

Appendix 3

London Borough of Brent

Statement of Gambling Principles - Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Department:	Regeneration and Growth
Service Area:	Regulatory Services
Person Responsible:	Pollen Exeter
Timescale for Equality Impact Assessment:	n/a
Name of service/policy/procedure/project, etc.	Statement of Gambling Principles 2016-2019
Is the service/policy/procedure/project:	Old
Predictive or Retrospective	Predictive
Adverse Impact/Not found/Found	Not Found
Service/policy/procedure/project etc, amended to stop or reduce adverse impact	n/a
Is there likely to be a differential impact on any group?	No
1. Grounds of race: Ethnicity, nationality or national origin e.g. people of different ethnic backgrounds including Gypsies and Travellers and Refugees/ Asylum Seekers	No
2. Grounds of gender: Sex, marital status, transgendered people and people with caring responsibilities	No
3. Grounds of disability: Physical or sensory impairment, mental disability or learning disability	No
4. Grounds of faith or belief: Religion/faith including people who do not have a religion	No
5. Grounds of sexual orientation: Lesbian, Gay and bisexual	No
Consultation concluded	Yes
Person responsible for arranging the review	Pollen Exeter
Person responsible for publishing results of Equality Impact Assessment:	Yogini Patel
Person responsible for monitoring	Yogini Patel
Date results due to be published and where	
1. What is the service/policy/procedure/project etc to be assessed?	Statement of Gambling Principles 2016-2019

2. Briefly describe the aim of the service/policy etc? What needs or duties is it designed to meet? How does it differ from any existing services/policies in this area

Brent Council is the licensing authority under the Gambling Act 2005 (the Act) and is responsible for granting premises licences for gambling in the Borough. The Act created the Gambling Commission as a national regulatory body to enforce stronger gambling regulations. S.349 of the Act requires the council to publish a statement of the principles that it proposes to apply when exercising its functions under the Act. This statement must be published every three years. The statement must be reviewed from time to time and if the council thinks it necessary in the light of a review, revise the statement and publish any revision of it before it comes into effect. The council is required to consult widely on the statement and any revision of it. The Statement was last revised in 2011. It is now time for Brent Council to review its Statement of Principles and undertake a public consultation exercise in order that the latest version can be agreed by the Full Council in autumn 2015 and published in January 2016.

Consultees must include the chief officer of police, one or more persons representing the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the authority's area, and one or more persons representing the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authority's functions under the Act.

Activities covered by legislation and this policy include:

- (a) The licensing of premises where gambling activities are to take place by issuing *Premises Licences*
- (b) Issue *Provisional Statements*
- (c) Regulate *members' clubs* and *miners' welfare institutes* who wish to undertake certain gaming activities via issuing Club Gaming Permits and/or Club Machine Permits
- (d) Issue *Club Machine Permits* to *Commercial Clubs*
- (e) Grant permits for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines at *unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres*
- (f) Receive notifications from alcohol licensed premises (under the Licensing Act 2003) for the use of two or fewer gaming machines
- (g) Issue *Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits* for premises licensed to sell/supply alcohol for consumption on the licensed premises, under the Licensing Act 2003, where there are more than two machines
- (h) Register *small society lotteries* below prescribed thresholds
- (i) Issue *Prize Gaming Permits*
- (j) Receive and Endorse *Temporary Use Notices*
- (k) Receive *Occasional Use Notices*
- (l) Provide information to the Gambling Commission regarding details of licences issued (see section above on 'information exchange')
- (m) Maintain registers of the permits and licences that are issued under these functions

The Council exercise its powers of compliance and enforcement under the Act in partnership with the Gambling Commission and other relevant responsible authorities

The existing policy sets out the general approach the council will take when considering applications for licences. The Act provides a clear focus on the three licensing objectives which are:

- (a) Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime;
- (b) Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way;
- (c) Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling

This review takes on board minor changes to the Guidance issued to licensing authorities by the Commission. These changes include:

- A new name for Bet Receipt Terminals;
- a requirement to comply with the new Regulators' Code, additional advice notes on what constitutes bingo; and
- the removal of references to the now defunct horse betting levy board.

The review considered the location of gambling establishments in relation to areas of social deprivation and of establishments occupied or attended by vulnerable persons. These premises include schools, youth centres, children centres and hostels.

3. Are the aims consistent with the Council's Comprehensive Equality Policy?

This policy is consistent with the Council's aim to ensure that the services we provide are relevant to the needs of all sections of the communities. The proposals are not expected to adversely affect any of the protected equalities groups highlighted in this assessment.

4. Is there any evidence to suggest that this could affect some groups of people? Is there an adverse impact around race/gender/disability/faith/sexual orientation/health etc? What are the reasons for this adverse impact?

The Council recognises that many people enjoy gambling as part of their entertainment, leisure and sporting activities from which economic and social benefits arise for businesses. Appropriately licensed and regulated gambling should help to exclude illegal gambling. Gambling creates employment in the borough, but it also presents risks to children, vulnerable people, existing problem gamblers, and in certain circumstances being the cause of crime and disorder.

Most of the gambling establishments are owned by large businesses. There are very few owned by people from the disadvantaged groups, although they account for a large proportion of users. We will continue to monitor gambling operations to detect any adverse effect on these groups.

The Council in its role as licensing authority recognises the importance of its decision making process, the input of all stakeholders, and the application of this Statement of Principles in relation to the Gambling Policy to deal with the competing interests of business and local communities. The Council will therefore seek to strike a balance between the different aspirations and requirements of businesses, local residents and the many visitors to the borough

5. Please describe the evidence you have used to make your judgement. What existing data for example (qualitative or quantitative) have you used to form your judgement? Please supply us with the evidence you used to make your judgement separately (by gender, race, disability etc).

The initial screening on the policy review found that there was no adverse impact on any of the protected equalities groups from the implementation of this policy, or the changes/amendments under consideration as part of the review.

The evidence is based on:

- Data obtained through inspecting gambling premises
- Crime data supplied by the Police
- Public consultation - a four week public consultation was carried out with responsible authorities, key stakeholders This included members, statutory consultees, residents and business representatives groups.

There were five responses to the consultation and their comments have been taken on board.

Race

None of the evidence reviewed highlighted any adverse impacts concerning race.

Gender

None of the evidence reviewed highlighted any adverse impacts concerning gender

Disability

None of the evidence reviewed highlighted any adverse impacts concerning disability.

Faith/Belief

None of the evidence reviewed highlighted any adverse impacts concerning faith/belief.

Sexual orientation

None of the evidence reviewed highlighted any adverse impacts concerning sexual orientation.

Age

None of the evidence reviewed highlighted any adverse impacts concerning age.

6. Are there any unmet needs/requirements that can be identified that affect specific groups? (Please refer to provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act and the regulations on sexual orientation and faith, Age regulations/legislation if applicable).

No.

7. Have you consulted externally as part of your assessment? Who have you consulted with? What methods did you use? What have you done with the results i.e. how do you intend to use the information gathered as part of the consultation?

There has been consultation with key stakeholders, and a public consultation undertaken as part of the policy review).

Public consultation was conducted via the online consultation portal on the LB Brent website. The results of this consultation informed the final draft of the SLP published.

8. Have you published the results of the consultation, if so where?

The results have not been published to any external audience. However, each of the respondents has been written to.

9. Is there a public concern (in the media etc) that this function or policy is being operated in a discriminatory manner

No.

10. If in your judgement the proposed service/policy etc does have an adverse impact, can that impact be justified? You need to think about whether the proposed service/policy etc will have a positive or negative effect on the promotion of equality of opportunity, if it will help eliminate discrimination in any way, or encourage or hinder community relations
There is no adverse impact.
11. If the impact cannot be justified, how do you intend to deal with it?
N/A
12. What can be done to improve access to/take up of services?
N/A
13. What is the justification for taking these measures?
N/A
14. Please provide us with separate evidence of how you intend to monitor in the future. Please give the name of the person who will be responsible on the front page
The Council will continue to use the Equality Monitoring Forms. Any further changes or action to be determined by licensing officer, Yogini Patel.
15. What are your recommendations based on the conclusions and comments of this assessment?
Should you:
1. Take immediate action - No 2. Develop equality objectives and targets based on the conclusions? No 3. Carry out further research? No
16. If equality objectives and targets need to be developed, please list them here
N/A
17. What will your resource allocation for action comprise of?
N/A

Appendix 1

Data Sources:

POLICE DATA	LEVEL
All crime with a gambling flag	Postcode Level
Grouped crime with a gambling flag	Postcode Level
PREMISES	
All licenced premises	Postcode Level

Appendix 2

Key Stakeholders:

ORGANISATION	REMIT	ROLE
LB Brent	All Members	Member
MPS	Brent Community Safety Partnership Team	Police Constable
MPS	Licensing Police	
Safer Neighbourhood Group	Representative Group	Chair
LB Brent	Public Health	Director
Sudbury Town Residents Association	Representative Group	Deputy Chair
Age UK Brent	Advocacy & support	Head of Advocacy
Crime Reductions Initiative (CRI)	Advocacy & support	Manager
Gambling establishments located in the borough	Premises licence holders	Premises licence holders