



Exeter City Council

To the Chair and Members
of the Licensing Committee

Please ask for: Howard Bassett
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Email: howard.bassett@exeter.gov.uk
Our ref:
Your ref:

A meeting of the **LICENSING COMMITTEE** will be held in the Rennes Room, Civic Centre, Paris Street, Exeter on **TUESDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2012 at 5.30 pm** to consider the following business.

If you have an enquiry regarding any items on this agenda, please contact Howard Bassett, on **Exeter 265107**.

Pages

AGENDA

1 **APOLOGIES**

To receive apologies from Committee members.

2 **MINUTES**

To sign the minutes of the meetings held on 24 July and 25 September 2012.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors are reminded of the need to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests that relate to business on the agenda and which have not already been included in the register of interests, before any discussion takes place on the item. Unless the interest is sensitive, you must also disclose the nature of the interest. In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, you must then leave the room and must not participate in any further discussion of the item. Councillors requiring clarification should seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer prior to the day of the meeting.

4 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 -
EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

To pass the following resolution:-

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for items 6 to 8 on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Office of Corporate Manager (Democratic & Civic Support)

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GAMBLING ACT 2005

- 5 **REVIEW OF GAMBLING POLICY : RESPONSES TO THE DRAFT POLICY
USED AS A CONSULTATION DRAFT** 1 - 38

To consider the report of the Assistant Director Environment.

(Report circulated)

Part II: Items suggested for discussion with the press and public excluded

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982

- 6 **APPLICATION FOR THE ISSUE OF A STREET TRADING CONSENT (MS JH)** 39 - 56

To consider the report of the Assistant Director Environment.

(Report circulated to Members)

TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847/TRANSPORT ACT 1985, SECTION 16

- 7 **APPLICATION FOR THE ISSUE OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE
LICENCE (MR SB)** 57 - 64

To consider the report of the Assistant Director Environment.

(Report circulated to Members)

- 8 **APPLICATION FOR THE ISSUE OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE
LICENCE (MR SR)** 65 - 74

To consider the report of the Assistant Director Environment.

(Report circulated to Members)

Membership will be drawn from the following members of the Licensing Committee -
Councillors Owen (Chair), Dawson (Deputy Chair), Choules, Clark, D J Henson, Leadbetter,
Macdonald, Payne, Pearson, Robson, Ruffle, Shiel, Tippins and Winterbottom

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**EXETER CITY COUNCIL
LICENSING COMMITTEE
27 NOVEMBER 2012**

**GAMBLING ACT 2005
NEW STATEMENT OF POLICY:
RESPONSES TO THE STATEMENT OF POLICY CONSULTATION**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The Gambling Act 2005 (“the Act”) introduced significant changes to licensing law in England and Wales. This report refers to one of the fundamental requirements of the Act, the Statement of Policy.
- 1.2 The Statement of Policy sets out the principles that a licensing authority proposes to apply in exercising its functions under the Act and lasts for a maximum of three years after which time a new Statement of Policy must be produced. Exeter City Council’s current Statement of Policy lasts until 30 January 2013.
- 1.3 The new Statement of Policy has been subject to a three month consultation period, with the bodies and persons set out in the Act and others, commencing at the end of July 2012. The purpose of this report is to inform Members of any responses to the consultation and to recommend that the Council produces the new Statement of Policy for the three year period from 31 January 2013 to 30 January 2016.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At present, Exeter City Council licences the following under the Act:

| | |
|-----|--|
| 2 | Bingo premises |
| 6 | Adult Gaming Centres |
| 14 | Betting Premises |
| 1 | Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre (Gaming machine permit) |
| 1 | Club Gaming Permit |
| 18 | Club Machine Permits |
| 87 | Notifications of 2 machines in licensed premises |
| 20 | Licensed premises Gaming Machine Permits |
| 123 | Small Society Lottery licences |

There are no Casinos or track betting licensed in Exeter.

- 2.2 A copy of the new Statement of Policy consulted upon is attached at Appendix 1 for information.
- 2.3 A copy of the relevant section of the guidance published by the Gambling Commission is attached at Appendix 2. The full Gambling Commission guidance can be found at:
<http://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk/pdf/GLA4%20September%202012.df>
- 2.4 In line with the resolution of the Licensing Committee dated 24 July 2012, the new Statement of Policy consulted upon is unchanged from the current Statement of Policy. There has not been any reason or need to amend the

Statement of Policy produced when the Gambling Act 2005 first came in to force.

- 2.5 The Council is required to give careful consideration as to whether the views of any consultees should be taken in to account and must give reasons for decisions taken following consultation. The list of persons to be consulted is deliberately wide and includes anyone who may be affected or otherwise have an interest in the new Statement of Policy; however, there have been no responses to the consultation undertaken in July 2012.

3. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Statement of Policy can be reviewed or revised by the licensing authority at any time during its three year life. It is likely that this policy will be subject to a revision to reflect any changes in the 4th Edition of the Gambling Commission Guidance, published during the consultation period.
- 3.2 Not less than 4 weeks before it is to come in to effect, the new Statement of Policy must be published on the Council's internet website and must be made available for public inspection during the interim period at reasonable times in one or more public libraries in the district and/or premises situate in the district. Further, the date of coming into effect of the new Statement of Policy and details of where it may be inspected must be advertised.
- 3.3 There are a number of overarching statutory schemes designed to protect human rights and equalities and to reduce crime and disorder. The Statement of Policy takes in to account the relevant statutory regimes which are set out below. Additionally, these statutory regimes overarch any individual matters dealt with under the Act.

3.3.1 Human Rights Act 1998

The Secretary of State has certified that the Act is compatible with the European Convention on Human Rights. Local licensing authorities have a duty when applying any policy to consider whether in the light of relevant representations made to them, exceptions to the policies should be made in any particular case.

3.3.2 Equality Act 2010

Equality Act 2010 obliges local licensing authorities in the exercise of their functions to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity between the sexes and to foster good relations between the sexes. In considering the draft Gambling Policy, there was deemed to be no negative impact upon any of the target equality groups.

3.3.3 Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on local licensing authorities to exercise their functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that they reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder, including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment, the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other

substances and also reoffending. The draft Gambling Policy was considered to support the prevention of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

4. OPTIONS

In resolving to produce a new Statement of Policy the Licensing Committee must demonstrate regard to the following:

- Statement of Policy (attached in Appendix I);
- the Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission (attached in Appendix 2, with the latest guidance accessed through the link in paragraph 2.3);
- any views of consultees (no representations have been received).

5. TIMETABLE

The following timetable was formulated:

- July 2012 consultation period commenced;
- 26 October 2012 consultation period ended;
- 27 November 2012 – new Statement of Policy for approval by Licensing Committee, with recommendation to Full Council;
- 11 December 2012 – new Statement of Policy to Full Council for approval;
- 2 January 2013 – new Statement of Policy published on Council's internet website and deposited for inspection and notification advertised.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 That the Committee determines whether to approve the new Statement of Policy and recommend its approval by Full Council in line with the timetable set out above.

Assistant Director Environment

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:

None

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Exeter City Council

STATEMENT OF POLICY UNDER GAMBLING ACT 2005

For the period 31 January 2013 to 30 January 2016

Consultation 24 July 2012 until 26 October 2012
Produced by Licensing Committee 27 November 2012
Approved by Full Council 12 December 2012
Published 2 January 2013

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This Statement of Policy was consulted upon between July and October 2012 Prior to the publication of the 4th Edition of Gambling Commission - Guidance to Licensing Authorities in September 2012. Therefore all references are to 3rd Edition, published April 2009.

PART A

1. The Licensing Objectives

In exercising most of their functions under the Gambling Act 2005, licensing authorities must have regard to the licensing objectives as set out in section 1 of the Act. The licensing objectives are:

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

It should be noted that the Gambling Commission has stated, “the requirement in relation to children is explicitly to protect them from being harmed or exploited by gambling”.

This licensing authority is aware that, as per section 153, in making decisions about premises licences and temporary use notices it should aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks it:

- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives and
- in accordance with the authority’s statement of licensing policy

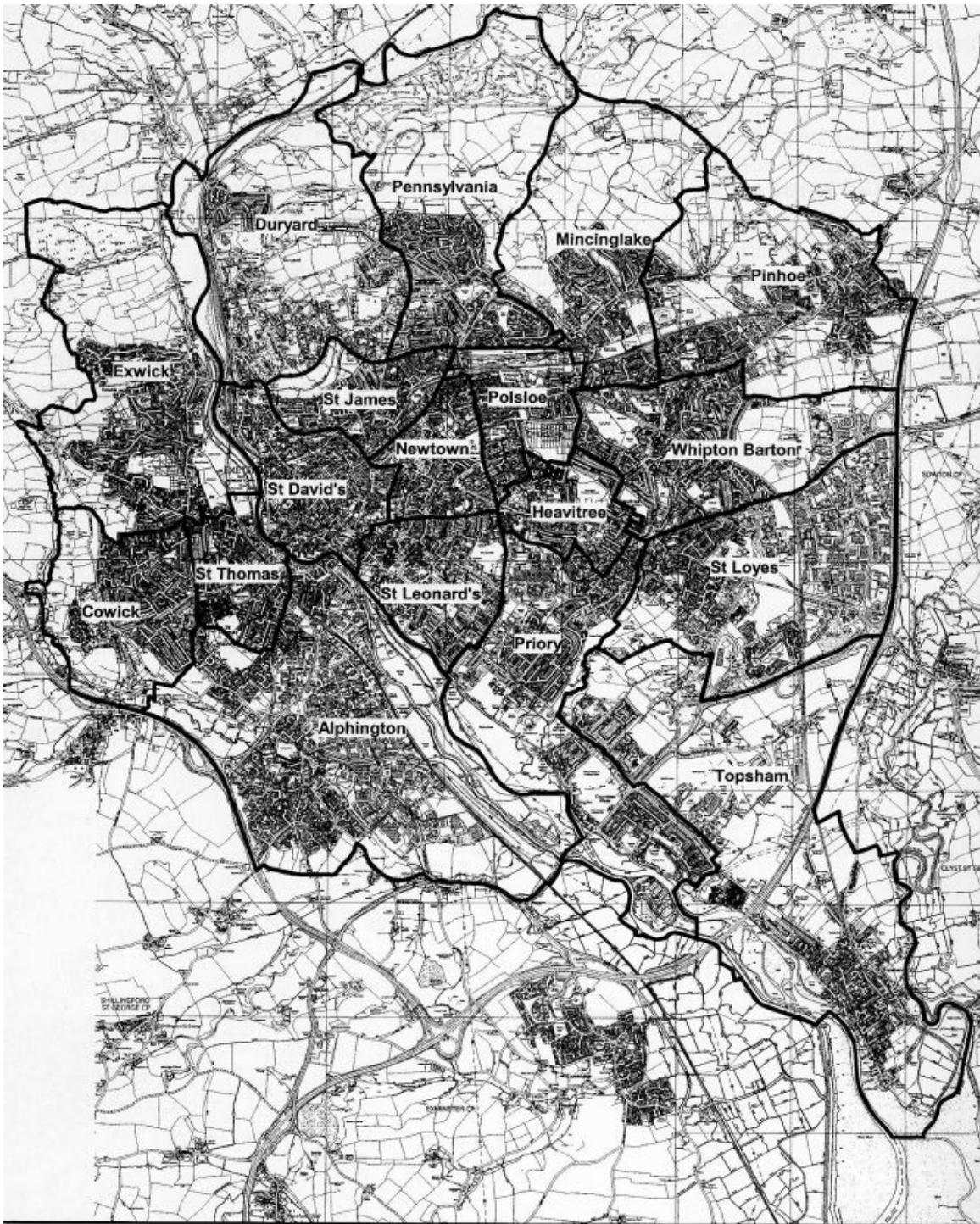
2. Introduction




Exeter is a mainly urban Authority located towards the East of the County of Devon and bordered by the more rural Authorities of East Devon, Mid Devon and Teignbridge. Exeter is the regional capital of Devon comprising 4774 hectares. Long established as a cultural and visitor centre, it attracts large numbers of tourists and holiday makers as well as providing attractions to the surrounding towns and villages of east and mid Devon.

To the south and west of Exeter is Plymouth and Torbay; between them they have three casinos all granted prior to the Gambling Act 2005 coming into force. Exeter lies at the end of the M5 corridor and has a well established airport as well as excellent rail and bus links to London and the rest of the country. The current arrangements for night time travel in the City are poor. The question as to whether there are sufficient taxis available during the evenings and at night is kept under constant review.

The Council area has a population of approximately 122,400 [Office National Statistics June 2007]. This figure includes the student population.



Scale 1:45000 
 Revised ward boundaries

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5 Feb 2004

Planning Services, Exeter City Council, Civic Centre, Paris Street, Exeter, EX1 1NN

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Licensing authorities are required by the Gambling Act 2005 to publish a statement of the principles which they propose to apply when exercising their functions. A new statement must be published at least every three years. The statement must also be reviewed from “time to time” and any amended parts re-consulted upon. The statement must be then re-published.

Exeter City Council consulted widely upon this statement before finalising and publishing. A list of those persons consulted is provided below.

The Gambling Act 2005 requires that the following parties are consulted by Licensing Authorities:

- The Chief Officer of Police;
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the authority’s area;
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authority’s functions under the Gambling Act 2005.

List of persons this authority consulted:

- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership [CDRP]
- Devon and Cornwall Constabulary.
- Services Devon County Council Social services /Education dept
- Devon and Somerset fire and rescue service
- Environmental Health
- Gamblers Anonymous
- Gambling Commission
- Gamcare
- Local Business and their representatives
- Local residents and their representatives
- Mencap
- NSPCC
- Representatives of existing licence holders
- Voluntary and community organisations working with children

Our consultation took place between 24 July and 26 October 2012 and we followed the HM Government Code of Practice on Consultation (published July 2008), which is available at:

<http://www.bis.gov.uk/files/file47158.pdf>

The full list of comments made and the consideration by the Council of those comments is available by request to: Principle Licensing Officer 01392 265434 or the Council’s website at: www.exeter.gov.uk/gambling

The policy was approved at a meeting of the Full Council on 11 December 2012 and was published via our website by 2 January 2013. Copies were placed in the public libraries and hard copies available from the Civic Centre Paris Street Exeter.

Should you have any comments as regards this policy statement please send them via e-mail or letter to the following contact:

Name: Mr I Ley

Address: Civic Centre Paris Street Exeter EX1 1RQ

E-mail: ian.ley@exeter.gov.uk OR licensingteam@exeter.gov.uk

It should be noted that this policy statement will not override the right of any person to make an application, make representations about an application, or apply for a review of a licence, as each will be considered on its own merits and according to the statutory requirements of the Gambling Act 2005.

3. Declaration

In producing the Statement of Policy, this licensing authority declares that it has had regard to the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005, the Guidance to Licensing Authorities issued by the Gambling Commission, and any responses from those consulted on the Statement of Policy.

4. Responsible Authorities

The licensing authority is required by regulations to state the principles it will apply in exercising its powers under Section 157(h) of the Act to designate, in writing, a body which is competent to advise the authority about the protection of children from harm. The principles are:

- the need for the body to be responsible for an area covering the whole of the licensing authority's area; and
- the need for the body to be answerable to democratically elected persons, rather than any particular vested interest group.

In accordance with the suggestion in the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities, this authority designates the Local Safeguarding Children Board for this purpose.

The contact details of all the Responsible Authorities under the Gambling Act 2005 are available via the Council's website at: www.exeter.gov.uk/gambling

5. Interested parties

Interested parties can make representations about licence applications, or apply for a review of an existing licence. These parties are defined in the Gambling Act 2005 as follows:

“For the purposes of this Part a person is an interested party in relation to an application for or in respect of a premises licence if, in the opinion of the licensing authority which issues the licence or to which the applications is made, the person:

- a) lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities,
- b) has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities, or

c) represents persons who satisfy paragraph (a) or (b)”

The licensing authority is required by regulations to state the principles it will apply in exercising its powers under the Gambling Act 2005 to determine whether a person is an interested party. The principles are:

- each case will be decided upon its merits. This authority will not apply a rigid rule to its decision making.
- it will consider the examples of considerations provided in the Gambling Commission Guidance to licensing authorities at 8.11 to 8.19 It will also consider the Gambling Commission Guidance that "has business interests" should be given the widest possible interpretation and include partnerships, charities, faith groups and medical practices.
- Interested parties can be persons who are democratically elected such as councillors and MPs. No specific evidence of being asked to represent an interested person will be required as long as the councillor / MP represent the ward likely to be affected. Likewise, parish councils likely to be affected will be considered to be interested parties.
- other than these however, this authority will generally require written evidence that a person/body (e.g. an advocate / relative) 'represents' someone who either lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities and/or has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities. A letter from one of these persons, requesting the representation is sufficient.

If individuals wish to approach councillors to ask them to represent their views then care should be taken that the councillors are not part of the Licensing Committee dealing with the licence application. If there are any doubts then please contact the Licensing Authority at licensingteam@exeter.gov.uk

6. Exchange of Information

Licensing authorities are required to include in their statements the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the functions under sections 29 and 30 of the Act with respect to the exchange of information between it and the Gambling Commission, and the functions under section 350 of the Act with the respect to the exchange of information between it and the other persons listed in Schedule 6 to the Act.

The principle that this licensing authority applies is that it will act in accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 in its exchange of information which includes the provision that the Data Protection Act 1998 will not be contravened. The licensing authority will also have regard to any Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission to licensing authorities on this matter, as well as any relevant regulations issued by the Secretary of State under the powers provided in the Gambling Act 2005.

Should any protocols be established as regards information exchange with other bodies then they will be made available or please contact the Licensing Authority at licensingteam@exeter.gov.uk for further information on our protocols.

7. Enforcement

Licensing authorities are required by regulation under the Gambling Act 2005 to state the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the functions under Part 15 of the Act with respect to the inspection of premises; and the powers under section 346 of the Act to institute criminal proceedings in respect of the offences specified.

This licensing authority's principles are that it will be guided by the Gambling Commission's Guidance to licensing authorities and will endeavour to be:

- Proportionate: regulators should only intervene when necessary, remedies should be appropriate to the risk posed, and costs identified and minimised;
- Accountable: regulators must be able to justify decisions, and be subject to public scrutiny;
- Consistent: rules and standards must be joined up and implemented fairly;
- Transparent: regulators should be open, and keep regulations simple and user friendly; and
- Targeted: regulation should be focused on the problem, and minimise side effects.

As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance to licensing authorities this licensing authority will endeavour to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes so far as possible.

This licensing authority has adopted and implemented a risk-based inspection programme, based on;

- The licensing objectives
- Relevant codes of practice
- Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, in particular at Part 36
- The principles set out in this statement of licensing policy

The main enforcement and compliance role for this licensing authority in terms of the Gambling Act 2005 is to ensure compliance with the premises licences and other permissions which it authorises. The Gambling Commission is the enforcement body for the operating and personal licences. It is also worth noting that concerns about manufacture, supply or repair of gaming machines are not dealt with by the licensing authority but should be notified to the Gambling Commission.

This licensing authority also keeps itself informed of developments as regards the work of the Better Regulation Executive in its consideration of the regulatory functions of local authorities.

Bearing in mind the principle of transparency, this licensing authority's enforcement/compliance protocols/written agreements are available upon request to the Licensing Authority at licensingteam@exeter.gov.uk. Our risk methodology is also available upon request.

8. Licensing Authority functions

Licensing Authorities are required under the Act to:

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

It should be noted that licensing authorities are not involved in licensing remote gambling at all, which is regulated by the Gambling Commission via operating licences.

PART B PREMISES LICENCES: CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

1. General Principles

Premises licences are subject to the requirements set-out in the Gambling Act 2005 and regulations, as well as specific mandatory and default conditions which are detailed in regulations issued by the Secretary of State. Licensing authorities are able to exclude default conditions and also attach others, where it is believed to be appropriate.

This licensing authority is aware that in making decisions about premises licences it should aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks it is:

- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission;
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission ;
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
- in accordance with the authority's Statement of Policy.

It is appreciated that as per the Gambling Commission's Guidance to licensing

authorities "moral objections to gambling are not a valid reason to reject applications for premises licences" (except as regards any 'no casino resolution' - see section on Casinos - page 12) and also that unmet demand is not a criterion for a licensing authority.

Definition of Premises

In the Act, "premises" is defined as including "any place". Section 152 therefore prevents more than one premises licence applying to any place. But a single building could be subject to more than one premises licence, provided they are for different parts of the building and the different parts of the building can be reasonably regarded as being different premises. This approach has been taken to allow large, multiple unit premises such as a pleasure park, pier, track or shopping mall to obtain discrete premises licences, where appropriate safeguards are in place. However, licensing authorities should pay particular attention if there are issues about sub-divisions of a single building or plot and should ensure that mandatory conditions relating to access between premises are observed.

The Gambling Commission states in the third edition of its Guidance to Licensing Authorities that: "In most cases the expectation is that a single building / plot will be the subject of an application for a licence, for example, 32 High Street. But, that does not mean 32 High Street cannot be the subject of separate premises licences for the basement and ground floor, if they are configured acceptably. Whether different parts of a building can properly be regarded as being separate premises will depend on the circumstances. The location of the premises will clearly be an important consideration and the suitability of the division is likely to be a matter for discussion between the operator and the licensing officer. However, the Commission does not consider that areas of a building that are artificially or temporarily separated, for example by ropes or moveable partitions, can properly be regarded as different premises."

This licensing authority takes particular note of the Gambling Commission's Guidance to licensing authorities which states that: licensing authorities should take particular care in considering applications for multiple licences for a building and those relating to a discrete part of a building used for other (non-gambling) purposes. In particular they should be aware of the following:

- The third licensing objective seeks to protect children from being harmed by gambling. In practice that means not only preventing them from taking part in gambling, but also preventing them from being in close proximity to gambling. Therefore premises should be configured so that children are not invited to participate in, have accidental access to or closely observe gambling where they are prohibited from participating.
- Entrances to and exits from parts of a building covered by one or more premises licences should be separate and identifiable so that the separation of different premises is not compromised and people do not "drift" into a gambling area. In this context it should normally be possible to access the premises without going through another licensed premises or premises with a permit
- Customers should be able to participate in the activity names on the premises licence

The Guidance also gives a list of factors which the licensing authority should be aware of, which may include:

Do the premises have a separate registration for business rates?

Is the premises' neighbouring premises owned by the same person or someone else?

Can each of the premises be accessed from the street or a public passageway?

Can the premises only be accessed from any other gambling premises?

This authority will consider these and other relevant factors in making its decision, depending on all the circumstances of the case.

The Gambling Commission's relevant access provisions for each premises type are reproduced below from the Gambling Commission Guidance,

Casinos

- The principal access entrance to the premises must be from a street (as defined at 7.23 of the Guidance)
- No entrance to a casino must be from premises that are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons
- No customer must be able to enter a casino directly from any other premises which holds a gambling premises licence

Adult Gaming Centre

- No customer must be able to access the premises directly from any other licensed gambling premises

Betting Shops

- Access must be from a street (as per paragraph 7.23 Guidance to Licensing Authorities) or from another premises with a betting premises licence
- No direct access from a betting shop to another premises used for the retail sale of merchandise or services. In effect there cannot be an entrance to a betting shop from a shop of any kind and you could not have a betting shop at the back of a café – the whole area would have to be licensed.

Tracks

- No customer should be able to access the premises directly from:
 - a casino
 - an adult gaming centre

Bingo Premises

- No customer must be able to access the premise directly from:
 - a casino
 - an adult gaming centre
 - a betting premises, other than a track

Family Entertainment Centre

- No customer must be able to access the premises directly from:
 - a casino
 - an adult gaming centre
 - a betting premises, other than a track

Part 7 of the Gambling Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities contains further guidance on this issue, which this authority will also take into account in its decision-making.

Premises Ready for Gambling

The Guidance states that a licence to use premises for gambling should only be issued in relation to premises that the licensing authority can be satisfied are going to be ready to be used for gambling in the reasonably near future, consistent with the scale of building or alterations required before the premises are brought into use.

If the construction of a premises is not yet complete, or if they need alteration, or if the applicant does not yet have a right to occupy them, then an application for a provisional statement should be made instead.

In deciding whether a premises licence can be granted where there are outstanding construction or alteration works at a premises, this authority will determine applications on their merits, applying a two stage consideration process, first, whether the premises ought to be permitted to be used for gambling and secondly whether appropriate conditions can be put in place to cater for the situation that the premises are not yet in the state in which they ought to be before gambling takes place.

Applicants should note that this authority is entitled to decide that it is appropriate to grant a licence subject to conditions, but it is not obliged to grant such a licence.

More detailed examples of the circumstances in which such a licence may be granted can be found at paragraphs 7.59 – 7.66 of the Guidance.

Location

This licensing authority is aware that demand issues cannot be considered with regard to the location of premises but that considerations in terms of the licensing objectives are relevant to its decision-making. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance to licensing authorities, this authority will pay particular attention to the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling, as well as issues of crime and disorder. Should any specific policy be decided upon as regards areas where gambling premises should not be located, this statement will be updated. It should be noted that any such policy does not preclude any application being made and each application will be decided on its merits, with the onus upon the applicant showing how potential concerns can be overcome.

Planning

The Gambling Commission Guidance to Licensing Authorities states at paragraph 7.59, *"in determining applications the licensing authority has a duty to take into consideration all relevant matters and not to take into consideration any irrelevant matters, i.e. those not related to gambling and the licensing objectives. One example of an irrelevant matter would be the likelihood of the applicant obtaining planning permission or building regulations approval for their proposal."*

This authority will not take into account irrelevant matters as per the above guidance. In addition this authority notes the following excerpt from the Guidance at paragraph 7.66, *"when dealing with a premises licence application for finished buildings, the licensing*

authority should not take into account whether those buildings have or comply with the necessary planning or building consents. Those matters should be dealt with under relevant planning control and building regulation powers, and not form part of the consideration for the premises licence. Section 210 of the 2005 Act prevents licensing authorities taking into account the likelihood of the proposal by the applicant obtaining planning or building consent when considering a premises licence application. Equally the grant of a gambling premises licence does not prejudice or prevent any action that may be appropriate under the law relating to planning or building.”

Duplication with other regulatory regimes

This licensing authority seeks to avoid any duplication with other statutory / regulatory systems where possible, including planning. This authority will not consider whether a licence application is likely to be awarded planning permission or building regulations approval, in its consideration of it. It will though, listen to, and consider carefully, any concerns about conditions which are not able to be met by licensees due to planning restrictions, should such a situation arise.

When dealing with a premises licence application for finished buildings, this authority will not take into account whether those buildings have to comply with the necessary planning or buildings consents. Fire or health and safety risks will not be taken into account, as these matters are dealt with under relevant planning control, buildings and other regulations and must not form part of the consideration for the premises licence.

Licensing Objectives

Premises licences granted must be reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives. With regard to these objectives, this licensing authority has considered the Gambling Commission’s Guidance to licensing authorities and some comments are made below.

Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime - This licensing authority is aware that the Gambling Commission takes a leading role in preventing gambling from being a source of crime. The Gambling Commission Guidance does however envisage that licensing authorities should pay attention to the proposed location of gambling premises in terms of this licensing objective. Thus, where an area has known high levels of organised crime this authority will consider carefully whether gambling premises are suitable to be located there and whether conditions may be suitable such as the provision of door supervisors. This licensing authority is aware of the distinction between disorder and nuisance and will consider factors (for example whether police assistance was required and how threatening the behaviour was to those who could see it) so as to make that distinction.

Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way - This licensing authority has noted that the Gambling Commission states that it generally does not expect licensing authorities to be concerned with ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way as this will be addressed via operating and personal licences. *For LA’S with tracks:* There is however, more of a role with regard to tracks which is explained in more detail in the 'tracks' section see page 14).

Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited

by gambling - This licensing authority has noted the Gambling Commission's Guidance that this objective means preventing children from taking part in gambling (as well as restriction of advertising so that gambling products are not aimed at or are, particularly attractive to children). The licensing authority will therefore consider, as suggested in the Gambling Commission Guidance, whether specific measures are required at particular premises, with regard to this licensing objective. Appropriate measures may include supervision of entrances / machines, segregation of areas etc.

This licensing authority is also aware of the Gambling Commission Codes of Practice as regards this licensing objective, in relation to specific premises.

As regards the term “vulnerable persons” it is noted that the Gambling Commission does not seek to offer a definition but states that “it will for regulatory purposes assume that this group includes people who gamble more than they want to; people who gamble beyond their means; and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.” This licensing authority will consider this licensing objective on a case by case basis.

Conditions

Any conditions attached to licences will be proportionate and will be:

- relevant to the need to make the proposed building suitable as a gambling facility;
- directly related to the premises and the type of licence applied for;
- fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises; and
- reasonable in all other respects.

Decisions upon individual conditions will be made on a case by case basis, although there will be a number of measures this licensing authority will consider utilising should there be a perceived need, such as the use of supervisors, appropriate signage for adult only areas etc. There are specific comments made in this regard under some of the licence types below. This licensing authority will also expect the licence applicant to offer his/her own suggestions as to the way in which the licensing objectives can be met effectively.

This licensing authority will also consider specific measures which may be required for buildings which are subject to multiple premises licences. Such measures may include the supervision of entrances; segregation of gambling from non-gambling areas frequented by children; and the supervision of gaming machines in non-adult gambling specific premises in order to pursue the licensing objectives. These matters are in accordance with the Gambling Commission's Guidance.

This authority will also ensure that where category C or above machines are on offer in premises to which children are admitted:

- all such machines are located in an area of the premises which is separated from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance;
- only adults are admitted to the area where these machines are located;

- access to the area where the machines are located is supervised;
- the area where these machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by the staff or the licence holder; and
- at the entrance to and inside any such areas there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18.

These considerations will apply to premises including buildings where multiple premises licences are applicable.

This licensing authority is aware that tracks may be subject to one or more than one premises licence, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance, this licensing authority will consider the impact upon the third licensing objective and the need to ensure that entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling areas where they are not permitted to enter.

It is noted that there are conditions which the licensing authority cannot attach to premises licences which are:

- any condition on the premises licence which makes it impossible to comply with an operating licence condition;
- conditions relating to gaming machine categories, numbers, or method of operation;
- conditions which provide that membership of a club or body be required (the Gambling Act 2005 specifically removes the membership requirement for casino and bingo clubs and this provision prevents it being reinstated); and
- conditions in relation to stakes, fees, winning or prizes.

Door Supervisors

The Gambling Commission advises in its Guidance to Licensing Authorities that if a licensing authority is concerned that a premises may attract disorder or be subject to attempts at unauthorised access (for example by children and young persons) then it may require that the entrances to the premises are controlled by a door supervisor, and is entitled to impose a premises licence to this effect.

Where it is decided that supervision of entrances/machines is appropriate for particular cases, a consideration of whether these need to be SIA licensed or not will be necessary. It will not be automatically assumed that they need to be licensed, as the statutory requirements for different types of premises vary (as per the Guidance, Part 33).

2. Adult Gaming Centres

This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to, for example, ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the premises.

This licensing authority may consider measures to meet the licensing objectives such as:

- Proof of age schemes
- CCTV
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas
- Physical separation of areas
- Location of entry
- Notices / signage
- Specific opening hours
- Self-exclusion schemes
- Provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

3. (Licensed) Family Entertainment Centres:

This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority, for example, that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machine areas.

This licensing authority may consider measures to meet the licensing objectives such as:

- CCTV
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas
- Physical separation of areas
- Location of entry
- Notices / signage
- Specific opening hours
- Self-exclusion schemes
- Provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.
- Measures / training for staff on how to deal with suspected truant school children on the premises

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

This licensing authority will, as per the Gambling Commission's guidance, refer to the Commission's website to see any conditions that apply to operating licences covering the way in which the area containing the category C machines should be delineated. This licensing authority will also make itself aware of any mandatory or default conditions on these premises licences, when they have been published.

4. Casinos

No Casinos resolution - This licensing authority has not passed a 'no casino' resolution under Section 166 of the Gambling Act 2005, but is aware that it has the power to do so. Should this licensing authority decide in the future to pass such a resolution, it will update this policy statement with details of that resolution. Any such decision will be

made by the Full Council.

5. Bingo premises

This licensing authority notes that the Gambling Commission's Guidance states:

Licensing authorities will need to satisfy themselves that bingo can be played in any bingo premises for which they issue a premises licence. This will be a relevant consideration where the operator of an existing bingo premises applies to vary their licence to exclude an area of the existing premises from its ambit and then applies for a new premises licence, or multiple licences, for that or those excluded areas.

This authority also notes the Guidance at paragraph 18.8 regarding the unusual circumstances in which the splitting of a pre-existing premises into two adjacent premises might be permitted, and in particular that it is not permissible to locate sixteen category B3 gaming machines in one of the resulting premises, as the gaming machine entitlement for that premises would be exceeded.

Children and young people are allowed into bingo premises, however they are not permitted to participate in the bingo and if category B or C machines are made available for use these must be separated from areas where children and young people are allowed.

6. Betting premises

Betting machines - This licensing authority will, as per the Gambling Commission's Guidance, take into account the size of the premises, the number of counter positions available for person-to-person transactions, and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable people, when considering the number/nature/circumstances of betting machines an operator wants to offer.

For authorities with tracks:

7. Tracks

This licensing authority is aware that tracks may be subject to one or more than one premises licence, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance, this licensing authority will especially consider the impact upon the third licensing objective (i.e. the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling) and the need to ensure that entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling areas where they are not permitted to enter.

This authority will therefore expect the premises licence applicant to demonstrate suitable measures to ensure that children do not have access to adult only gaming facilities. It is noted that children and young persons will be permitted to enter track areas where facilities for betting are provided on days when dog-racing and/or horse racing takes place, but that they are still prevented from entering areas where gaming machines (other than category D machines) are provided.

This licensing authority may consider measures to meet the licensing objectives such as:

- Proof of age schemes
- CCTV
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas
- Physical separation of areas
- Location of entry
- Notices / signage
- Specific opening hours
- Self-exclusion schemes
- Provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

Gaming machines - Where the applicant holds a pool betting operating licence and is going to use the entitlement to four gaming machines, machines (other than category D machines) should be located in areas from which children are excluded.

Betting machines - This licensing authority will, as per part 6 of the Gambling Commission's Guidance, take into account the size of the premises and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable people, when considering the number/nature/circumstances of betting machines an operator proposes to offer.

Applications and plans

The Gambling Act (s51) requires applicants to submit plans of the premises with their application, in order to ensure that the licensing authority has the necessary information to make an informed judgement about whether the premises are fit for gambling. The plan will also be used for the licensing authority to plan future premises inspection activity. (See Guidance to Licensing Authorities, para 20.28).

Plans for tracks do not need to be in a particular scale, but should be drawn to scale and should be sufficiently detailed to include the information required by regulations. (See Guidance to Licensing Authorities, paragraph 20.29).

Some tracks may be situated on agricultural land where the perimeter is not defined by virtue of an outer wall or fence, such as point-to-point racetracks. In such instances, where an entry fee is levied, track premises licence holders may erect temporary structures to restrict access to premises (See Guidance to Licensing Authorities, paragraph 20.31).

In the rare cases where the outer perimeter cannot be defined, it is likely that the track in question will not be specifically designed for the frequent holding of sporting events or races. In such cases betting facilities may be better provided through occasional use notices where the boundary premises do not need to be defined. (See Guidance to Licensing Authorities, paragraph 20.32).

This authority appreciates that it is sometimes difficult to define the precise location of

betting areas on tracks. The precise location of where betting facilities are provided is not required to be shown on track plans, both by virtue of the fact that betting is permitted anywhere on the premises and because of the difficulties associated with pinpointing exact locations for some types of track. Applicants should provide sufficient information that this authority can satisfy itself that the plan indicates the main areas where betting might take place. For racecourses in particular, any betting areas subject to the “five times rule” (commonly known as betting rings) must be indicated on the plan. (See Guidance to Licensing Authorities, paragraph 20.33).

8. Travelling Fairs

This licensing authority is responsible for deciding whether, where category D machines and / or equal chance prize gaming without a permit is to be made available for use at travelling fairs, the statutory requirement that the facilities for gambling amount to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair is met.

The licensing authority will also consider whether the applicant falls within the statutory definition of a travelling fair.

It is noted that the 27-day statutory maximum for the land being used as a fair applies on a per calendar year basis, and that it applies to the piece of land on which the fairs are held, regardless of whether it is the same or different travelling fairs occupying the land. This licensing authority will work with its neighbouring authorities to ensure that land which crosses our boundaries is monitored so that the statutory limits are not exceeded.

9. Provisional Statements

Developers may wish to apply to this authority for provisional statements before entering into a contract to buy or lease property or land to judge whether a development is worth taking forward in light of the need to obtain a premises licence. There is no need for the applicant to hold an operating licence in order to apply for a provisional statement.

S204 of the Gambling Act provides for a person to make an application to the licensing authority for a provisional statement in respect of premises that he or she:

- expects to be constructed;
- expects to be altered; or
- expects to acquire a right to occupy.

The process for considering an application for a provisional statement is the same as that for a premises licence application. The applicant is obliged to give notice of the application in the same way as applying for a premises licence. Responsible authorities and interested parties may make representations and there are rights of appeal.

In contrast to the premises licence application, the applicant does not have to hold or have applied for an operating licence from the Gambling Commission (except in the case of a track) and they do not have to have a right to occupy the premises in respect of which their provisional application is made.

The holder of a provisional statement may then apply for a premises licence once the premises are constructed, altered or acquired. The licensing authority will be constrained

in the matters it can consider when determining the premises licence application, and in terms of representations about premises licence applications that follow the grant of a provisional statement, no further representations from relevant authorities or interested parties can be taken into account unless:

- they concern matters which could not have been addressed at the provisional statement stage, or
- they reflect a change in the applicant's circumstances.

In addition, the authority may refuse the premises licence (or grant it on terms different to those attached to the provisional statement) only by reference to matters:

- which could not have been raised by objectors at the provisional statement stage;
- which in the authority's opinion reflect a change in the operator's circumstances; or
- where the premises has not been constructed in accordance with the plan submitted with the application. This must be a substantial change to the plan and this licensing authority notes that it can discuss any concerns it has with the applicant before making a decision.

10. Reviews

Requests for a review of a premises licence can be made by interested parties or responsible authorities; however, it is for the licensing authority to decide whether the review is to be carried-out. This will be on the basis of whether the request for the review is relevant to the matters listed below;

- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission;
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission;
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
- in accordance with the authority's statement of principles.

The request for the review will also be subject to the consideration by the authority as to whether the request is frivolous, vexatious, or whether it will certainly not cause this authority to wish to alter/revoke/suspend the licence, or whether it is substantially the same as previous representations or requests for review.

The licensing authority can also initiate a review of a particular premises licence, or a particular class of premises licence on the basis of any reason which it thinks is appropriate.

Once a valid application for a review has been received by the licensing authority, representations can be made by responsible authorities and interested parties during a 28 day period. This period begins 7 days after the application was received by the licensing authority, who will publish notice of the application within 7 days of receipt.

The licensing authority must carry out the review as soon as possible after the 28 day period for making representations has passed.

The purpose of the review will be to determine whether the licensing authority should take any action in relation to the licence. If action is justified, the options open to the licensing authority are:-

- (a) add, remove or amend a licence condition imposed by the licensing authority;
- (b) exclude a default condition imposed by the Secretary of State (e.g. opening hours) or remove or amend such an exclusion;
- (c) suspend the premises licence for a period not exceeding three months; and
- (d) revoke the premises licence.

In determining what action, if any, should be taken following a review, the licensing authority must have regard to the principles set out in section 153 of the Act, as well as any relevant representations.

In particular, the licensing authority may also initiate a review of a premises licence on the grounds that a premises licence holder has not provided facilities for gambling at the premises. This is to prevent people from applying for licences in a speculative manner without intending to use them.

Once the review has been completed, the licensing authority must, as soon as possible, notify its decision to:

- the licence holder
- the applicant for review (if any)
- the Commission
- any person who made representations
- the chief officer of police or chief constable; and
- Her Majesty's Commissioners for Revenue and Customs

PART C

Permits / Temporary & Occasional Use Notice

1. Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre Gaming Machine Permits (Statement of Policy on Permits - Schedule 10 paragraph 7)

Where a premises does not hold a premises licence but wishes to provide gaming machines, it may apply to the licensing authority for this permit. It should be noted that the applicant must show that the premises will be wholly or mainly used for making gaming machines available for use (Section 238).

The Gambling Act 2005 states that a licensing authority may prepare a *statement of principles* that they propose to consider in determining the suitability of an applicant for a permit and in preparing this statement, and/or considering applications, it need not (but may) have regard to the licensing objectives and shall have regard to any relevant guidance issued by the Commission under section 25. The Gambling Commission's Guidance to licensing authorities also states: "In their three year licensing policy statement, licensing authorities may include a statement of principles that they propose to apply when exercising their functions in considering applications for permits...., licensing authorities will want to give weight to child protection issues." (24.6)

Guidance also states: "...an application for a permit may be granted only if the licensing authority is satisfied that the premises will be used as an unlicensed FEC, and if the chief officer of police has been consulted on the application....Licensing authorities might wish to consider asking the applicant to demonstrate:

- a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible in unlicensed FECs;
- that the applicant has no relevant convictions (those that are set out in Schedule 7 of the Act); and
- that staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes. (24.7)

It should be noted that a licensing authority cannot attach conditions to this type of permit.

This licensing authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect children from harm. Harm in this context is not limited to harm from gambling but includes wider child protection considerations. The efficiency of such policies and procedures will each be considered on their merits, however, they may include appropriate measures / training for staff as regards suspected truant school children on the premises, measures / training covering how staff would deal with unsupervised very young children being on the premises, or children causing perceived problems on / around the premises. This licensing authority will also expect, as per Gambling Commission Guidance, that applicants demonstrate a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible in unlicensed FECs; that the applicant has no relevant convictions (those that are set out in Schedule 7 of the Act); and that staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes.

2. (Alcohol) Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits (Schedule 13 paragraph 4(1))

Automatic Entitlement: 2 machines

There is provision in the Act for premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises to automatically have 2 gaming machines, of categories C and/or D. The premises merely need to notify the licensing authority.

The licensing authority can remove the automatic authorisation in respect of any particular premises if:

- provision of the machines is not reasonably consistent with the pursuit of the licensing objectives;
- gaming has taken place on the premises that breaches a condition of section 282 of the Gambling Act (i.e. that written notice has been provided to the licensing authority, that a fee has been provided and that any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine has been complied with);
- the premises are mainly used for gaming; or
- an offence under the Gambling Act has been committed on the premises.

Permit: 3 or more machines

If a premises wishes to have more than 2 machines, then it needs to apply for a permit and the licensing authority must consider that application based upon the licensing objectives, any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission issued under Section 25 of the Gambling Act 2005, and “*such matters as they think relevant.*”

This licensing authority considers that “such matters” will be decided on a case by case basis but generally there will be regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machines. Measures which will satisfy the authority that there will be no access may include the adult machines being in sight of the bar, or in the sight of staff who will monitor that the machines are not being used by those under 18. Notices and signage may also be helpful. As regards the protection of vulnerable persons, applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

It is recognised that some alcohol licensed premises may apply for a premises licence for their non-alcohol licensed areas. Any such application would most likely need to be applied for, and dealt with as an Adult Gaming Centre premises licence.

It should be noted that the licensing authority can decide to grant the application with a smaller number of machines and/or a different category of machines than that applied for. Conditions (other than these) cannot be attached.

It should also be noted that the holder of a permit must comply with any Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine.

3. Prize Gaming Permits

The Gambling Act 2005 states that a licensing authority may “prepare a statement of principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under this Schedule” which “may, in particular, specify matters that the licensing authority proposes to consider in determining the suitability of the applicant for a permit”.

This licensing authority’s principles are that the applicant should set out the types of gaming that he or she is intending to offer and that the applicant should be able to demonstrate:

- that they understand the limits to stakes and prizes that are set out in Regulations;
- and that the gaming offered is within the law;
- Clear policies that outline the steps to be taken to protect children from harm.

In making its decision on an application for this permit the licensing authority does not need to (but may) have regard to the licensing objectives but must have regard to any Gambling Commission guidance. (Gambling Act 2005, Schedule 14 paragraph 8(3))

It should be noted that there are conditions in the Gambling Act 2005 by which the permit holder must comply, but that the licensing authority cannot attach conditions. The

conditions in the Act are:

- the limits on participation fees, as set out in regulations, must be complied with;
- all chances to participate in the gaming must be allocated on the premises on which the gaming is taking place and on one day; the game must be played and completed on the day the chances are allocated; and the result of the game must be made public in the premises on the day that it is played;
- the prize for which the game is played must not exceed the amount set out in regulations (if a money prize), or the prescribed value (if non-monetary prize); and
- participation in the gaming must not entitle the player to take part in any other gambling.

4. Club Gaming and Club Machines Permits

Members Clubs and Miners' welfare institutes (but not Commercial Clubs) may apply for a Club Gaming Permit or a Clubs Gaming machines permit. The Club Gaming Permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D), equal chance gaming and games of chance as set-out in forthcoming regulations. A Club Gaming machine permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D).

Gambling Commission Guidance states: "Members clubs must have at least 25 members and be established and conducted "wholly or mainly" for purposes other than gaming, unless the gaming is permitted by separate regulations. The Secretary of State has made regulation and these cover bridge and whist clubs, which replicates the position under the Gaming Act 1968. A members' club must be permanent in nature, not established to make commercial profit, and controlled by its members equally. Examples include working men's clubs, branches of Royal British Legion and clubs with political affiliations."

The Commission Guidance also notes that "licensing authorities may only refuse an application on the grounds that:

- (a) the applicant does not fulfil the requirements for a members' or commercial club or miners' welfare institute and therefore is not entitled to receive the type of permit for which it has applied;
- (b) the applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons;
- (c) an offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities;
- (d) a permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or
- (e) an objection has been lodged by the Commission or the police.

There is also a 'fast-track' procedure available under the Act for premises which hold a Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 (Schedule 12 paragraph 10). As the Gambling Commission's Guidance to licensing authorities states: "Under the fast-track procedure there is no opportunity for objections to be made by the Commission or the police, and the ground upon which an authority can refuse a permit are reduced." and "The grounds on which an application under the process may be refused are:

- (a) that the club is established primarily for gaming, other than gaming prescribed under schedule 12;
- (b) that in addition to the prescribed gaming, the applicant provides facilities for other gaming; or
- (c) that a club gaming permit or club machine permit issued to the applicant in the last ten years has been cancelled."

There are statutory conditions on club gaming permits that no child uses a category B or C machine on the premises and that the holder complies with any relevant provision of a code of practice about the location and operation of gaming machines.

5. Temporary Use Notices

Temporary use notices allow the use of premises for gambling where there is no premises licence but where a gambling operator wishes to use the premises temporarily for providing facilities for gambling. Premises that might be suitable for a temporary use notice, according to the Gambling Commission, would include hotels, conference centres and sporting venues.

The licensing authority can only grant a temporary use notice to a person or company holding a relevant operating licence, i.e. a non-remote casino operating licence.

The Secretary of State has the power to determine what form of gambling can be authorised by temporary use notices, and at the time of writing this Statement the relevant regulations (SI no 3157: The Gambling Act 2005 (Temporary Use Notices) Regulations 2007) state that temporary use notices can only be used to permit the provision of facilities or equal chance gaming, where the gaming is intended to produce a single winner, which in practice means poker tournaments.

There are a number of statutory limits as regards temporary use notices. The meaning of "premises" in Part 8 of the Act is discussed in Part 7 of the Gambling Commission Guidance to Licensing Authorities. As with "premises", the definition of "a set of premises" will be a question of fact in the particular circumstances of each notice that is given. In the Act "premises" is defined as including "any place".

In considering whether a place falls within the definition of "a set of premises", the licensing authority needs to look at, amongst other things, the ownership/occupation and control of the premises.

This licensing authority expects to object to notices where it appears that their effect would be to permit regular gambling in a place that could be described as one set of premises, as recommended in the Gambling Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities.

6. Occasional Use Notices:

The licensing authority has very little discretion as regards these notices aside from ensuring that the statutory limit of 8 days in a calendar year is not exceeded. This licensing authority will though consider the definition of a "track" and whether the applicant is permitted to avail him/herself of the notice.

Part 6: Licensing Authority Statement of Policy

- 6.1** Section 349 of the Act requires all licensing authorities to prepare and publish a statement of the principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Act during the three-year period to which the policy applies.
- 6.2** The Licensing Authority Statement of Policy will last for a maximum of three years, but can be reviewed and revised by the authority at any time. The statement must be produced following consultation with those bodies and persons set out in subsection (3) of section 349 of the Act. Regulations made by the Secretary of State, or Scottish Ministers in Scotland, prescribe the form of statements, and the procedure to be followed in relation to them and their publication¹.

Fundamental principles

- 6.3** All Licensing Authority Statements of Policy should begin by stating the three licensing objectives, which the policy will promote. The statement should also state that the licensing authority shall aim to permit the use of premises for gambling as set out in section 153 of the Act.
- 6.4** Licensing Authority Statements of Policy should include a firm commitment to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes so far as possible. For example, a range of general duties are imposed on the self-employed, employers and operators of gambling premises, both in respect of employees and of the general public, by legislation governing health and safety at work and fire safety. Therefore such requirements need not be included in the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy.
- 6.5** In determining its policy, the licensing authority must have regard to this Guidance, and give appropriate weight to the views of those it has consulted. In determining what weight to give particular representations, the factors to be taken into account will include:
- who is making the representations (what is their expertise or interest)
 - relevance of the factors to the licensing objectives
 - how many other people have expressed the same or similar views
 - how far the representations relate to matters that the licensing authority should be including in its policy statement.
- 6.6** In relation to premises licensing, licensing authorities can only consider matters within the scope of the Guidance, Act and Codes of Practice. Even if there is a large response regarding a certain issue, an authority may be unable to deal with the issue under the Gambling Act. However the issue may be a matter for other legislation, for example planning.
- 6.7** It will be up to the licensing authority to ensure that it looks at the views of consultees and considers carefully whether they should be taken into account and to what extent (having regard to the above factors). A licensing authority should always be able to give reasons for the decisions it has made following consultation. Having regard to this Guidance will be important for consistency, especially where licensing authority boundaries meet.
- 6.8** As with the Commission, it is expected that local licensing authorities will regulate gambling in the public interest.
- 6.9** While statements of policy may set out a general approach to the exercise of functions under the Act, no statement of policy should override the right of any person to make an application under the Act and to have that application considered on its merits. Additionally,

¹ SI No. 636: The Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006
SSI No. 154: The Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (Scotland) Regulations 2006

a statement of policy must not undermine the right of any person to make representations on an application or to seek a review of a licence where provision has been made for them to do so. However if a 'no-casino' resolution has been passed by an authority it does not have to consider applications for new casino premises licences in its area.

'Demand' for gaming premises

- 6.10** Previous legislation required that the grant of certain gambling permissions should take account of whether there is unfulfilled demand for the facilities. Absence of unmet demand is not a criterion for a licensing authority in considering an application for a premises licence under the Gambling Act. Each application must be considered on its merits without regard to demand.
- 6.11** The Licensing Authority Statement of Policy should reflect this situation and not comment on the need for gambling premises.
- 6.12** However, the licensing authority may comment on the location of premises in so far as the location relates to the licensing objectives. So, for example, a Licensing Authority Statement of Policy could, and should, set out the general principles that the licensing authority will apply when determining whether the location of proposed gambling premises is acceptable (with or without conditions) in light of the licensing objectives. For example, a Licensing Authority Statement of Policy might set out that the authority will consider very carefully whether applications for premises licences in respect of certain gambling premises located very close to a school or a centre for gambling addicts should be granted in light of the third licensing objective. Any such policy must, however, come with the qualification that each case will be decided on its merits, and will depend to a large extent on the type of gambling that it is proposed will be offered on the premises. If an applicant for a premises licence can show how licensing objective concerns can be overcome, that will have to be taken into account.

Consultation

- 6.13** Section 349 (3) requires the licensing authority to consult the following on the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy or any subsequent revision:
- in England and Wales, the chief officer of police for the authority's area
 - in Scotland, the Chief Constable of the police force maintained for the police area comprising that area
 - one or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the authority's area
 - one or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authority's functions under this Act.
- 6.14** The list of persons to be consulted when preparing the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy is deliberately wide. This enables licensing authorities to undertake a comprehensive consultation exercise with anyone who may be affected by or otherwise have an interest in the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy.
- 6.15** Licensing authorities will develop their own consultation practices but they may like to consider the following:
- consultation with a range of organisations including faith groups, voluntary and community organisations working with children and young people, organisations working with people who are problem gamblers, medical practices or primary care trusts, and advocacy organisations (such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau and trade unions)
 - consultation with other tiers of local government (where they exist)
 - consultation with businesses that are, or will be, holders of a premises licence
 - consultation with the organisations named as responsible authorities in the Act

- using a variety of consultation methods including meetings with gambling businesses in the local authority area and open forums for the public.

6.16 Any written consultation should follow best practice as set out by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills including allowing 12 weeks for responses to the consultation². Consultation documents could be provided on the licensing authority's website.

Form and content of the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy

- 6.17** Regulations made by the Secretary of State or Scottish Ministers set out requirements as to the form and publication of Licensing Authority Statements of Policy and subsequent revisions of statements. In addition to the requirements set out by the regulations (below), this Guidance sets out certain information that the Commission considers should be included in all Licensing Authority Statements of Policy.
- 6.18** The regulations provide for the form of the statement to be determined by the licensing authority subject to the following requirements:
- Licensing Authority Statement of Policy must contain an introductory section summarising the matters contained within the statement, describing the geographical area to which the statement applies, and listing the persons consulted in preparing the statement.
- 6.19** As required by the regulations, the statement should make clear the geographical area that it covers. This may be achieved by including a plan of the area covered by the statement.
- 6.20** The statement should also set out the licensable activities that are covered.
- 6.21** Statements of principles to be applied by the licensing authority in exercising its functions must be contained in four separate sections within the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy as set out below:
- 1) Licensing Authority Statements of Policy must contain a section that sets out the principles to be applied by the authority in designating, in writing, a body which is competent to advise the authority about the protection of children from harm.
- 6.22** Section 157 of the Act sets out the responsible authorities. Within this section, the licensing authority has discretion to determine the most appropriate body competent to advise the authority about the protection of children from harm. Such a body may, but not necessarily, be the Local Safeguarding Children Board in England and Wales, or the Child Protection Committee in Scotland. The licensing authority must consider which body best fulfils this function and the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy should set out this consideration, or the criteria the authority intends to use, in order to designate that body in writing.
- 2) Licensing Authority Statements of Policy must contain a section that sets out the principles to be applied by the authority to determine whether a person is an interested party in relation to a premises licence, or in relation to an application for or in respect of a premises licence.
- 6.23** Section 158 of the Act defines interested parties as persons who:
- (a) live sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities
 - (b) have business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities or
 - (c) represent persons who satisfy paragraph a) or b).
- 6.24** Licensing authorities must consider whether a person is an interested party with regard to particular premises on a case by case basis, judging each on its merits. However, an

² Further information is available at www.bis.gov.uk

authority may have regard to a number of factors when making its decision. These factors should be set out in this part of the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy. An authority may take into account, for example, the size of the premises and the nature of the activities taking place. Larger premises may be considered to affect people over a broader geographical area compared with smaller premises offering similar facilities.

6.25 Licensing authorities should include guidance in their Licensing Authority Statements of Policy whom they consider comes within the category of those who represent persons living close to premises, or have business interests that may be affected by it. For example, this category could include trade associations and trade unions and residents' and tenants' associations. It is expected that the types of organisations that may be considered to have business interests will be given a wide interpretation to include, for example, partnerships, charities, faith groups and medical practices etc.

3) Licensing Authority Statements of Policy must contain a section that sets out the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the functions under Sections 29 and 30 of the Act with respect to the exchange of information between it and the Commission, and the functions under section 350 of the Act with respect to the exchange of information between it and the other persons listed in Schedule 6 of the Act.

6.26 The Act empowers the Commission to seek information from licensing authorities, and places an obligation on authorities to comply with information requests. Specifically, section 29 of the Act entitles the Commission to request information from licensing authorities and to set out the manner in which the information is compiled, collated and provided, providing it:

- forms part of a register maintained under the Act
- is in the possession of the authority in connection with a provision of the Act.

6.27 Section 350 of the Act allows licensing authorities to exchange information with other persons or bodies listed in Schedule 6 (1) for use in the exercise of functions under the Act as follows:

- a constable or police force
- an enforcement officer
- a licensing authority
- HMRC
- the Gambling Appeal Tribunal
- the Secretary of State
- Scottish Ministers.

6.28 The licensing authority must set out how it will approach information exchange with other regulatory bodies under the Act, and whether it intends to establish any protocols in this regard. The statement should also include the authority's approach to data protection and freedom of information. In particular, how information will be protected, whether the confidentiality of those making representations will be maintained, what information will be shared with other agencies or persons and how information can be accessed by data subjects.

6.29 Further information regarding the exchange of information can be found in part 13 of this Guidance.

6.30 For the purposes of their Licensing Authority Statement of Policy, licensing authorities should confirm that they will act in accordance with the relevant legislation and Guidance from the Commission and will adopt the principles of better regulation.

4) Licensing Authority Statements of Policy must contain a section that sets out the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the functions under Part 15 of the Act with respect to the inspection of premises; and the powers under section 346 of the Act to institute criminal proceedings in respect of the offences specified in that section.

- 6.31** Licensing authorities are referred to what has been said at paragraphs 5.23 to 5.25 above concerning the Regulators' Compliance Code.
- 6.32** Further guidance on licensing authorities' compliance and enforcement responsibilities is available in part 36 of this Guidance. This has been developed following discussions between the Commission, the police, licensing authorities and other law-enforcement and regulatory agencies to agree respective roles in relation to particular types of gambling and licensed premises.
- 6.33** It is recommended that licensing authorities adopt a risk-based inspection programme. This would include targeting high-risk premises which require greater attention, whilst operating a lighter touch in respect of low-risk premises, so that resources are more effectively concentrated on problem premises. The policy statement should set out the principles to be applied by the authority in respect of such a programme and the criteria the authority is likely to use to determine the level of risk in respect of premises.
- 6.34** Many licensing authorities in England and Wales will have general enforcement policies which are in accordance with the codes of practice developed with the Crown Prosecution Service. Licensing authorities in England and Wales may wish to include in their Licensing Authority Statements of Policy that they will apply these codes in the management of criminal cases.
- 6.35** Part 36 of this Guidance covers more detailed issues such as the agreement of protocols with the local police and the Commission on enforcement issues.

Other matters to be covered in policy statements

- 6.36** In addition to these requirements as set out in regulations, a number of other matters should be included in Licensing Authority Statements of Policy.

Consideration of applications

- 6.37** The authority should set out in its statement what factors it may take into account when considering applications for premises licences, permits and other permissions and matters that it will consider relevant when determining whether to review a licence. This is where considerations such as the proximity of gambling premises to schools and vulnerable adult centres, or to residential areas where there may be a high concentration of families with children, should be detailed. Any such policy must, however, come with the qualification that each case will be decided on its merits, so if an applicant can show how they might overcome licensing objective concerns, that will have to be taken into account.

Statement regarding casino resolution

- 6.38** Under section 166(5) of the Gambling Act, any resolution not to issue casino licences must be published in the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy. In addition, the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy should include details about how the authority has taken or will take a decision to pass (or not to pass) a casino resolution.

Statement of principles

- 6.39** If an authority intends to apply a statement of principles when considering applicant suitability for applications for FEC permits under paragraph 7 of Schedule 10, or prize gaming permits under paragraph 8 of Schedule 14 of the Act, it is not obliged to include those statements as part of the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy, but may want to consider doing so to make them available in one place.

Declaration by licensing authority

- 6.40** Each Licensing Authority Statement of Policy should include a declaration which sets out that in producing the final Licensing Authority Statement of Policy, the authority has had regard to the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005, the Guidance issued by the Commission, and any responses from those consulted on the policy statement. To avoid later challenge, it would be sensible if the licensing authority demonstrated how the licensing objectives and Commission Guidance have been taken into account when drawing up the statement.
- 6.41** Authorities should note that the regulations and this Guidance do not prevent authorities from including any additional information that the authority considers necessary or helpful.

Advertisement of the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy or Revisions

- 6.42** Before publishing a statement or revision, the regulations made by the Secretary of State or Scottish Ministers require authorities to publish a notice of their intention to publish a statement or revision (this must be done no later than the date on which the statement or revision is to be published). The notice must:
- specify the date on which the statement or revision is to be published
 - specify the date on which the statement or revision will come into effect
 - specify the internet address where the statement or revision will be published and the address of the premises at which it may be inspected
 - be published on the authority's website and in/on one or more of the following places:
 - a local newspaper circulating in the area covered by the statement
 - a local newsletter, circular, or similar document circulating in the area covered by the statement
 - a public notice board in or near the principal office of the authority
 - a public notice board on the premises of public libraries in the area covered by the statement.

Publication of the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy or revisions

- 6.43** The regulations stipulate that the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy or any subsequent revision of the statement must be published on the authority's website and be made available at reasonable times for inspection by members of the public either in the principal office of the authority, at one or more public libraries in the area covered by the statement or in other premises situated in that area. The statement or revision must be published at least four weeks before it takes effect.

Review of the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy

- 6.44** The Licensing Authority Statement of Policy will have effect for three years but the licensing authority may review and alter the policy in that period.
- 6.45** Licensing authorities will need to consider, in the event of a change of policy, whether a review of the statement is necessary. For example, a change in planning policy could lead to a review and subsequent revision of a statement (if, for example, a change in planning policy led to family entertainment centres (FECs) where previously there were none, the statement may then be required to make reference to FECs where it was previously silent). Where the statement is reviewed and changes made, authorities must consult on any revision.
- 6.46** Authorities should note that where a statement is revised, it is only the revision that needs to be published and consulted on. So, for example, an authority may consult separately on whether to pass a casino resolution and then subsequently publish the resolution as part of

the statement. This can be done without any need to review and reopen consultation on the main body of the statement. Any revisions must be published and advertised in the same way as a new statement.

- 6.47** Regulations provide for the form and content of revisions to the Licensing Authority Statement of Policy to be determined by the licensing authority, subject to the following requirements:
- revisions to Licensing Authority Statements of Policy must include an introductory section at or near the beginning, summarising the matters dealt with in the statement and listing the persons consulted in preparing the revision.

- 6.48** Where the revision deals with any of the matters below, these must be presented in separate sections:

1) the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the powers under section 157(h) of the Act to designate, in writing, a body which is competent to advise the authority about the protection of children from harm

2) the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the powers under section 158 of the Act, to determine whether a person is an interested party in relation to a premises licence, or an application for or in respect of a premises licence

3) the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising its functions under sections 29 and 30 of the Act with respect to the exchange of information between it and the Gambling Commission, and the functions under section 350 of the Act with respect to the exchange of information between it and the other persons listed in Schedule 6 to the Act or

4) the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the functions under Part 15 of the Act with respect to the inspection of premises; and the powers under section 346 of the Act to institute criminal proceedings in respect of the offences specified in that section.

Additional information to be made available

- 6.49** In order to ensure that applicants and persons who wish to make representations have the necessary information to be able to do so, the information set out below should be made available by licensing authorities as part of their communications strategy.
- 6.50** It should be noted that, unlike the Licensing Act, the Gambling Act does not include as a specific licensing objective the prevention of public nuisance. There is however other relevant legislation which deals with public nuisance. It would be helpful if licensing authorities could explain that objections to new premises or requests for a review should be based on the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act.
- 6.51** It is open to licensing authorities to include any of this information in their Licensing Authority Statement of Policy. However, authorities might think it more appropriate to make it available in another form, such as on the authority website.

Registers

- 6.52** Section 156 of the Act requires licensing authorities to maintain a register of the premises licences that it has issued. The register must be made available, at any reasonable time, to the public who may request copies of the entries. Authorities should ensure that information regarding the location of the registers (ie on the website, in the council offices etc), when they can be viewed, and the cost of obtaining copies is made available to the public.

Fees

- 6.53** Authorities should ensure that information regarding the fees to be charged, including the level of fees, for applications for premises licences and other permissions under the Act is available to the public.
- 6.54** Separate guidance relating to the calculation of fees and accounting procedures has been produced by the Secretary of State available from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport website (www.culture.gov.uk). In Scotland, all of the equivalent fees will be set centrally by Scottish Ministers³.

Applications

- 6.55** Authorities should ensure that information is available on how to make applications for licences and other permissions under the Act. In particular, it would be helpful if authorities ensure that a full list of responsible authorities and their appropriate contact details, is readily available. Application forms, where appropriate, should also be made available. Authorities should note that there will be no prescribed application forms for family entertainment centre, prize gaming or licensed premises gaming machine permits. As such, the authority will need to make clear how applications for these permits should be made and in what form. Additionally, authorities will need to ensure that information regarding making representations, and applying for a review of a premises licence, is also made available.

Delegation

- 6.56** Information should be provided as to how functions are delegated under the Act (ie whether decisions are to be taken by a licensing officer, licensing sub-committee or full committee etc). A table setting out the scheme of delegation required by the Act may be the most appropriate method for this and is located in part 4 of this Guidance.

Statutory application forms and notices

- 6.57** There are a range of statutory application forms and notices that licensing authorities are required to use as part of their gambling licensing responsibilities. A summary list of these can be found in Appendix E. The forms and notices can be downloaded from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport website (www.culture.gov.uk).

³ Gambling Act 2005 (Premises Licence Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 2007; Gambling Act 2005 (Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 2007; Gambling Act 2005 (Fees No.2) (Scotland) Regulations 2007; Gambling Act 2005 (Fees No.3) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 and Gambling Act 2005 (Fees No.4) (Scotland) Regulations 2007.

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