

Date of EIA January 2007
 Directorate Environment and Leisure
 Function or policy to be assessed **Statement of Gambling Principles & Licensing of Gambling Premises**

Is it a policy or function	Policy (Statement of Gambling Principles) & function (Licensing of Gambling Premises)
Is it a new or existing policy or function?	New – BFBC become the Licensing Authority under the Gambling Act 2005 from 1 January 2007
Aim / objective / purpose of the policy or function	<p>Policy surrounding the granting of premises licences for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Casino Premises • Bingo Premises • Betting Premises including tracks • Adult Gaming Centres • Family Entertainment Centres <p>Subsequent review and approval of applications for licences.</p>
Who is responsible for the policy or function?	The Head of Trading Standards and Services and his team carry out most aspects of this work. The full Council approved the policy.
With regard to the equalities themes, which groups might be impacted by the policy or function?	<p>This policy was developed under the guidance of the Gambling Act 2005. All people in the Borough could be affected by the implementation of this policy.</p> <p>Faith groups opposed to gambling could be affected by the approval of any gambling licences.</p> <p>People on low incomes, young people and people with learning disabilities or mental health problems may be at higher than normal risk of being harmed or exploited by gambling and the crime and disorder it could cause.</p> <p>Travellers who earn their income from Travelling Fairs will be more affected by the policy than others.</p>
Which groups might be affected adversely ?	<p>The policy aims to ensure there is no adverse impact.</p> <p>The new service will use the same monitoring arrangements as the rest of Trading Standards and Services to ensure there is no adverse impact.</p> <p>Trading Standards regularly monitors the services to local residents through spot checks, routine monitoring of licensed premises, responding to complaints, review meetings, questionnaires, comments received at road shows and other events. There is no evidence from these sources to indicate that people in any of the equalities groups have been adversely affected in how the Council provides its Trading Standards service. The policy also provides specific details of how to make complaints against licensed premises and how these will be researched.</p>

<p>What evidence has been found to indicate this? (include any consultation undertaken)</p>	<p>The following groups were consulted in the development of the policy:</p> <p>BAGTA Churches, synagogues etc Crime and Disorder Partnership Community Safety Partnership Health and Safety Care Partnership Board Racial Equality Council (Bracknell) Race Equality Forum Schools Senior Citizens Forum Social Services and Housing Department at BFBC Victim Support Youth Forum</p>
<p>On what grounds can adverse or differential impact be justified?</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>What changes are proposed to the policy or function to reduce or remove adverse or differential impact?</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>In to which plan or strategy has the necessary action been incorporated?</p>	<p>The necessary actions are contained within written procedures and relevant service plans.</p>
<p>What monitoring arrangements have been put in place?</p>	<p>See above for current monitoring arrangements. Trading Standards will also be carrying out a major survey of local businesses of the services it provides. This is a national survey that is likely to include equalities monitoring questions.</p>
<p>What conclusions have been drawn or recommendations have been made?</p>	<p>Trading Standards will continue to monitor the services provided to ensure that businesses and residents receive an effective and efficient service. The Council does not have a policy to provide information in Plain English. Trading Standards would welcome a council wide policy and advice to do this. It also supports the planned work to make the council's website fully accessible for disabled people.</p>
<p>Has the</p>	<p>Not yet</p>

information in
this EIA been
made publicly
available?

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