

Summary of Consultation Responses Received

Letter/ Document Number	Para. No.	Included in Revised Policy [Y/N, In Part, Supporting Proposals (SP) or Context Statements (CS)]	Officer Comments Explanatory Notes
Doc 1	1 to 3	CS	Comments noted
Doc 1	4	CS	It is not the intention to undermine the 'aim to permit' principle; in fact the policy repeats this principle in paragraphs 4.3, 13.3, 13.4, 17.9 and 44.9.
Doc 1	5 & 6	CS	Comments noted
Doc 1	7	CS	Whilst not disagreeing with the comments, it is noted that supporting evidence was not provided with the response; consequently no changes to the policy have been made in this respect.
Doc 1	8	SP	Paragraph 27.1 sets out the Council's commitment to working with gambling trade associations, which would clearly include the Association of British Bookmakers (ABB). In addition, the paragraph has been amended to clarify that the partnership approach will be adopted to deal with problems when they arise. A new Paragraph 27.10 has been inserted to increase transparency in respect of information exchange with other organisations/operators.
Doc 1	9	Y	Paragraph 27.1 amended to make specific reference to the LGA – ABB framework for local partnerships on betting shops
Doc 1	10	Y	Paragraph 56.6 amended to strengthen the position in respect of Primary Authority Partnerships.
Doc 1	11	SP	Given that the requirement for local risk assessments is new, officers currently agree with the comments submitted. However, as the risk assessment approach develops it may become necessary to prescribe the format in the future.

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Doc 1	12a	Y	Paragraph 2.6 amended to confirm the risks identified in the local area profile will be evidence based.
Doc 1	12b	In Part	It is accepted that risks based on perception would distort the 'aim to permit' principle and incorrectly move the burden of proof onto operators. Consequently the amendment to Paragraph 2.6 clarifies this position. However, it is not accepted that it is solely the responsibility of the licensing authority to provide evidence of risks including potential risks (which are different from perceived risks) to the licensing objectives; in fact, officers are of the view that operators have an equal responsibility to identify and mitigate against potential risks.
Doc 1	12c	Y	The Local Area Profile will be included at Appendix B of the policy.
Doc 1	13	CS	Comments noted
Doc 1	14	In Part	Officers are minded not to refer to exceptional circumstances on the basis that Paragraphs 10.7 and 10.8 adequately cover the appropriate use of additional conditions.
Doc 1	15	In Part	Paragraph 7.3 has been amended to remove the implication that certain persons were automatically vulnerable; however the paragraph has also been extended to further clarify potential vulnerable persons in line with the research set out in 'Exploring area-based vulnerability to gambling related harm: Who is vulnerable? Findings from a quick scoping review Heather Wardle, Gambling and Place Research Hub 13 th July 2015'.
Doc 1	16	Y	Paragraph 10.7 and 10.8 have been amended to clarify that additional conditions will only be imposed based on evidence. New Paragraph 13.5 included to set out the Council's starting position with respect to any application.
Doc 1	17	Y	Paragraph 14.2 typographical error corrected.
Doc 1	18	In Part	The policy does not specify any area where gambling premises should not be located; however, the local area profile may identify in the future such areas but these will be wholly evidence based and dealt with on a case by case basis. Paragraph 15.4 has been

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			amended to make it clear that refusal of an application will be based on evidence of risk to the licensing objectives together with ways in which these can be mitigated through appropriate conditions.
Doc 1	19	SP	Comments noted
Doc 1	20	In Part	Consultee has referred to Paragraph 17.4, however it appears that the comments made are relevant to Paragraph 17.5. The policy does not specify any area where gambling premises should not be located; however, the local area profile may identify in the future such areas but these will be wholly evidence based and dealt with on a case by case basis. Paragraph 17.5 has been amended to make it clear that refusal of an application will be based on evidence of risk to the licensing objectives together with ways in which these can be mitigated through appropriate conditions.
Doc 1	21	In Part	The originally drafted Paragraph 17.6 was not a misunderstanding of the operation of betting premises; it was intended to bring policies around preventing underage sales of age restricted products/services in line with the requirements of 'Challenge 25'; this is a nationally recognised policy aimed at preventing many types of underage sales not only those under the Licensing Act 2003. However, Paragraph 17.6 has been amended to acknowledge the Gambling Commission's current position. (It is the intention that officers will raise this matter with the Gambling Commission for further consideration on the basis that officers are of the view that 'Challenge 25' ought to be the standard that applies to all policies aimed at preventing age restricted sales.)
Doc 1	22	Y	Paragraph 17.10 amended to include reference to additional conditions being applied only where there is a risk to the licensing objectives.
Doc 1	23	CS	Comments noted
Doc 2	1	CS	Comments noted

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Doc 2	2	In Part	Paragraph 17.1 sets out that the Council is likely to reject an application or revoke an existing licence or permit where there is insufficient emphasis placed on the provision of information to support vulnerable persons and problem gamblers. It is not appropriate for the Council to specify how an operator ought to provide the information; the emphasis is on the operator to set out how it will achieve this and for the Council to then determine whether this is sufficient to satisfy the licensing objectives. Policing the compliance with conditions is a role for the Council. With respect to 16 and 17 year olds the focus is on preventing access to gambling activities rather than providing information/advice.
Doc 2	3	CS	Comments noted
Doc 2	4	N	The whole policy is aimed at reducing the risk of gambling becoming an addiction. However, the law requires the Council to 'aim to permit' gambling activities. It is not the role of the Council to support those with gambling addictions and in this respect the Council's position is set out at Paragraph 17.8.
Doc 2	5	CS	Comments noted
Doc 3	1 & 4a	CS	Comments noted
Doc 3	2, 3 & 4c	SP	Comments noted
Doc 3	4b	Y	An additional bullet point has been added to Paragraph 31.0 to clarify the minimum that is expected from a local risk assessment.
Doc 4	N/A	Direct response to specific questions posed as part of the consultation.	Consultee agrees that the policy adequately considers safeguarding, has appropriately identified who is vulnerable and has included appropriate controls in relation to vulnerable groups. Unsure about additional data and information that could be included in the local area profile and absolutely sure that there should be a 'No Casino' policy.