

Cheltenham Borough Council

Licensing Committee – 3 March 2021

Authority's Response to Review of the Gambling Act - Call for Evidence

Report of the Licensing Team Leader

1. Executive Summary and Recommendation

- 1.1 The Government has launched a review of the Gambling Act 2005 and in December 2020 issued a call for evidence to support the review.
- 1.2 This authority is a licensing authority under the 2005 Act and the Licensing Committee acts as lead consultees for the authority in this regard.
- 1.3 This report presents an opportunity for the committee to consider its response to the Government's call for evidence. To facilitate the Committee's response, officers have drafted an initial response for the Committee to consider and add to or amend as Members see fit.
- 1.4 **The Committee is recommended to:**
 - 1.4.1 **Note the officer's initial response on behalf of the Licensing Committee;**
 - 1.4.2 **Make comments in relation to the initial response; and**
 - 1.4.3 **Subject to any changes proposed by the Committee, endorse the response as the official response on behalf of the authority.**

1.5 Implications

- 1.5.1 Legal **One Legal**
E-mail: legalservices@teWKesbury.gov.uk
Tel no: 01684 272015

2. Gambling Act - Call for Evidence

- 2.1 On 8 December 2020, Nigel Huddleston MP, Minister for Sport, Tourism and Heritage, issued a call for evidence to support the Government's review of the Gambling Act 2005.
- 2.2 As a call for evidence, the scope of the review is limited to the specific questions posed by the Minister for Sport, Tourism and Heritage.
- 2.3 The call for evidence is wide ranging, seeking evidence on a number of areas, including:
 - a) Online protections - players and products
 - b) Advertising, sponsorship and branding
 - c) The Gambling Commission's powers and resources
 - d) Consumer redress
 - e) Age limits and verification

f) Land based gambling

- 2.4 Many of the areas in scope are not directly relevant to licensing authorities. Where opportunities exist and evidence supports a response, officers have taken the opportunity to put forward views on issues in the Act that should be addressed to protect children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.
- 2.5 The officer's draft response is attached at Appendix 1 of this report and a copy of the call for evidence can be found on the Gov.UK website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence/review-of-the-gambling-act-2005-terms-of-reference-and-call-for-evidence#contents>.

Background Papers

Service Records

Report Author

Contact officer: Mr Louis Krog
E-mail: licensing@cheltenham.gov.uk
Tel no: 01242 264135