

Bracknell Forest Responses to the Statement of Gambling Principles Consultation

Background

Bracknell Forest Council, along with all other licensing authorities, is required to prepare, adopt and publish a "Statement of Principles" (SoP) setting out the Council's approach to applications under the [Gambling Act 2005](#) (hereafter known as The Act) and the information it expects applicants to provide.

The policy guides the administration of licensing under The Act and helps to ensure that an appropriate balance is drawn between the interests of those wishing to provide and take part in legal gambling, and those who might be adversely affected by such activities.

Under the Act the Council is required to review its policy at least every three years or when the council believes the policy requires updating. [The Current Policy](#) is due to expire at the end of January 2022.

The Consultation

The Consultation started on the 07 July 2021 and ran for a twelve week period until the 29 September 2021. A public notice was placed in the Bracknell News and information was also placed on the Public Protection Partnership websites.

Letters or email were also sent to:

- Association of British Bookmakers
- Association of Licensed Multiple Retailers
- Bingo Association
- British Amusement Catering Trade Association
- British Beer and Pub Association
- British Institute of Inn Keeping
- Building Control
- Committee of Registered Club Associations
- Environmental Health
- Gamblers Anonymous
- Gambling Commission
- GAMCAR
- Health and Safety Executive
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- HM Revenue and Customs
- Holders of existing gambling licences / permits
- Involve
- Local businesses and their representatives, e.g. Bracknell Regeneration
- Members of Bracknell Forest Council
- National Association of Bookmakers
- Parish and Town Councils
- Partnership, Bracknell Forest Chamber of Commerce
- Planning
- Public Health
- Pub & Drug Watch
- Premises licence / club premises certificate holders

- Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Safeguarding Board (Adults and Children)
- Thames Valley Police

Responses Received

No objections to the Draft Statement were received.

What Happens Next

Members of the Licensing and Safety Committee will be asked to consider the draft policy at a meeting on the [21 October 2021](#).

The Licensing and Safety Committee will then recommend that the draft policy, subject to any amendments agreed at the meeting, be recommended to Council for approval at the [24 November 2021](#) meeting.

Once approved the revised policy will be published before the end of January 2022.