

**GAMBLING POLICY WORKING GROUP****THURSDAY 29 JUNE 2006 AT 2.00PM****PRESENT:** Councillors Boaden, Mrs Farmer and Morton**Officers:** J Messenger – Licensing Manager  
C Liddle – Principal Solicitor  
R Rooney – Committee Support Officer**GPWG.01/06 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN****RESOLVED** – That Councillor Morton be appointed Chairman of the Working Group

Councillor Morton in the Chair

**GPWG.02/06 GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

The Licensing Manager submitted report LDS.43/06 regarding the implications of the Gambling Act including time scales and the consultation process.

The Licensing Manager reported that the Gambling Commission would be responsible for issuing operators licences and personal licences and local authorities would issue premises licences. One of the duties of the local authority would be, for each three year period, to consult and publish a statement of Gambling Policy. A county based Officer Working Group had been preparing a draft policy statement in anticipation of the consultation.

The Licensing Manager circulated version 3a of the Draft Statement of Gambling Policy to Members, which had been personalised for Carlisle, and reported that all City Council Members would receive a copy as soon as it had been approved. He explained that the Government had set guidelines for the information which had to be included in the Policy including a map showing the geographical area of Carlisle and the Licensing Objectives for Carlisle.

He explained that the Policy, with approval, would be sent out to consultation for three months starting on 3 July and ending 22 September 2006. The Policy would go before the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Executive and, after consultation, to Council for final approval. A list of probable committee dates was circulated to Members.

Consultation would take place with a number of statutory organisations and companies in the trade who had been identified as having interest in the area. In addition a number of other organisations or individuals would be consulted where it was thought they might assist the process, or had requested a copy of the draft policy. Two lists of consultees had been produced, one showing

consultees in the local area and one showing consultees on behalf of the whole county. He reported that a press release had been prepared and would be published to coincide with the publication of the draft.

He suggested the Working Group meet half way through the process for an update on the consultation and then again after 22 September to evaluate the results of the consultation before the Policy is reported to full Licensing Committee.

Members requested that Age Concern, Citizens Advice Bureau and Carlisle Voluntary Service was added to the list of consultees.

He reported that 3 January 2007 would be the first day organisations or individuals could apply to the Gambling Commission for operating and personal licences and 31 January 2007 would be the first appointed day for local authorities to start receiving applications for gambling premises licences. He reported that 1 September 2007 is the second appointed day when full implementation of the Gambling Act 2005 would occur.

RESOLVED – 1) That the consultation process be agreed

2) That the current position with regard to national implementation dates and Council Committee dates be noted.

3) That Members consider the list of organisations that need to be consulted and report any additions to the Licensing Office.

(The meeting ended 2.20pm)