

Impact Assessment of: Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy 2007-2010

Service/ Directorate: Legal, Licensing and Registration

Date Completed: 09th July 2008

Lead Officer: Michael Romagnoli

Members of the assessment team:

Name	Organisation	Role on assessment team e.g. service user, manager of service
Nicola Raper	Leeds City Council	Section Head
Robert Stirk	Leeds City Council	Service Development Officer
Michael Romagnoli	Leeds City Council	Principal Project Officer
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John Mulcahy	Leeds City Council	Head of Licensing and Registration

Brief description of policy/ service:

Leeds city council is the licensing authority for the Leeds district carrying out various functions under the Gambling Act 2005 that involve issuing gambling premises licences to various types of gambling business such as bookmakers and amusement arcades etc. Under the Act the council must maintain a three year statement of licensing policy setting out how it will approach its functions under the Act and giving details on the three licensing objectives of:

- 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.

Brief account of how the impact assessment was carried out:

The impact assessment was carried out by carrying out a comprehensive fact finding exercise looking at Customer Evaluation Feedback Forms, previous consultation activities including consultation carried out on the section's Statements of Licensing Policy for both Gambling and Licensing, meeting minutes from public consultation meetings and by carrying out staff interviews and focus groups with section staff.

Brief description of any adverse affects found:

A handful of adverse effects were noted during the fact finding exercise which are summarised below:

- Cost of translation Services - The cost of translating entire documents is costly and in some cases prohibitive.
- The legal nature and complexity of the language used in the Statement of Licensing Policy may discourage people from reading it.
- The policy is currently only available in a limited number of council buildings.
- The policy is available on the council internet although locating it can be difficult because of the way the website is organised.

Summary of Actions arising from Assessment

Actions	Responsibility	Timescale
circulate Licensing policy to libraries and one stop centres.	Service Development Officer	3 months
Add information to Oasis customer services system regarding policy.	Service Development Officer	2 months
Principal Project Officer and Service Development Officer to attend 'Plain English' training.	Principal Project Officer	3 months
Produce Executive Summary of policy and upload to website.	Principal Project Officer	3 months
Ensure future consultations use the Talking Point consultation portal.	Service Development Officer	Ongoing
Work within and contribute the council's consultations champion's network.	Principal Project Officer	Ongoing

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