Other				

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes ☐ No ☒

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.

5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?

6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?

7. Monitoring arrangements

8. Action planning

You may wish to use the action plan template below

Action Plan Template

[illegible]

9. Publish the EIA

Where can I get additional information, advice and guidance?

In the first instance, please consult the accompanying guide “Equality Impact Assessment Guidance”

Practical advice, guidance and support

Help and advice on undertaking an EIA or receiving training related to equalities legislation and EIAs is available to **all managers** across the council from officers within Service Improvement. The officers within Service Improvement will also provide overview quality assurance checks on completed EIA documents.

Please contact:

Kashmir Singh - 0121 569 3828