



**South
Derbyshire**
District Council

Gambling Act 2005

Statement of Licensing Policy

Local Area Profile Plan

Introduction

As part of the Social Responsibility Code, from April 2016, licence holders will be required to assess the local risks to the licensing objectives posed by the provision of gambling facilities at each of their premises and have policies, procedures and control measures to mitigate those risks.

The Council as Licensing Authority would expect an operator's local risk assessment to cover the following areas:

- The premises' building;
- Location of the premises;
- Protecting children;
- Protecting vulnerable people;
- Crime and disorder prevention.

This list is not exhaustive.

The Licensing Authority will require the operator to provide their local risk assessment where there are concerns in relation to the premises in order for the Licensing Authority to assess the measures in place to address the specific concerns.

Any applicant applying for the grant or variation of a premises licence must include a local risk assessment in addition to their application. The local risk assessment must assess the local risks to the licensing objectives posed by the provision of the applicant's proposed gambling facilities at the premises. The applicant must have policies, procedures and control measures to mitigate the risks identified in the assessment. These policies and procedures must be submitted with the application.

The Licensing Authority would expect the local risk assessment to be reviewed following any significant changes in local circumstances i.e. new schools or hostels and any substantiated complaint in relation to the premises.

The Licensing Authority would expect the operator to work with the Licensing Authority to improve any areas of the local risk assessment that do not adequately mitigate the risks identified, have inadequate measures to reduce risks or fail to identify all of the local risks.

Local Area Profile Plan

The Licensing Authority recognises that it is not a mandatory requirement to have a local area profile however the Licensing Authority believes that a local area profile will assist licence holders in producing their risk assessments.

The local area plan is intended to increase awareness of local risks and improve information sharing, to facilitate constructive engagement with licence holders and a more coordinated response to local risks.

In order to produce a local area profile, the Licensing Authority requested data from a number of bodies including the Responsible Authorities in order to assess any potential and actual risks relating to gambling within the District. The Licensing Authority has considered the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment in producing this local area profile.

Enquiries with relevant organisations have not revealed any data to suggest that there are any areas within the District that could be identified as a risk.

However, the local area profile plan is required to identify any potential risks that might arise, therefore in light of current research into gambling, the Licensing Authority has identified the following potential risk areas and provided additional information to assist licence holders.

Children, Adolescents and Young Adults

Children, adolescents and young adults have been explicitly identified as being vulnerable to the experience of gambling problems or at risk of experiencing gambling problems.

The licensee needs to be aware of the proximity of schools and vulnerable adult centres and residential areas with a high concentration of families with children and the Licensing Authority would expect to see additional measures in place to mitigate any existing or potential risks in such areas.

The Licensing Authority will carefully consider an application located near to these types of premises and decide whether there is a need for any conditions to mitigate the risks in light of the third licensing objective. Each case will be decided on its own merits and will depend on the type of gambling that is proposed for the premises. However, the Licensing Authority will consider additional controls if the licence holder does not have sufficient measures in place.

Licence holders need to be aware of the location of the following 'sensitive' buildings within in the District:

- Schools and Colleges (a list is available on Derbyshire County Council's website);
- Youth Centres – Athenaeum in Melbourne.

The Licensing Authority expects licence holders to ensure that advertising relating to the premises, or relating to events at the premises, is not displayed when children are likely to be near the premises.

Mental Health

There is a consistent body of evidence demonstrating a strong association between gambling and mental health problems. This suggests that people with common mental disorders, substance use/abuse problems and psychoses have higher rates of problem or at-risk gambling than those without these conditions. With this in mind, the licensee needs

to be aware of the following premises within the District which if in close proximity to the gambling premises then extra measures must be in place to mitigate the risks:

- Supported housing for people with drug and alcohol issues at Midland Road, Swadlincote

People with learning difficulties have been identified as being at risk of experiencing harm as they are identified as not being able to make an informed choice about whether to gamble.

Unemployment

There is a consistent body of evidence showing that those who are unemployed and who gamble are more likely to experience adverse outcomes from their gambling than those in paid employment.

Evidence has shown that those living in deprived areas are more likely to experience problems with gambling. The Newhall and Stanton Ward has been identified as an area of high deprivation in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment where agencies are keen to foster higher aspirations within the teenage and early 20 age groups. The Licensing Authority would expect a licensee to identify measures to be taken to reduce exposure to young adults and parents within this ward.

This local area profile will be reviewed as required when further information and/or data becomes available.