



**West Devon  
Borough  
Council**

# **Statement of Principles**

**Under the Gambling Act 2005**

**FOR THE PERIOD OF 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2025 TO  
30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2028**

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## Table of Contents

	Item	Page
	<b>Part A</b>	
1	Licensing Objectives	3
2	Introduction	3
3	Description of the Licensing Authority Area	4
4	Review of Statement of Principles	6
5	Declaration	7
6	The Overriding Principle	7
7	Relationship with other Legislation	7
8	Responsible Authorities	7
9	Interested Parties	8
10	Exchange of Information	9
11	Enforcement	9
12	Licensing Authority Functions	11
13	The Licensing Process	12
14	General Principles where Gaming Machines are provided	12
15	Gaming in Alcohol Licensed Premises	13
16	Children and Vulnerable Persons	14
17	Safer Gambling and Social Responsibility	14
	<b>Part B – Premises Licences</b>	
1	General Principles	17
2	Adult Gaming Centres	29
3	(Licensed) Family Entertainment Centres	30
4	Casinos	31
5	Bingo Premises	31
6	Betting Premises	31
7	Tracks	32
8	Travelling Fairs	34
9	Provisional Statements	35
10	Reviews	36
	<b>Part C – Permits/Temporary &amp; Occasional Use Notices</b>	
1	Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre Gaming Machine Permits	38
2	(Alcohol) Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits	42
3	Prize Gaming Permits	44
4	Club Gaming & Club Machine Permits	47
5	Temporary Use Notices	49
6	Occasional Use Notices	50
7	Licensed Vessels	50
8	Small Society Lotteries	51
	<b>Appendix A – Licensing Authority Delegations</b>	54
	<b>Appendix B - Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults</b>	55
	<b>Appendix C - Information and support for gambling related harm</b>	57

# STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Text in the shaded boxes within this Statement of Principles are advisory only and intended to give assistance to applicants, interested persons and responsible authorities.

## Part A

### 1 The Licensing Objectives

1.1 The Licensing Authority has a duty under the Gambling Act 2005 to carry out its licensing functions in a manner which is consistent with three licensing objectives. The licensing objectives are:

- 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, and
- protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

1.2 This Licensing Authority notes at paragraph 5.34 of the Gambling Commission's Guidance to licensing authorities that:

“Licensing authorities should be aware that other considerations such as moral or ethical objections to gambling are not a valid reason to reject applications for premises licences. In deciding to reject an application, a Licensing Authority should rely on reasons that demonstrate that the licensing objectives are not being, or are unlikely to be, met, and as such objections do not relate to the licensing objectives. An authority's decision cannot be based on dislike of gambling, or a general notion that it is undesirable to allow gambling premises in an area (with the exception of the casino resolution powers).”

Applicants are also advised to note Part B of this Statement of Principles:-  
Premises Licences – General Principles.

### 2 Introduction

2.1 The Act gives licensing authorities a number of important regulatory functions. The main functions are:-

- license premises for gambling activities;
- consider notices given for the temporary use of premises for gambling;
- grant permits for gaming and gaming machines in clubs and miners' welfare institutes;
- regulate gaming and gaming machines in alcohol licensed premises;
- grant permits to family entertainment centres for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines;
- grant permits for prize gaming;
- consider occasional use notices for betting at tracks; and

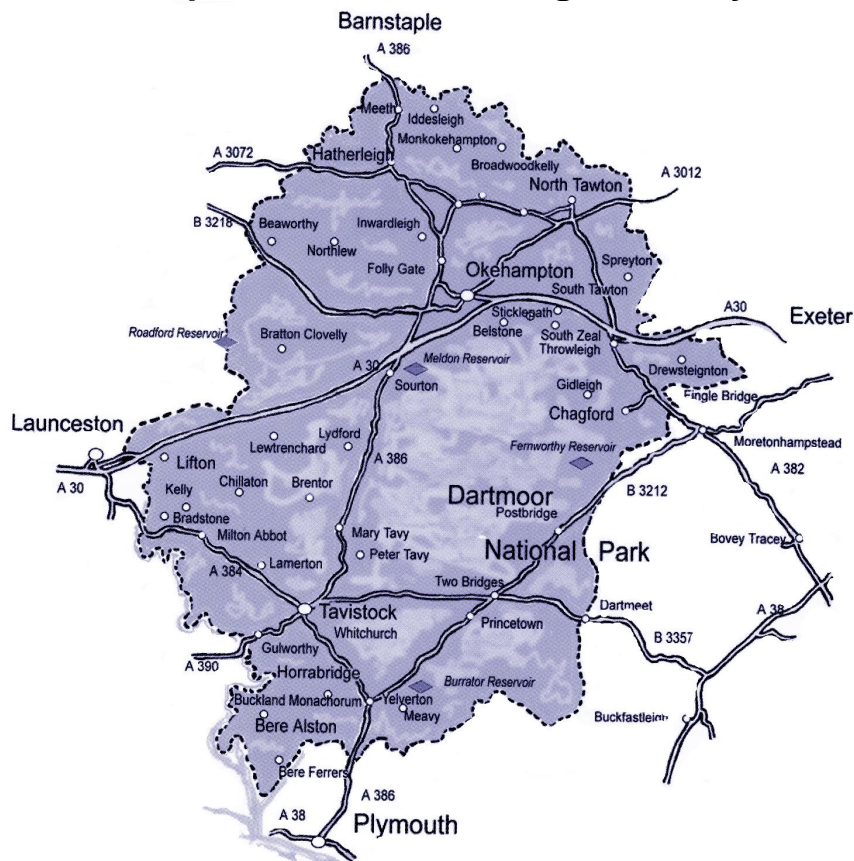
- register small societies' lotteries.
- 2.2 This Statement of Licensing Principles is written pursuant to the provisions of the Act and the Guidance issued under s.25 of the Act by the Gambling Commission.
- 2.3 All references to 'the Guidance' refer to the Gambling Commission Guidance to licensing authorities published in April 2021 and last updated in September 2023.
- 2.4 The Statement takes effect on 31 January 2025.

The Statement of Principles was approved at a meeting of Council on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024. A paper copy of the Policy may be viewed upon prior request during normal office hours at the offices of West Devon Borough Council, Kilworthy Park, Tavistock, PL19 0BZ.

Should you have any comments to make regarding this Statement, please write to us at the above address or email [licensing@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@swdevon.gov.uk).

This Statement will not override the right of any person to make an application, make representations about an application, or apply for a review of a licence, as each will be considered on its own merits and according to the statutory requirements of the Act.

### 3 Description of the Licensing Authority Area



- 3.1 West Devon is geographically one of the largest local authorities in England with a rural area of 458 square miles, or 1160 square kilometres.
- 3.2 The Borough extends from the northern outskirts of Plymouth to within 13 kilometres of Exeter. Its western boundary is the River Tamar on the Cornish border, from which

it stretches eastwards and northwards to encompass a major part of the Dartmoor National Park (520 square kilometres).

- 3.3 With its historic market towns and beautiful countryside, West Devon is a highly desirable area in which to live, however, the median gross annual income in 2023 for those working in the Borough was £7,000 lower than the national average<sup>1</sup>. The average house price is £311,229, compared with the national average of £305,000<sup>2</sup>.
- 3.4 Despite its vast area, being largely rural in nature, in 2023 West Devon had an estimated population of just 58,754<sup>3</sup>. The largest towns are Tavistock and Okehampton, although nearly two thirds of the population of West Devon live outside of these two settlements.
- 3.5 The Borough has a higher proportion of older people (aged 65 years or older) than the national average, with a small but steady outward migration of younger people.
- 3.6 At the time of preparing this Policy (August 2024), the Authority is responsible for 2 betting shops, located in the towns of Tavistock and Okehampton. West Devon currently has close to 300 licensed premises and members clubs under the Licensing Act 2003, some of which have notifications for gaming machines or hold club machine permits.
- 3.7 This Policy aims to help promote the Council's eight key priorities, which are 'Natural Environment; Built Environment; Health and Wellbeing; Economy and Jobs; People and Community; Housing; Accessibility and Communications; Performance and Resources.'

### **3.8 Local Area Profile**

- 3.8.1 The Gambling Commission recommends that the Licensing Authority completes its own Local Area Profile to 'map out' local areas of concern, to develop a better awareness of the local area and risks. It is recommended that when considering risks, possible future emerging risks are taken into consideration, as well as current risks.
- 3.8.2 An effective local area profile will take into account a wide range of factors, data and information held by the Licensing Authority and its partners. An important element would include proactive engagement with Responsible Authorities as well as other organisations in the area that can give input to 'map' local risks in the area.
- 3.8.3 Due to the wide range of information that is needed to input into such a profile, this Authority is not currently in a position to publish and consult upon a draft Local Area Profile. However, this will be reviewed and if such a Profile is developed it will be consulted upon and any information that may assist in its production would be welcomed.

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<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics – Local indicators for West Devon  
<https://explore-local-statistics.beta.ons.gov.uk/areas/E07000047-west-devon/indicators>

<sup>2</sup> HM Land Registry UK House Price Index England: June 2024:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-house-price-index-for-june-2024/uk-house-price-index-england-june-2024>

<sup>3</sup> Office for National Statistics – Estimates of the population for England and Wales  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/estimatesofthepopulationforenglandandwales>

## 4 Review of Statement of Principles (Consultation)

- 4.1 Licensing authorities are required by the Act to publish a statement of the principles which they propose to apply when exercising their functions. This statement must be published at least every three years. The statement must also be reviewed from “time to time” and any amended parts re-consulted upon. The statement must then be re-published.
- 4.2 The Gambling Act requires that the following parties are consulted by Licensing Authorities:
- The Chief Officer of Police;
  - One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the authority’s area;
  - One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authority’s functions under the Gambling Act 2005.
- 4.3 List of persons this authority consulted include the following:
- All Responsible Authorities under Gambling Act 2005
  - British Amusement Catering Trade Association (BACTA)
  - Borough Councillors
  - Citizens Advice
  - Dartmoor National Park Authority
  - Devon and Plymouth Chamber of Trade
  - Devon County Council Adult Social Care
  - Devon Health and Wellbeing Board
  - Devon Safeguarding Children Partnership
  - Gamble Aware
  - Gamblers Anonymous
  - Gambling Commission
  - GamCare
  - Local residents/businesses and their representatives via the Council website and associated press release
  - Mencap
  - MIND
  - NSPCC
  - Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall
  - Representatives of existing licence-holders
  - South Devon & Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership
  - Tavistock and District Chamber of Commerce
  - Town and Parish Councils within the Borough
- 4.4 Proper weight will be given to the views of all those who have been consulted prior to the date of implementation of the Statement of Principles.
- 4.5 Should you have any comments regarding this Statement of Principles, please email [licensing@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@swdevon.gov.uk)

Our consultation took place between 2 September and 13 October 2024. We followed the government’s Consultation Principles 2018.

## **5 Declaration**

- 5.1 In producing the final Statement of Principles, this Licensing Authority declares that it has had regard to the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005, the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, and any responses from those consulted on the statement.
- 5.2 The Licensing Authority will have regard to changes in legislation, court judgments and any updated guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, where it is appropriate to the application under consideration.

## **6 The Overriding Principle**

- 6.1 In exercising its functions under the Act, this Licensing Authority will aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks that the practice will:
- be in accordance with the Gambling Act & associated legislation;
  - be in accordance with any relevant Code of Practice;
  - have regard to the relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission;
  - be reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
  - have regard to this Statement of Principles.
- 6.2 Each case will be considered on its merits.
- 6.3 In deciding whether or not to grant a licence, this authority does not have regard to the expected demand for the facilities that are subject to the application.
- 6.4 The overriding principle does not, however, apply to the consideration of an application for a casino licence if this authority resolves not to issue casino premises licenses.

## **7 Relationship with other legislation**

- 7.1 This Licensing Authority will seek to avoid any duplication with planning or other statutory / regulatory systems where possible. This authority will not consider whether a licence application is likely to be awarded planning permission or building regulations approval, in its consideration of it. It will though, listen to, and consider carefully, any concerns about conditions which are not able to be met by licensees due to planning restrictions, should such a situation arise.
- 7.2 The grant of a licence does not imply the approval of other legislative requirements.

Applicants for Premises Licences for Casinos, Bingo Halls, Adult or Family Entertainment Centres (licensed or unlicensed) or Permits are advised to speak to the Planning Department of this Council before making a formal application to the Licensing Authority.

## **8 Responsible Authorities**

- 8.1 Responsible authorities are those public bodies, as specified by the Gambling Act, which must be notified of applications for premises licence. Such bodies are entitled to make representations to the Licensing Authority in relation to the applications.

The Responsible Authorities are detailed on our website.

8.2 The Licensing Authority is required by regulations to state the principles it will apply in exercising its powers under Section 157(h) of the Act to designate, in writing, a body which is competent to advise the authority about the protection of children from harm. The principles are:

- the need for the body to be responsible for an area covering the whole of the Licensing Authority's area; and
- the need for the body to be answerable to democratically elected persons, rather than any particular vested interest group.

8.3 In accordance with the suggestion in the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities, this authority designates Devon Safeguarding Children Partnership for this purpose.

8.4 In relation to the determination of who is competent to advise the Authority about the protection of other vulnerable persons, this Authority will consult with the Devon County Council Social Services Department and Mencap.

## **9 Interested Parties**

9.1 Interested parties can make representations about licence applications or apply for a review of an existing licence. These parties are defined in the Gambling Act 2005 as follows: "For the purposes of this Part a person is an interested party in relation to an application for or in respect of a premises licence if, in the opinion of the Licensing Authority which issues the licence or to which the application is made, the person-

- a) lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities,
- b) has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities, or
- c) represents persons who satisfy paragraph (a) or (b)"

9.2 The Licensing Authority is required by regulations to state the principles it will apply in exercising its powers under the Gambling Act 2005 to determine whether a person is an interested party.

9.3 Each case will be decided upon its merits. This authority will not apply a rigid rule to its decision making. It will consider the examples of considerations provided in the Gambling Commission's Guidance to local authorities. The following factors will be taken into account:

- the size of the premises;
- the nature of the premises;
- the distance of the premises from the location of the person making the representation;
- the potential impact of the premises (number of customers, routes likely to be taken by those visiting the establishment);
- the circumstances of the person who lives close to the premises. This is not their personal characteristics, but their interests which may be relevant to the distance from the premises. For example, it would be reasonable for an authority to conclude that 'sufficiently close to be likely to be affected' could have a different meaning for (a) a private resident; (b) a residential school for children with truanting problems; and (c) residential hostel for vulnerable adults;



- the 'catchment' area of the premises (i.e. how far people travel to visit);
- whether the person making the representation has business interests in that catchment area that might be affected.

This list is not exhaustive and other factors may be taken into consideration in an individual case.

- 9.4 Interested parties can be persons who are democratically elected such as councillors and MP's. No specific evidence of being asked to represent an interested person will be required as long as the councillor / MP represents the ward likely to be affected. Likewise, parish councils likely to be affected will be considered to be interested parties. Other than these, however, this authority will generally require written evidence that a person/body (e.g. an advocate / relative) 'represents' someone who either lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities and/or has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities. A letter from one of these persons, requesting the representation is sufficient.

If individuals wish to approach councillors to ask them to represent their views, then care should be taken that the councillors are not part of the Licensing Committee dealing with the licence application. If there are any doubts then please contact the Licensing Department: West Devon Borough Council, Kilworthy Park, Drake Road, Tavistock, PL19 0BZ. Tel: 01822 813600 or email [licensing@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@swdevon.gov.uk)

## 10 Exchange of Information

- 10.1 The principle that this Licensing Authority applies is that it will act in accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 in its exchange of information, including the provision that the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will not be contravened. The Licensing Authority will also have regard to any Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission on this matter, as well as any relevant regulations issued by the Secretary of State under the powers provided in the Gambling Act 2005.
- 10.2 The Licensing Authority will work closely with the Gambling Commission, Devon and Cornwall Police and with Responsible Authorities where there is a need to exchange information specific premises. Should any protocols be established in respect to the exchange of information with other bodies then they will be made available.
- 10.3 The privacy of those making representations will be respected, but it may be necessary for the identity of those making representations to be passed onto Responsible Authorities and the Gambling Commission for the purpose of determining licensing applications or in any subsequent appeal that may be made.

## 11 Enforcement

- 11.1 This Licensing Authority's principles are that it will be guided by the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities and in line with the Regulatory Compliance Code; its own [Corporate Enforcement Policy](#) and any Primary Authority partnership that may be in place.
- 11.2 This Licensing Authority's principles are that enforcement should be:
- Proportionate: regulators should only intervene when necessary: remedies

- should be appropriate to the risk posed, and costs identified and minimised;
  - Accountable: regulators must be able to justify decisions, and be subject to public scrutiny;
  - Consistent: rules and standards must be joined up and implemented fairly;
  - Transparent: regulators should be open, and keep regulations simple and user friendly; and
  - Targeted: regulation should be focused on the problem and minimise side effects.
- 11.3 In line with the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities this Licensing Authority will endeavour to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes so far as possible.
- 11.4 This Licensing Authority has adopted and implemented a risk-based inspection programme, based on:
- The licensing objectives
  - Relevant codes of practice
  - Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission
  - The principles set out in this statement of licensing policy
  - Intelligence or complaints received
- 11.5 The Licensing Authority will take account of the Gambling Commissions' guidance document issued in February 2015 (or subsequent amendments) '[Approach to Test Purchasing](#)' when considering making test purchases at gambling premises.
- 11.6 Council officers will use the LLEP Local Authority Assessment Templates as a basis when conducting inspections at gambling premises. More information is available on the [Gambling Commission website](#) . .
- 11.7 Whilst this authority has not currently adopted any primary authority agreements with the local businesses in respect of gambling activity, a number of councils have now signed primary authority agreements with some of the largest gambling operators covering the issue of age verification. Where such arrangements are in place, the Licensing Authority will have regard to the plan agreed between the company and primary authority in developing their own programmes of activity and inspection. It is acknowledged that any primary authority relationship will provide a useful mechanism to feedback general concerns about a particular operator, as the primary authority will have regular contact at senior levels with the operator.
- 11.8 The authority will seek to robustly investigate and action any complaints received in respect of licensed premises or those holding permits. Similarly, concerns over activities which are operating unlicensed or unregulated, which appear to require a licence or permit etc, will be similarly investigated. Members of the public wishing to make complaints of this nature should contact the Licensing Department by emailing [licensing@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@swdevon.gov.uk) .
- 11.9 The Licensing Authority will give clear and comprehensive reasons for all decisions, including rejection of applications.
- 11.10 There is a right of appeal both for applicants and those who have made relevant representations or applied for a review. An appeal must be lodged within a period of 21 days from the day on which the applicant or other person was notified by the

Licensing Authority of the decision and must be made to a Magistrates' Court. Any application for an appeal should be accompanied by a fee payable to the court.

The main enforcement and compliance role for this Licensing Authority in terms of the Act is to ensure compliance with the premises licences and other permissions which it authorises. The Gambling Commission is the enforcement body for the operating and personal licences. It is also worth noting that concerns about manufacture, supply or repair of gaming machines are not dealt with by this Licensing Authority but should be notified to the Gambling Commission.

This Licensing Authority also keeps itself informed of developments as regards the work of the Better Regulation Executive (BEIS - Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) in its consideration of the regulatory functions of local authorities.

Bearing in mind the principle of transparency, this Licensing Authority's enforcement/compliance protocols/written agreements will be available upon request to the Licensing Section at West Devon Borough Council. Our risk methodology will also be available upon request. The [Council's Enforcement Policy](#) is available on our website.

## 12 Licensing Authority functions

12.1 Licensing Authorities are required under the Act to:

- Be responsible for the licensing of premises where gambling activities are to take place by issuing *Premises Licences*
- Issue *Provisional Statements*
- Regulate *members' clubs* and *miners' welfare institutes* who wish to undertake certain gaming activities via issuing Club Gaming Permits and/or Club Machine Permits
- Issue *Club Machine Permits* to *Commercial Clubs*
- Grant permits for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines at *unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres*
- Receive notifications from alcohol licensed premises (under the Licensing Act 2003) for the use of two or fewer gaming machines
- Issue *Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits* for premises licensed to sell/supply alcohol for consumption on the licensed premises, under the Licensing Act 2003, where there are more than two machines
- Register *small society lotteries* below prescribed thresholds
- Issue *Prize Gaming Permits*
- Receive and Endorse *Temporary Use Notices*
- Receive *Occasional Use Notices*
- Provide information to the Gambling Commission regarding details of licences issued (see section above on 'information exchange')
- Maintain registers of the permits and licences that are issued under these functions

This Licensing Authority will not be involved in licensing remote gambling. That is the responsibility of the Gambling Commission via Operator Licences. The National Lottery is regulated by the National Lottery Commission and Online (Remote) Gambling is dealt with by the Gambling Commission.

## 13 The Licensing Process

- 13.1 A Licensing Committee, a Sub-Committee, or the Licensing Manager acting under delegated authority may carry out the powers of the authority under the Gambling Act.
- 13.2 Many of the licensing procedures are largely administrative in nature. In the interests of efficiency, non-contentious procedures are carried out by licensing officers.
- 13.3 The Licensing Authority ensures that all Licensing Officers and Members of the Licensing Committee have received adequate training for their role under the Gambling Act.
- 13.4 Where admissible and relevant representations are received in relation to an application for a premises licence, or in relation to the review of a premises licence, a Sub-Committee is delegated to hear the matter.
- 13.5 A table showing a summary of the recommended delegation for decisions made under the Gambling Act 2005 is in Appendix A.
- 13.6 Applicants for premises licences are required to copy their applications in full to the responsible authorities as listed on our website.

## 14 General Principles where Gaming Machines are provided

- 14.1 Gaming machines may only be provided where an appropriate licence or permit has been granted. There are different categories of machine which determine the stakes and prizes, further details on the categories and entitlements can be found on the [Gambling Commission's website](#).
- 14.2 Where gaming machines are provided, we would expect the following principles to be applied:-
- The number and category of machines must adhere to the restrictions under the relevant licence or permit at that location. This will vary depending upon the authorisation that has been granted.
  - The classification (e.g. category C) must be clearly displayed on each machine.
  - Gaming machines must be located in areas with good visibility, such that members of staff are able to monitor their use effectively. The need for appropriate supervision of gambling facilities is included in the Licence Conditions and Code of Practice (LCCP)
  - The location of gaming machines must be marked on a scale plan accompanying the application. You must be able to show how you have considered the risk to the licensing objectives and provide information on the controls that will be put in place, before introducing or re-locating gaming machines.
  - It may be necessary to apply for a premises licence variation if the layout of the premises and/or location of gaming machines changes. For the majority of gaming machine re-location requests a full premises licence variation application would not be required, but it would be expected that the licence holder would discuss their plans with the Licensing Authority prior to the changes being made. However, where the Licensing Authority has concerns about the re-location of gaming machines, a variation application would be deemed appropriate to allow consultation with all the responsible authorities.
  - A premises licence variation application will be required if intending to include privacy screens or pods around a gaming machine in licensed premises. A copy of the

updated local risk assessment must also be included within the application to evidence that any risks presented have been recognised and mitigated.

- Gaming machines situated in premises licensed to sell alcohol (authorised by way of notification of automatic entitlement and/or permit) must be made available strictly in accordance with the Gambling Commission's code of practice with regards to gaming machines in alcohol-licensed premises.

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- 14.3 The Licensing Authority will expect the holder of a Permit or Premises Licence to comply with the Codes of Practice issued by the Commission on the location of, and access to, such machines by children and young persons: [Section C – Gaming machines in clubs and premises with an alcohol licence](#).
- 14.4 The Licensing authority recognises concerns about unlawfully sited gaming machines because they are:
  - Provided in prohibited places such as takeaways and taxi offices.
  - Provided without a Responsible permit.
  - Provided from an unregistered supplier and/or are uncategorised.
  - Known to have links with organised crime.
- 14.5 In circumstances where illegal machines are being provided, the following actions may be taken by the Licensing Authority:
  - Initial enforcement with visit and verbal/written warning issued to remove the machines.
  - Removal of the gaming machines in partnership with the Commission and/or Police.
- 14.6 There are a variety of reasons why the provision of gaming machines may be illegal, and operators are advised to seek the advice of the Licensing Authority or the Gambling Commission before making them available. Where the Licensing Authority is uncertain of whether or not a machine is a gaming machine as defined under the Act, it will seek the advice of the Gambling Commission.
- 14.7 Where the Licensing Authority has concerns about the manufacture, supply, or repair of a gaming machine, it will bring this to the attention of the Gambling Commission.

## **15 Gaming in Alcohol Licensed Premises**

- 15.1 The Licensing Authority recognises that low level (exempt) gaming (e.g. bingo, poker and race nights) may take place in alcohol licensed premises. Exempt gaming being equal chance gaming that should be ancillary to the purposes of the premises. Equal chance gaming is gaming that does not involve staking against a bank and the chances of winning are equally favourable to all participants. There are rules relating to the stakes and prize limits which must be followed, further information on exempt gaming in pubs can be found on the [Gambling Commission website](#).
- 15.2 As there is likely to be limited regulatory scrutiny of gaming provided in these premises, the Premises Licence Holder or Club are considered fully responsible and must be aware of, as well as adhere to, the Codes of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission, which include: [Section B – Equal Chance Gaming in Clubs and Premises with an Alcohol Licence](#) and [Section C – Gaming Machines in Clubs and Premises with and Alcohol Licence](#). They must also follow the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission to ensure that all gaming in their premises is suitably managed.

- 15.3 Low turnover bingo is permitted in alcohol licensed premises, where stakes and prizes do not exceed £2000 in any 7-day period. Those running this activity are expected to comply with the relevant code of practice (see above). High turnover bingo, where stakes and prizes exceed the £2000 limit, will require a Bingo Operating Licence from the Gambling Commission.
- 15.4 Those premises wishing to run poker events, race nights, or any other form of 'exempt' gaming must ensure that they comply with the relevant limits, as well as the above Codes of Practice. Further guidance can be found in toolkits available on the Gambling Commission website: [Poker toolkit](#) ; [Pubs and clubs toolkit](#).
- 15.5 Where there is reason to believe that an alcohol licensed premises has exceeded the limits on stakes and prizes, the Licensing Authority will inform the Gambling Commission.
- 15.5 Alcohol licensed premises that provide gaming machines must ensure that they have either given notification to the Licensing Authority that they intend to provide up to 2 category C and/or D gaming machines or have the relevant gaming machine permit in place (see Part C, section 2 for further details).
- 15.6 Children must not be allowed to use Category C (or higher level) gaming machines. Gaming machines should therefore be sited in an area with good supervision. It will be the responsibility of the Premises Licence Holder or the Club to make sure that the person in day-to-day control of the premises is managing the use of gaming machines within their premises.

## **16 Children and Vulnerable Persons**

- 16.1 To achieve the licensing objective of “protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling”, the Licensing Authority expects all gambling licensed premises and premises with gambling permits to have policies in place to help safeguard children and vulnerable adults.
- 16.2 The Licensing Authority is working together with other agencies to help tackle issues surrounding safeguarding, particularly child sexual exploitation and trafficking. Further information for operators and their employees on the types of issues to be aware of and good practice in relation to safeguarding is at Appendix B.
- 16.3 Any information or intelligence should be submitted to police through their website: <https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>.

## **17 Safer Gambling and Social Responsibility**

- 17.1 'Harmful gambling' is an umbrella term to describe any frequency of gambling that results in people experiencing harm. It includes those gambling at elevated risk of harm as well as those experiencing 'problem' gambling. Gambling related harm is a broad concept that impacts a wide range of people, including families, colleagues, employers, and those within the wider community who may not have been involved in gambling themselves. Harms may include financial hardship, relationship breakdown, domestic abuse, mental health problems and suicidal thoughts. It is important to note that anyone can be negatively affected by gambling. Gambling behaviours occur along a continuum, with possible harms dependent on the level of exposure.

Research shows that there are features of some gambling products which make them more addictive, like continuous play<sup>4</sup>.

- 17.2 Sometimes it is not easy to identify the most vulnerable persons being harmed or exploited by gambling. The Gambling Commission are raising awareness of the need for agencies to work together to help those that are most affected by problem gambling to hopefully reduce the negative impact. This Licensing Authority recognises the importance of the input of Public Health when developing the Statement of Licensing Principles and would welcome feedback from these agencies.
- 17.3 Evidence suggests that certain groups are more vulnerable to problem gambling. The key at risk groups or behaviours are<sup>5</sup>:
- Young people
  - Unemployed and constrained economic circumstance
  - Area deprivation
  - Homelessness
  - Mental ill health
  - Substance abuse/misuse
  - Personality traits/cognitive distortions
  - People experiencing gambling harms who are seeking treatment
- 17.4 These factors will be taken into consideration in relation to applications for new or changed licences, and the proximity of those premises to nearby services which may be frequented by groups considered to be at increased vulnerability to gambling harms.
- 17.5 Research has shown that gambling can be a prominent contributor to suicides and self-harm<sup>6</sup>. Harmful gambling is identified within the National Suicide Prevention Strategy for England (2023-2028) as a specific risk factor<sup>7</sup>. Public Health Devon have identified harmful gambling as a priority risk factor in the Devon Suicide Prevention Strategy & Action Plan (2024-2027)<sup>8</sup>.
- 17.6 Gamble Aware is an independent charity and strategic commissioner of gambling harm education, prevention, early intervention and treatment across Great Britain. They have developed profiles relating to the estimated levels of gambling harm, the use of treatment, support and advice, for every area of the country. Based on information from the Annual GB Treatment and Support Survey 2022, it is estimated that 1 in 9 people in West Devon have a PGSI score of 1 or more (10.7%), which compares to 13.4% across Great Britain (GB). 1 in 25 (3.9%) have a PGSI score of 3+, compared to 5.9% across GB. 1 in 58 (1.7%) have a score of PGSI 8+, compared to 2.9% across GB. The PGSI is a standardised measure of at-risk behaviour in gambling which measures levels of gambling behaviour which may cause harm to an individual. It ranges from low-risk gambling (score 1-2), moderate-risk gambling (3-7), and 'problem gambling' (8+). Further details can be found on the Gamble Aware website: <https://www.gambleaware.org/gambleaware-gb-maps-local-authorities> .

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<sup>4</sup> Local Government Association and Public Health England – Tackling gambling related harm: A whole council approach, October 2023: <https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/tackling-gambling-related-harm-whole-council-approach>

<sup>5</sup> Local Government Association and Public Health England – Tackling gambling related harm: A whole council approach, October 2023: <https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/tackling-gambling-related-harm-whole-council-approach>

<sup>6</sup> Local Government Association and Public Health England – Tackling gambling related harm: A whole council approach, October 2023: <https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/tackling-gambling-related-harm-whole-council-approach>

<sup>7</sup> Suicide prevention in England: 5-year cross-sector strategy: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suicide-prevention-strategy-for-england-2023-to-2028/suicide-prevention-in-england-5-year-cross-sector-strategy>

<sup>8</sup> Suicide prevention: Everybody's business – collaborative working: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/adult-social-care/independent-living/health-and-wellbeing/suicide-prevention-in-devon/how-we-work/>

- 17.7 Gambling Operators must comply with the Gambling Commission's Licensing Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP). The social responsibility code requires gambling operators to have and put into effect policies and procedures to promote socially responsible gambling and these should reduce the risk of and seek to identify problem gambling.
- 17.8 The requirements on gambling premises under the social responsibility code are based upon key areas:
- Provision of information on gambling responsibly – for example, the availability of time or monetary limits for players and information on where to get help and advice about gambling.
  - Customer interaction – licensees are required to have policies and procedures in place governing customer interaction where there are concerns that a customer is displaying signs of problem gambling. These will include staff training and the types of behaviour that may trigger an intervention or where staff may consider refusing services to customers.
  - Layout of the premises – operators must ensure that the layout of a gambling premises supports the effective supervision of the premises.
  - Self-exclusion – licensees must have procedures for self-exclusion that ensure that individuals who wish to self-exclude from gambling are prevented from participating in gambling. In addition to operating their own self-exclusion schemes, all licensees must offer the facility for customers to self-exclude on a multi-operator basis, meaning that an individual who self-excludes from one operator should be able to self-exclude from all operators offering the same type of gambling in the same locality. Trade bodies for different sectors of the gambling industry have led on the development of multi-operator self-exclusion arrangements for each sector.
- 17.9 Any marketing communications for gambling must be socially responsible, with particular regard to the need to protect children, young persons, and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited. Licensees are required to comply with the [Social Responsibility Code 5 of the Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice – Gambling Commission \(LCCP\)](#).
- 17.10 Due to the wide-ranging and potentially damaging impact of problem gambling, it is vital that gambling operators have robust policies in place for identifying and protecting children and vulnerable persons from gambling related harm and exploitation. See Part B section 1.13 for further information on the Licensing Authority's expectations of local risk assessments. This Licensing Authority encourages operators to have information and links to appropriate accredited agencies for help and support available to customers, such as the National Gambling Helpline (0808 8020 133) operated by GamCare. Further information is also available on the GambleAware website: [www.begambleaware.org](http://www.begambleaware.org). See Appendix C for further details on the help available to those suffering the effects of harmful gambling in the West Devon area, as provided to us by Public Health Devon.



## **Part B - Premises Licences**

### **1 General Principles**

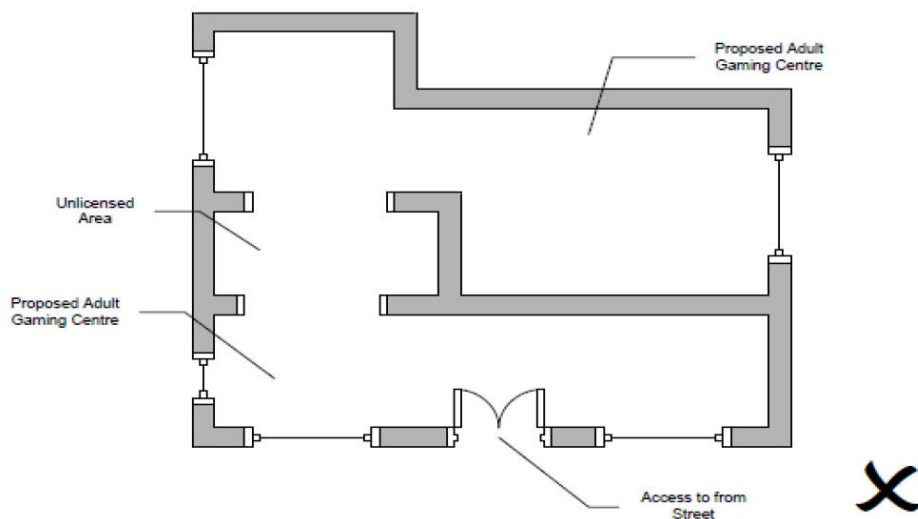
- 1.1 Premises Licences will be subject to the requirements set out in the Gambling Act 2005 and regulations, as well as specific mandatory and default conditions which are detailed in regulations issued by the Secretary of State. Licensing authorities are able to exclude default conditions and also attach others, where it is believed to be appropriate.
- 1.2 This Licensing Authority is aware that in making decisions about premises licences it should aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks it:
- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission
  - in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission
  - reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives and
  - in accordance with the authority's Statement of Principles.
- 1.3 It is appreciated that as per the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities "moral objections to gambling are not a valid reason to reject applications for premises licences" (except as regards any 'no casino resolution' - see section on Casinos below) and also that unmet demand is not a criterion for a Licensing Authority.
- 1.4 Definition of "premises"**
- 1.4.1 In the Act, "premises" is defined as including "any place". Section 152 therefore prevents more than one premises licence applying to any place. But a single building could be subject to more than one premises licence, provided they are for different parts of the building and the different parts of the building can be reasonably regarded as being different premises. This approach has been taken to allow large, multiple unit premises such as a pleasure park, pier, track or shopping mall to obtain discrete premises licences, where appropriate safeguards are in place. However, licensing authorities should pay particular attention if there are issues about subdivisions of a single building or plot and should ensure that mandatory conditions relating to access between premises are observed.
- 1.4.2 The Gambling Commission states in its Guidance at paragraphs 7.6 and 7.7 that: "In most cases the expectation is that a single building or plot will be the subject of an application for a licence, for example, 32 High Street. But that does not mean 32 High Street cannot be the subject of separate premises licences for the basement and ground floor, if they are configured acceptably. Whether different parts of a building can properly be regarded as being separate premises will depend on the circumstances. The location of the premises will clearly be an important consideration and the suitability of the division is likely to be a matter for discussion between the operator and the licensing authority. The Commission does not consider that areas of a building that are artificially or temporarily separated, for example by ropes or moveable partitions, can properly be regarded as different premises. If a premises is located within a wider venue, a licensing authority should request a plan of the venue on which the premises should be identified as a separate unit"
- 1.4.3 This Licensing Authority takes particular note of the Guidance which states at paragraph 7.26 that: "licensing authorities should take particular care in considering

applications for multiple licences for a building and those relating to a discrete part of a building used for other (non-gambling) purposes.” In particular the Licensing Authority will be aware of the following:

- The third licensing objective seeks to protect children from being harmed by gambling. In practice that means not only preventing them from taking part in gambling, but also preventing them from being in close proximity to gambling. Therefore premises should be configured so that children are not invited to participate in, have accidental access to, or be able to closely observe gambling where they are prohibited from participating.
- Entrances to and exits from parts of a building covered by one or more premises licences should be separate and identifiable so that the separation of different premises is not compromised and people do not “drift” into a gambling area. In this context it should be possible to access the premises without going through another licensed premises or premises with a permit.
- In respect of separation of premises, as a minimum, this authority would expect tangible and evident means of separation, such as one or more of the following measures:
  - Wall(s)
  - Door(s)
  - Screen(s)
  - PIR alarms
- In addition, this authority would expect signage to be clearly displayed to show the separation of the premises. A rope or moveable line is not an acceptable means of separation.
- The form of separation used must be made clear on the relevant plan. It is preferable that there is an area separating the premises concerned, which the public may go to for purposes other than gambling, such as a café or street.
- Customers should be able to participate in the activity named on the premises licence, for example, bingo must be available at a licensed bingo premises.

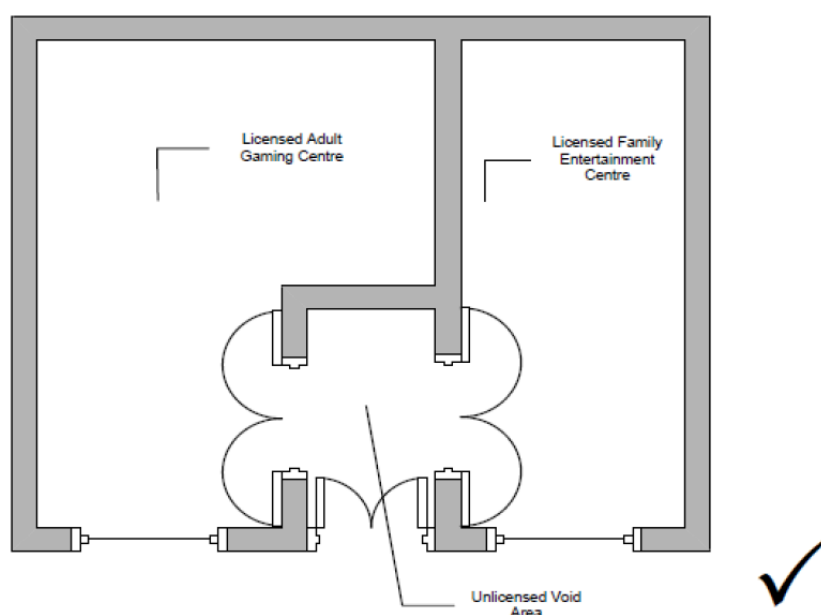
1.4.4 Applications to place two licensed premises in one premises with an unlicensed area separating them (see Figure 1) will not meet this Policy because of the artificial nature of the premises, leading to access and use issues.

Figure 1.



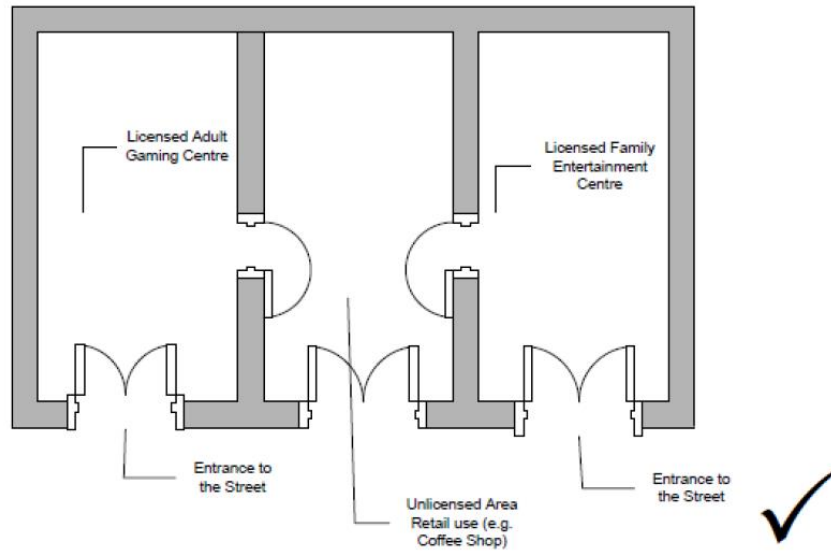
- 1.4.5 It is possible to have an unlicensed foyer area which separates one licensed premises from another if the foyer is accessed from the street (see Figure 2). The Licensing Authority would expect as a minimum that the area should be used for non-gaming purposes, such as an information point, a coffee shop or similar, but must not contain any gambling information or literature promoting gambling activities. The size of the unlicensed area is a matter for each application, but the Licensing Authority will not consider this configuration if the foyer is not of sufficient size to be a useable space.

Figure 2.



- 1.4.6 It may also be acceptable if a premises is separated by another non-licensed premises that has access to both licensed premises from it. An example of this could be in the form of a coffee shop which has a main entrance to the street. The coffee shop may have access to an Adult Gaming Centre on one side and an entrance to a Family Entertainment Centre on the other side (see Figure 3). Where a member of the public not using the gambling premises is likely to use the coffee shop, it may be considered that there is no direct access between the two licensed premises.

Figure 3.



1.4.7 Any new application for any type of Gambling Premises Licence will be expected to fully comply with the terms and conditions as set out above. Existing licensed premises may continue to operate under the terms that have been granted by virtue of the licence that they currently hold, provided that the licensing objectives continue to be fully promoted at all times. However, any application to vary the licence will be subject to the full terms as outlined above.

1.4.8 The Guidance also gives a list of factors which this Licensing Authority should be aware of, which may include:

- Do the premises have a separate registration for business rates?
- Is the premises' neighbouring premises owned by the same person or someone else?
- Can each of the premises be accessed from the street or a public passageway?
- Can the premises only be accessed from any other gambling premises?
- Has a risk assessment identified and adequately controlled risks?

This Licensing Authority will consider these and other relevant factors in making its decision, depending on all the circumstances of the case.

1.4.9 The Gambling Commission's relevant access provisions for each premises type are reproduced below:

Type of premises	Access provisions
Casinos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the principal access entrance to the premises must be from a 'street'.</li> <li>• entrance to a casino must not be from premises that are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons</li> <li>• customers must not be able to enter a casino directly from any other premises which holds a gambling premises licence.</li> </ul>
Adult Gaming Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• customers must not be able to access the premises directly from any other licensed gambling premises or one that is subject to a permit (e.g. uFEC).</li> </ul>

Type of premises	Access provisions
Betting Shops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• access must be from a street or from another premises with a betting premises licence</li> <li>• no direct access from a betting shop to another premises used for the retail sale of merchandise or services. In effect there cannot be an entrance to a betting shop from a shop of any kind unless that shop is itself a licensed betting premises..</li> </ul>
Tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• customers should not be able to access the premises directly from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a casino</li> <li>- an adult gaming centre</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Bingo Premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• customers must not be able to access the premises directly from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a casino</li> <li>- an adult gaming centre</li> <li>- a betting premises, other than a track</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Family Entertainment Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• customers must not be able to access the premises directly from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a casino</li> <li>- an adult gaming centre</li> <li>- betting premises, other than a track</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

1.4.10 Part 7 of the Guidance contains further guidance on this issue, which this Licensing Authority will also take into account in its decision-making.

## 1.5 Premises “ready for gambling”

1.5.1 At section 7.58 of the Guidance it states that a licence to use premises for gambling should only be issued in relation to premises that this Licensing Authority can be satisfied are going to be ready to be used for gambling in the reasonably near future, consistent with the scale of building or alterations required before the premises are brought into use.

1.5.2 If the construction of a premises is not yet complete, or if they need alteration, or if the applicant does not yet have a right to occupy them, then an application for a provisional statement should be made instead.

1.5.3 In deciding whether a premises licence can be granted where there are outstanding construction or alteration works at a premises, this Licensing Authority will determine applications on their merits, applying a two stage consideration process:-

- First, whether the premises ought to be permitted to be used for gambling
- Second, whether appropriate conditions can be put in place to cater for the situation that the premises are not yet in the state in which they ought to be before gambling takes place.

1.5.4 Applicants should note that this Licensing Authority is entitled to decide that it is appropriate to grant a licence subject to conditions, but it is not obliged to grant such a licence.

1.5.5 More detailed examples of the circumstances in which such a licence may be granted can be found in the Guidance.

## **1.6 Location**

- 1.6.1 This Licensing Authority is aware that demand issues cannot be considered with regard to the location of premises but that considerations in terms of the licensing objectives can. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities, this authority will pay particular attention to the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling, as well as issues of crime and disorder. Should any specific policy be decided upon as regards areas where gambling premises should not be located, this statement will be updated. It should be noted that any such policy does not preclude any application being made and each application will be decided on its merits, with the onus upon the applicant showing how potential concerns can be overcome. It is expected that issues relating to the location of a gambling premises will be addressed in the relevant local risk assessment. See section 1.13 for more information on our expectations for local risk assessments.
- 1.6.2 Where gambling premises are located in sensitive areas, e.g. near schools, this Licensing Authority will consider imposing restrictions on advertising gambling facilities on such premises where it is felt relevant and reasonably consistent with the Licensing Objectives.

## **1.7 Relationship with Other Authorities**

- 1.7.1 The Licensing Authority is aware of the potential overlap with planning and building regulations, as well as with fire and health and safety regulations. In determining applications, only relevant matters will be taken into consideration. One example of an irrelevant matter would be the likelihood of the applicant obtaining planning permission or building regulations approval for their proposal. Further information is at sections 7.58 to 7.65 of the Guidance.
- 1.7.2 This Licensing Authority will not take into account irrelevant matters as per the Guidance. In addition this Licensing Authority notes the following excerpt from section 7.65 of the Guidance:

“When dealing with a premises licence application for finished buildings, the Licensing Authority should not take into account whether those buildings have or comply with the necessary planning or building consents. Nor should fire or health and safety risks be taken into account. Those matters should be dealt with under relevant planning control and building regulation powers, and not form part of the consideration for the premises licence. Section 210 of the Act prevents licensing authorities taking into account the likelihood of the proposal by the applicant obtaining planning or building consent when considering a premises licence application. Equally the grant of a gambling premises licence does not prejudice or prevent any action that may be appropriate under the law relating to planning or building.”

## **1.8 Licensing objectives**

- 1.8.1 Premises licences granted must be reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives. With regard to these objectives, this Licensing Authority has considered the Gambling Commission's Guidance to local authorities and some comments are made below.
- 1.8.2 **Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime - This**

Licensing Authority is aware that the Gambling Commission will be taking a leading role in preventing gambling from being a source of crime. The Gambling Commission's Guidance does however envisage that licensing authorities should pay attention to the proposed location of gambling premises in terms of this licensing objective. Where an area has known high levels of organised crime this authority will consider carefully whether gambling premises are suitable to be located there and whether conditions may be suitable such as the provision of door supervisors. This Licensing Authority is aware of the distinction between disorder and nuisance and will consider factors such as whether police assistance was required and how threatening the behaviour was to those who could see it, so as to make that distinction. Issues of nuisance cannot be addressed via the Gambling Act provisions.

- 1.8.3 **Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way** - This Licensing Authority has noted that the Gambling Commission states that it generally does not expect licensing authorities to be concerned with ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way as this will be addressed via operating and personal licences. However, this does not preclude this being considered during periodic inspections at the premises. There is more of a role with regard to tracks which is explained in more detail in the tracks section later.
- 1.8.4 **Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling** - This Licensing Authority has noted the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities states that this objective means preventing children from taking part in gambling (as well as restriction of advertising so that gambling products are not aimed at or are, particularly attractive to children). The Licensing Authority will therefore consider, as suggested in the Gambling Commission's Guidance, whether specific measures are required at particular premises, with regard to this licensing objective. Appropriate measures may include supervision of entrances / machines, segregation of areas etc.
- 1.8.5 The Licensing Authority notes the Gambling Commission [Codes of Practice](#) as regards this licensing objective, in relation to specific premises.
- 1.8.6 Regarding the term “vulnerable persons” it is noted that the Gambling Commission is not seeking to offer a definition but states that “it will for regulatory purposes assume that this group includes people who gamble more than they want to; people who gamble beyond their means and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.” This Licensing Authority will consider this licensing objective on a case-by-case basis.
- 1.8.7 Where physical barriers are required to separate activities due to age restrictions, the applicant must provide sufficient information with regards to the height, transparency and materials to be used. The Licensing Authority will require barriers to be designed and constructed to prevent inadvertent access and viewing of restricted areas. Adequate supervision within these areas must also be maintained.
- 1.8.8 The Licensing Authority expects all operators to have a safeguarding policy in relation to children and vulnerable adults. All staff will be expected to undertake training regarding:
- Vulnerability risk factors
  - How to identify safeguarding issues
  - How to report and record concerns

1.8.9 Further information for operators and their employees on the types of issues to be aware of and good practice in relation to safeguarding is at Appendix B.

## **1.9 Conditions**

1.9.1 In most cases the mandatory and default conditions are sufficient to ensure operation that is reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives. Additional conditions will only be considered where there is clear evidence of a risk to the licensing objectives.

1.9.2 Any conditions attached to licences will be proportionate and will be:

- relevant to the need to make the proposed building suitable as a gambling facility
- directly related to the premises and the type of licence applied for;
- fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises: and
- reasonable in all other respects.

1.9.3 Decisions about individual conditions will be made on a case-by-case basis, although there will be a number of measures this Licensing Authority will consider using should there be a perceived need, such as the use of supervisors, appropriate signage for adult only areas etc. There are specific comments made in this regard under some of the licence types below. This Licensing Authority will also expect the licence applicant to offer his/her own suggestions as to way in which the licensing objectives can be met effectively.

1.9.4 This Licensing Authority will also consider specific measures which may be needed for buildings which are subject to multiple premises licences. Such measures may include the supervision of entrances; segregation of gambling from non-gambling areas frequented by children; and the supervision of gaming machines in non-adult gambling specific premises in order to pursue the licensing objectives. These matters are in accordance with the Gambling Commission's Guidance.

1.9.5 This authority will also require that where category C or above machines are on offer in premises to which children are admitted:

- all such machines are located in an area of the premises which is separated from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance;
- only adults are admitted to the area where these machines are located;
- access to the area where the machines are located is supervised;
- the area where these machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by the staff or the licence holder; and
- at the entrance to and inside any such areas there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18.

These considerations will apply to premises including buildings where multiple premises licences are applicable, for example, entertainment halls on holiday parks.

1.9.6 This Licensing Authority is aware that tracks may be subject to one or more than one premises licence, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance, this Licensing Authority will consider the impact upon the third licensing objective and the need to ensure that entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling areas where they are not permitted to enter.

1.9.7 It is noted that there are conditions which the Licensing Authority cannot attach to premises licences. These are:



- conditions on the premises licence which makes it impossible to comply with an operating licence condition;
- conditions relating to gaming machine categories, numbers, or method of operation;
- conditions which provide that membership of a club or body be required (the Gambling Act 2005 specifically removes the membership requirement for casino and bingo clubs) and this provision prevents it being reinstated; and
- conditions in relation to stakes, fees, winnings or prizes.

## **1.10 Door Supervisors**

1.10.1 The Gambling Commission advises in its Guidance that if a Licensing Authority is concerned that a premises may attract disorder or be subject to attempts at unauthorised access (for example by children and young persons) then it may require that the entrances to the premises are controlled by a door supervisor and is entitled to impose a condition on the premises licence to this effect.

1.10.2 Where it is decided that supervision of entrances/machines is appropriate for particular cases, a consideration of whether these need to be SIA licensed or not will be necessary. It will not be automatically assumed that they need to be licensed, as the statutory requirements for different types of premises vary (as per the Guidance, Part 33).

## **1.11 Appropriate Licensing Environment**

1.11.1 The Guidance to Local Authorities and the Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP), set out additional matters that the Council should take into account when considering licence applications for premises licences.

1.11.2 The Council will consider any application based on the provisions in these codes and guidance. Where gaming machines are made available for use in licensed gambling premises, they should only be available when sufficient facilities are made available for the primary gambling activity (e.g. bingo, betting etc.).

1.11.3 Where gambling facilities are provided at premises as a supplementary activity to the main purpose of the premises, e.g. motorway service areas and shopping malls, the Council will expect the gambling area to be clearly defined on the plans submitted to ensure that customers are fully aware that they are making a choice to enter into the gambling premises, and that the premises is adequately supervised at all times.

## **1.12 Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice**

1.12.1 Section 7 of the Gambling Commission Guidance to Local Authorities sets out considerations that an operator must make in order to protect children and young people from accessing gambling premises.

1.12.2 The Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP) prescribe how operators must prevent children from using age restricted gaming or gambling activities, particularly where gaming machines are licensed.

1.12.3 In particular, operators must ensure that:

- all staff are trained
- that all customers are supervised when on gambling premises

- must have procedures for identifying customers who are at risk of gambling related harm

1.12.4 The Council will expect all operators to have policies and procedures in place as required by the LCCP codes on social responsibility to cover all aspects of the code, in particular staff training records and self-exclusion records.

1.12.5 Further provision with regard to self-exclusion and marketing are included in the social responsibility code. The Council will take all conditions and codes into account when considering applications or performing enforcement activities.

### **1.13 Local Risk Assessments**

1.13.1 Since April 2016, the Gambling Commission's Social Responsibility Code 10.1.1 has required licensees 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 Social Responsibility Code provision is supplemented by the LCCP: Ordinary Code 10.1.2 and requires licensees to share risk assessments with the Licensing Authority when applying for a premises licence or applying for a variation to existing licensed premises or otherwise on request of the Licensing Authority. In undertaking their risk assessments, licensees should take into account any relevant matters identified in this policy statement and any associated local area profile produced by this Licensing Authority (not currently available).

1.13.2 Operators are required to carry out a local risk assessment when applying for a new licence. They must then review (and update as necessary) their local risk assessments:

- When applying for a variation of a premises licence.
- To take account of significant changes in local circumstances, including those identified in this policy.
- When there are significant changes at a licensee's premises that may affect the level of risk or the mitigation of those risks. This includes changes to the interior layout of the premises, including re-location of gaming machines or introduction of privacy screens. In these circumstances a premises licence variation may also be necessary.

1.13.3 The above Social Responsibility Code provision is supplemented by an Ordinary Code that will require licensees to share their risk assessments with the Licensing Authority when applying for a premises licence or applying for a variation to existing licensed premises or otherwise on request of the Council. The risk assessment should be updated annually (or more frequently if appropriate). It must be kept on the premises to which it relates and be available for inspection by an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or Gambling Commission.

1.13.4 While there are no plans to request that licensed premises share their risk assessments on a periodic basis, where concerns do exist, perhaps prompted by new or existing risks, the Licensing Authority is likely to request that a licensee share a copy of its risk assessment. The risk assessment will set out the measures the licensee has put in place to address specific concerns, thereby potentially reducing the occasions on which a premises review and the imposition of licence conditions is required.

1.13.5 Where premises consist of both an Adult Gaming Centre (AGC) and an unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre (uFEC), the Licensing Authority will expect the local risk assessment to be completed for the whole premises, not just the area under the AGC licence.

1.13.6 When comprising their risk assessments operators should consider:

- The risks posed to the licensing objectives by the provision of gambling facilities at each of their premises in the local authority area.
- Reference to any specific local risks
- How the operator proposes to mitigate these risks.
- How the operator will monitor specific risks.

1.13.7 Although not forming an exhaustive list, the following factors are ones which operators may wish to consider when comprising and reviewing their risk assessments:

- The geographical location of the premises and socio-economic makeup of the area.
- The type and usage of the premises.
- The layout and size of the premises, e.g. access and egress, position of counters and gaming machines, lines of sight between counters and entrance points and machines, the physical structure of the premises, presence of any visual obstacles. Particular consideration should be given to the proximity of gaming machines to the entrance to the premises.
- Specific types of gambling premises in the local area (e.g. seaside resorts typically have more arcades or FECs) and their density.
- Whether there are any facilities for sharing information between premises, in particular relating to safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and preventing anti-social behaviour.
- The opening hours of the premises and the possible interaction of the gambling premises with any surrounding nighttime economy.
- Client demographics, the presence of children and vulnerable adults.
- Staff numbers, with particular regard to staffing levels at peak times, such as the summer season when the local population significantly increases.
- Staff training, including their role in the protection of children and vulnerable persons and the prevention and detection of crime.
- Staff roles and their engagement with other activities, including supervision of the premises.
- Issues of lone working and staff working closely with children.
- How the gambling facilities are presented and the risk of its appeal to children, including any advertising outside the premises.
- There is an expectation for premises to have specific policies in place in respect of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults (see Part A section 16) and in respect of the prevention of money laundering.

1.13.8 Operators will also wish to consider the potential risk of under-age gambling and the increased risk of problem gambling in certain groups. This Authority will therefore expect operators to consider the following when undertaking their risk assessment:

- Self-exclusion data – the number of self-exclusions and underage attempts to gamble.
- The proximity of the premises to any school, centre, or establishment for the education, training or care of young and/or vulnerable persons.
- The proximity of the premises to leisure centres used for sporting and similar activities by young and/or vulnerable persons.

- The proximity to the premises to any youth club or similar establishment.
- The proximity of the premises to any community, ecclesiastical, welfare, health or similar establishment used specifically, or to a large extent, by young and/or vulnerable persons.
- The proximity of any other area or location where young and/or vulnerable persons could congregate, such as parks, bus stops, cafes and shops.
- The proximity of any hostels or support services for vulnerable people, such as those with addiction issues or who are homeless, given the greater risk of problem gambling among these groups.
- The proximity of residential care homes, hospitals, medical facilities, addiction clinics and any other place where vulnerable persons may congregate.
- The proximity of any area where large groups of people congregate.
- The proximity of banks, cash points, post offices and other gambling outlets.

## **1.14 Premises Licence Plans**

1.14.1 Section 151 of the Act requires applicants to submit plans of the premises with their application. Regulations state that the plan must show:

- The extent of the boundary or perimeter of the premises
- Where the premises include, or consist of, one or more buildings, the location of any external or internal walls of each such building
- Where the premises forms part of a building, the location of any external or internal walls of the building which are included in the premises
- Where the premises are a vessel or part of a vessel, the location of any part of the sides of the vessel and of any internal walls of the vessel, which are included in the premises
- The location of each point of entry to and exit from the premises, including in each case a description of the place from which entry is made or to which exit leads

1.14.2 In addition to the above requirements, the Licensing Authority will also expect the plan to show the location of any gaming machines, as well as any customer privacy screens or pods, to ensure that the areas can be adequately supervised. Staff should be in a position to monitor entrances and gaming machines. See Part A section 14 for more information on our requirements in relation to gaming machines. The nature and location of any barrier or other thing separating any part of the premises where gaming machines will be made available for use from any other part of the premises should also be included on the plan.

1.14.3 Applicants must take the structure and layout of the premises into account when considering their own policies and procedures. For example, where it is not possible for counter staff to supervise persons using gambling facilities such as gaming machines, the Licensing Authority would expect applicants to volunteer conditions that floor walkers will be used or that counter staff will be able to clearly view all areas of the premises on CCTV from the counter area at all times.

1.14.4 If plans change in any material respect during the lifetime of the licence, the applicant will be in breach of their licence and would either need to make a new application under section 159 or to seek a variation to the licence under section 187 of the Act. If the changes are substantial, this may, in the opinion of the Licensing Authority, render the premises different to those to which the licence was granted. In such cases, a variation would not be possible and a new application would be required.

1.14.5 Unless otherwise agreed with the Licensing Authority, the plan should be drawn to a standard scale with a key showing the items mentioned above. The standard scale is 1:100.

## **2 Adult Gaming Centres**

2.1 This Licensing Authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the Licensing Authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18-year-olds do not have access to the premises. Appropriate licence conditions may cover issues such as:

- CCTV
- Door supervisors
- Location of entry
- Notices / signage
- Physical separation of areas
- Proof of age schemes
- Provision information leaflets helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.
- Self – exclusion schemes
- Specific opening hours
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

2.2 The question of sub-division of such premises has been the subject of further Gambling Commission Guidance. This Licensing Authority will have regard to any relevant additional guidance that may be issued by the Gambling Commission in respect to such applications. See Part B section 1.4.3 for more specific requirements.

2.3 There must be no direct entry from one adult gaming centre into another or any direct access to or from another licensed gambling premises or permitted area (e.g. uFEC). This Authority will have regard to any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission in respect to such applications. Where an AGC is in the same premises as an uFEC, the Licensing Authority will expect a Local Risk Assessment of the entire premises, see Part B section 1.13 for more information.

2.4 This Licensing Authority recognises that the design and layout of adult gaming centres will vary. It will have particular regard to the siting of age restricted gaming machines within individual premises to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that staff properly monitor the use of these machines by children and young persons. This Licensing Authority reserves the right to request that gaming machines are re-positioned where circumstances demonstrate that it is appropriate to do so. All applications for an AGC licence must be accompanied by a scale plan which includes the location of gaming machines.

2.5 Factors to be taken into consideration will include the following:

- CCTV;
- Re-location of the machines;
- Door buzzers;
- Remote cut-off switches;

- Training provision;
- Any other factor considered relevant.

### **3 (Licensed) Family Entertainment Centres**

- 3.1 This Licensing Authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18-year-olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machine areas.
- 3.2 Children and young persons will be able to enter licensed family entertainment centres and play on category D machines but will not be permitted to play on category C machines.
- 3.3 As family entertainment centres will particularly appeal to children and young persons, weight shall be given to child protection issues. Where category C machines are available in licensed family entertainment centres, the Council will normally require that:
- All such machines are located in an area of the premises separate from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance (see Part B section 1.4.3);
  - Only adults are admitted to the area where the machines are located;
  - Access to the area where the machines are located is supervised;
  - The area where the machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by staff of the operator or the licence holder; and
  - At the entrance to, and inside any such area there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18.
- 3.4 Applicants are therefore encouraged to consider the steps set out at Part C para 1.10 of this statement in order to prevent children and young persons from gaining access to category C machines. In addition, applicants are encouraged to consider the following:
- Physical separation of areas
  - Measures / training for staff on how to deal with suspected truant school children on the premises.

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

- 3.5 As there are likely to be children present at an FEC, the Licensing Authority would expect robust policies in place in relation to safeguarding (see part A section 16 and Appendix B for more information).
- 3.6 All applications for an FEC licence must be accompanied by a scale plan which includes the location of gaming machines.
- 3.7 The Licensing Authority also encourage premises to sign up to the British Amusement Catering Trade and Association (BACTA) Voluntary Code and restrict under 18s from playing category D cash fruit machines within their venues.

## **4 Casinos**

- 4.1 The Council is not currently enabled by the Secretary of State (in accordance with regulations made under Section 175 of the Act) to grant a premises licence for a casino.

## **5 Bingo premises**

- 5.1 Licensing authorities will need to satisfy themselves that bingo can be played in any bingo premises for which they issue a premises licence. An operator may choose to vary their licence to exclude a previously licensed area of that premises, and then apply for a new premises licence, or multiple new premises licences, with the aim of creating separate premises in that area; essentially providing multiple licensed premises within a single building or site. In these circumstances it is not permissible for all the gaming machines to which each of the licences brings an entitlement to be grouped together within one of the licensed premises.
- 5.2 Before issuing additional bingo premises licences, the Licensing Authority will consider whether bingo can be played at each of those new premises. In these cases, this Licensing Authority will have particular regard to the Gambling Commission Guidance on the 'meaning of premises' and how it relates to the primary gambling activity.
- 5.3 Under 9.1.2 of the Local Conditions and Codes of Practice, licensees must ensure that the function along with the internal and/or external presentation of the premises are such that a customer can reasonably be expected to recognise that it is a premises licensed for the purposes of providing bingo facilities.
- 5.4 Children and young people are allowed into bingo premises, however they are not permitted to participate in the bingo and if category B or C machines are made available for use these must be separated from areas where children and young people are allowed. The Licensing Authority will normally require that:
- All such machines are located in an area of the premises separate from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance (see Part B section 1.4.3);
  - Only adults are admitted to the area where the machines are located;
  - Access to the area where the machines are located is supervised;
  - The area where the machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by staff of the operator or the licence holder; and
  - At the entrance to, and inside any such area there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18.
- 5.5 All applications for a Bingo Premises licence must be accompanied by a scale plan which includes the location of gaming machines.

## **6 Betting premises**

### **6.1 Betting machines**

This Licensing Authority will, as per the Guidance, take into account the size of the premises, the number of counter positions available for person-to-person transactions, and the ability of staff to prevent the use of the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable

people, when considering the number/nature/circumstances of betting machines an operator wants to offer.

6.2 The Licensing Authority recognises that the design and layout of betting premises (or any other premises including tracks) will vary so will have particular regard to the siting of age restricted gaming machines within each individual premises to ensure, that staff properly monitor the use of these machines by children and young persons. This Licensing Authority reserve the right to request that gaming machines are re-positioned where circumstances demonstrate that it is appropriate to do so. All applications for a Betting Premises licence must be accompanied by a scale plan which includes the location of gaming machines. A premises licence variation application will be required if intending to include privacy screens or pods around a gaming machine in licensed premises See part A section 14 for more specific guidance on gaming machines.

6.3 Factors to be taken into consideration will include the following:

- CCTV
- Re-location of the machines
- Door buzzers
- Remote cut-off switches
- Training provision
- Any other factor considered relevant

6.4 The Licensing Authority will expect applicants to have fully considered these issues in their application and risk assessments and may ask for alterations to plans where it is not satisfied that adequate supervision of the machines can be ensured.

## **7 Tracks**

7.1 This Licensing Authority is aware that tracks may be subject to one or more than one premises licence, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance, this Licensing Authority will especially consider the impact upon the third licensing objective (i.e. the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling) and the need to ensure that entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling areas where they are not permitted to enter.

7.2 This authority will therefore expect the premises licence applicant to demonstrate suitable measures to ensure that children do not have access to adult only gaming facilities. It is noted that children and young persons will be permitted to enter track areas where facilities for betting are provided on days when dog-racing and/or horse racing takes place, but that they are still prevented from entering areas where gaming machines (other than category D machines) are provided.

7.3 This Licensing Authority may consider measures to meet the licensing objectives such as:

- CCTV
- Location of entry
- Notices / signage
- Physical separation of areas
- Proof of age schemes
- Provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as



- GamCare
- Self-barring schemes
- Specific opening hours
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

#### **7.4 Gaming machines**

- 7.4.1 Where the applicant holds a pool betting operating licence and is going to use the entitlement to four gaming machines, machines (other than category D machines) should be located in areas from which children are excluded.
- 7.4.2 This Licensing Authority will therefore expect the applicant to demonstrate that suitable measures are in place to ensure that children are prevented from entering areas where machines (other than category D machines) are made available.
- 7.4.3 Some tracks will also hold an alcohol licence and as such they will be automatically entitled under Section 282 of the Act to two gaming machines of category C or D. This permission is activated by notifying the Licensing Authority and paying the required fee. If a track premises licence holder has both an alcohol licence and a pool betting operating licence, then they will be entitled to a total of six gaming machines (two via the alcohol licence and four via the operating licence).
- 7.4.4 Applicants are advised to consult the Gambling Commission's Guidance on where gaming machines may be located on tracks and any special considerations that should apply in relation, for example, to supervision of the machines and preventing children from playing them. The Council will also, in line with the Gambling Commission's Guidance, consider the location of gaming machines at tracks.

#### **7.5 Betting machines**

- 7.5.1 This Licensing Authority will, per the Guidance, take into account the size of the premises and the ability of staff to prevent the use of the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable people, when considering the number/nature/circumstances of betting machines an operator proposes to offer.
- 7.5.2 On tracks where the potential space for such machines may be considerable, there may be significant problems in relation to the proliferation of such machines, the ability of track staff to supervise them if they are scattered around the track and the ability of the track operator to comply with the law and prevent children betting on the machines. In such cases, this Licensing Authority will generally consider restricting the number and location of betting machines, in the light of the circumstances of each application.

#### **7.6 Applications and plans**

- 7.6.1 The Act (s151) requires applicants to submit plans of the premises with their application, in order to ensure that this Licensing Authority has the necessary information to make an informed judgement about whether the premises are fit for gambling. The plan will also be used for this Licensing Authority to plan future premises inspection activity.

- 7.6.2 Plans for tracks do not need to be in a particular scale but should be drawn to scale and should be sufficiently detailed to include the information required by regulations.
- 7.6.3 Some tracks may be situated on agricultural land where the perimeter is not defined by virtue of an outer wall or fence, such as point-to-point racetracks. In such instances, where an entry fee is levied, track premises licence holders may erect temporary structures to restrict access to premises.
- 7.6.4 In the rare cases where the outer perimeter cannot be defined, it is likely that the track in question will not be specifically designed for the frequent holding of sporting events or races. In such cases betting facilities may be better provided through occasional use notices where the boundary premises do not need to be defined.
- 7.6.5 The Licensing authority will require the following information from applicants for premises licences in respect of tracks:-
- Detailed plans for the racetrack itself and the area that will be used for temporary 'on-course' betting facilities (often known as the 'betting ring')
  - In the case of dog tracks and horse racecourses, details of the fixed and mobile pool betting facilities operated by the Tote or track operator, as well as any other proposed gambling facilities.
- 7.6.6 Plans will need to make it clear what is being sought for authorisation under the track betting premises licence and what, if any, other areas are to be subject to a separate application for a different type of premises licence. The location of any gaming machines must also be clearly marked on the plan.
- 7.6.7 When considering applications for tracks, the Licensing Authority will take into consideration [Part 20](#) of the Gambling Commission's Guidance. It is recommended that applicants are familiar with this information prior to submitting an application.

## **8 Travelling Fairs**

- 8.1 It will fall to this Licensing Authority to decide whether, where category D machines and / or equal chance prize gaming without a permit is to be made available for use at travelling fairs, the statutory requirement that the facilities for gambling amount to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair is met.
- 8.2 The Licensing Authority will also consider whether the applicant falls within the statutory definition of a travelling fair.
- 8.3 It has been noted that the 27-day statutory maximum for the land being used as a fair, is per calendar year, and that it applies to the piece of land on which the fairs are held, regardless of whether it is the same or different travelling fairs occupying the land. From 28 days per year it would be regarded as "permitted development" under Part 4 of the Town and Country Planning Order 1995 and is thus deemed to require planning permission. This Licensing Authority will work with its neighbouring authorities to ensure that land which crosses our boundaries is monitored so that the statutory limits are not exceeded.
- 8.4 Higher stake category B and C fruit machines are not permitted. Fairground operators must source their machines from a Gambling Commission licensed supplier and employees working with gaming machines must be at least 18 years old.

## 9 Provisional Statements

- 9.1 Developers may wish to apply to this Licensing Authority for provisional statements before entering into a contract to buy or lease property or land to judge whether a development is worth taking forward in light of the need to obtain a premises licence. There is no need for the applicant to hold an operating licence in order to apply for a provisional statement.
- 9.2 Section 204 of the Act provides for a person to make an application to this Licensing Authority for a provisional statement in respect of premises that he or she:
- expects to be constructed;
  - expects to be altered; or
  - expects to acquire a right to occupy.
- 9.3 The process for considering an application for a provisional statement is the same as that for a premises licence application. The applicant is obliged to give notice of the application in the same way as applying for a premises licence. Responsible authorities and interested parties may make representations and there are rights of appeal.
- 9.4 In contrast to the premises licence application, the applicant does not have to hold or have applied for an operating licence from the Gambling Commission (except in the case of a track) and they do not have to have a right to occupy the premises in respect of which their provisional application is made.
- 9.5 The holder of a provisional statement may then apply for a premises licence once the premises are constructed, altered or acquired. This Licensing Authority will be constrained in the matters it can consider when determining the premises licence application, and in terms of representations about premises licence applications that follow the grant of a provisional statement, no further representations from relevant authorities or interested parties can be taken into account unless:
- they concern matters which could not have been addressed at the provisional statement stage, or
  - they reflect a change in the applicant's circumstances.
- 9.6 In addition, this Licensing Authority may refuse the premises licence (or grant it on terms different to those attached to the provisional statement) only by reference to matters:
- which could not have been raised by objectors at the provisional statement stage;
  - which in this Licensing Authority's opinion reflect a change in the operator's circumstances; or
  - where the premises has not been constructed in accordance with the plan submitted with the application. This must be a substantial change to the plan and this Licensing Authority notes that it can discuss any concerns it has with the applicant before making a decision.
- 9.7 Once an operator has completed a building, the Licensing Authority will be able to consider a premises licence application for it. Requiring the building to be complete ensures that the authority can inspect it fully, as can other responsible authorities with inspection rights under Part 15 of the Act.

## 10 Reviews

- 10.1 Requests for a review of a premises licence can be made by interested parties or responsible authorities, however, it is for the Licensing Authority to decide whether the review is to be carried-out. This will be on the basis of whether the request for the review is relevant to the matters listed below
- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission;
  - in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission;
  - reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
  - in accordance with the authority's Statement of Principles.
- 10.2 The request for the review will also be subject to the consideration by this Licensing Authority as to whether the request is frivolous, vexatious, or whether it will certainly not cause this Licensing Authority to wish to alter/revoke/suspend the licence, or whether it is substantially the same as previous representations or requests for review.
- 10.3 This Licensing Authority can also initiate a review of a particular premises licence, or a particular class of premises licence on the basis of any reason which it thinks is appropriate.
- 10.4 Once a valid application for a review has been received by this Licensing Authority, representations can be made by responsible authorities and interested parties during a 28-day period. This period begins 7 days after the application was received by this Licensing Authority, who will publish notice of the application within 7 days of receipt.
- 10.5 This Licensing Authority must carry out the review as soon as possible after the 28-day period for making representations has passed.
- 10.6 The purpose of the review will be to determine whether this Licensing Authority should take any action in relation to the licence. If action is justified, the options open to this Licensing Authority are:-
- (a) add, remove or amend a licence condition imposed by this Licensing Authority;
  - (b) exclude a default condition imposed by the Secretary of State (e.g. opening hours) or remove or amend such an exclusion;
  - (c) suspend the premises licence for a period not exceeding three months; and
  - (d) revoke the premises licence.
- 10.7 In determining what action, if any, should be taken following a review, this Licensing Authority must have regard to the principles set out in section 153 of the Act, as well as any relevant representations.
- 10.8 In particular, this Licensing Authority may also initiate a review of a premises licence on the grounds that a premises licence holder has not provided facilities for gambling at the premises. This is to prevent people from applying for licences in a speculative manner without intending to use them.
- 10.9 Once the review has been completed, this Licensing Authority must, as soon as possible, notify its decision to:

- the licence holder
- the applicant for review (if any)
- the Commission
- any person who made representations
- the chief officer of police or chief constable; and
- Her Majesty's Commissioners for Revenue and Custom

## PART C

### Permits / Temporary & Occasional Use Notice

#### 1 Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre

- 1.1 The term 'unlicensed family entertainment centre' is one defined in the Act and refers to a premises which provides category D gaming machines along with various other amusements such as computer games and penny-pushers. The premises is 'unlicensed' in that it does not require a premises licence but does require a permit to be able to provide its category D gaming machines. It should not be confused with a 'licensed family entertainment centre' which does require a premises licence because it contains both category C and D gaming machines.
- 1.2 Unlicensed family entertainment centres (uFECs) will be most commonly located at seaside resorts, in airports and at motorway style service centres, and will cater for families, including unaccompanied children and young persons.
- 1.3 Where a premises does not hold a Premises Licence but wishes to provide gaming machines, it may apply to the Licensing Authority for this permit. It is a requirement that the area covered by the permit must be wholly or mainly used for making gaming machines available for use (Section 238 Gambling Act 2005). Therefore, it will not be possible to grant a permit for an entire shopping centre or service station, for example. Where gambling facilities are provided as a supplementary activity to the main purpose of the premises, customers must be fully aware that they are making a choice to enter the area covered by the permit and adequate supervision must be provided at all times. No changes should be made to the layout or location of machines without submitting an updated plan to the Licensing Authority, see Part C section 1.9.1 for more information on plan requirements.
- 1.4 The Licensing Authority will only grant a uFEC gaming machine permit where it is satisfied that the premises will be operated as a bona fide unlicensed family entertainment centre.
- 1.5 In line with the Act, while the Licensing Authority cannot attach conditions to this type of permit, the Licensing Authority can refuse applications if they are not satisfied that the issues raised in this "Statement of Principles" have been addressed through the application.
- 1.6 When determining the suitability of an applicant for a permit and when considering applications, the Licensing Authority will have regard to the Gambling Commission's Guidance and although not required to, will have regard to the licensing objectives.
- 1.7 Gambling Commission Guidance states: "...An application for a permit may be granted only if the Licensing Authority is satisfied that the premises will be used as an unlicensed FEC, and if the chief officer of police has been consulted on the application..." This Licensing Authority will require the applicant to demonstrate:
- a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible in unlicensed FECs;
  - that the applicant has no relevant convictions (those that are set out in Schedule 7 of the Act); and
  - that staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes.

## 1.8 Statement of Principles

- 1.8.1 This Licensing Authority has adopted a Statement of Principles in accordance with Paragraph 7 of Schedule 10 of the Act and they are for the purposes of clarifying the measures that the council will expect applicants to demonstrate when applying for a permit for an unlicensed family entertainment centre. This will allow the Licensing Authority to better determine the suitability of the applicant and the premises for a permit.
- 1.8.2 Within this process the Licensing Authority will aim to grant the permit where the applicant is able to demonstrate that:
- they are a fit and proper person to hold the permit
  - they have considered and are proposing suitable measures to promote the licensing objectives, and
  - they have a legal right to occupy the premises to which the permit is sought.
- 1.8.3 The measures suggested in this document should be read as guidance only and the council will be happy for applicants to suggest measures above and beyond those listed in the document and or to substitute measures as appropriate.

## 1.9 Supporting documents

- 1.9.1 The Licensing Authority will require the following supporting documents to be served with all uFEC gaming machine permit applications:
- proof of age (a certified copy or sight of an original birth certificate, a photo style driving licence, or passport – all applicants for these permits must be aged 18 or over)
  - proof that the applicant has the right to occupy the premises. Acceptable evidence would be a copy of any lease, a copy of the property's deeds or a similar document
  - the result of a criminal records basic disclosure [criminal conviction certificate] (the disclosure must have been issued within the previous month). This will be used to check that the applicant has no relevant convictions (those that are set out in Schedule 7 of the Act.) – Basic Disclosures can be obtained from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). Further information is available on their [website](#).
  - Where an applicant is a company or organisation and does not hold an Operating Licence, then the proposed Manager responsible for the day to day running of the premises will be required to produce a criminal record disclosure check dated within one calendar month of the date of the application being submitted to the Licensing Authority.
  - When a permit holder appoints a new manager responsible for the day to day running of the premises, that person will be required to produce a criminal record disclosure check dated within one calendar month of the appointment date.
  - In the case of applications for an uFEC gaming machine permit evidence that the machines to be provided are or were supplied by a legitimate gambling machine supplier or manufacturer who holds a valid gaming machine technical operating licence issued by the Gambling Commission
  - A plan of the premises for which the permit is sought showing the following items:
    - (i) the boundary of the building with any external or internal walls, entrances and exits to the building and any internal doorways

- (ii) where any category D gaming machines are positioned and the particular type of machines to be provided (e.g. slot machines, penny-falls, cranes)
  - (iii) the positioning and types of any other amusement machines on the premises
  - (iv) the location of any fixed or semi-fixed counters, booths or offices on the premises whereby staff monitor the customer floor area
  - (v) the location of any ATM/cash machines or change machines
  - (vi) the location of any fixed or temporary structures such as columns or pillars
  - (vii) the location and height of any stages in the premises; any steps, stairs, elevators, balconies or lifts in the premises
  - (viii) the location of any public toilets in the building
- Where an uFEC is in the same premises as an AGC, the Licensing Authority will expect a Local Risk Assessment of the entire premises, see Part B section 1.13 for more information.

Unless otherwise agreed with the Licensing Authority, the plan should be drawn to a standard scale with a key showing the items mentioned above. The standard scale is 1:100.

## **1.10 Child protection issues**

- 1.10.1 As these premises particularly appeal to children and young persons, the Licensing Authority will give weight to child protection issues. It will expect applicants to demonstrate that they and their staff have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes
- 1.10.2 The Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect children from harm. Harm in this context is not limited to harm from gambling but includes wider child protection considerations, including safeguarding and child sexual exploitation. Further information on these types of issues and the Licensing Authority's expectations is at Appendix B.
- 1.10.3 The Licensing Authority will assess these policies and procedures on their merits, and they should (depending on the particular permit being applied for) include appropriate measures / training for staff relating to the following:
- maintain contact details for any local schools and or the education authority so that any truant children can be reported
  - employ policies to address the problems associated with truant children who may attempt to gain access to the premises and gamble when they should be at school
  - employ policies to address any problems that may arise during seasonal periods where children may frequent the premises in greater numbers, such as half terms and summer holidays
  - maintain information at the premises of the term times of any local schools in the vicinity of the premises and also consider policies to ensure sufficient staffing levels during these times
  - display posters displaying the 'Child Line' (or equivalent) phone number in discreet locations on the premises e.g. toilets
  - maintain an incident register of any problems that arise on the premises related to children such as children gambling excessively, truant children, children being unruly or young unaccompanied children entering the premises. (The register should be used to detect any trends which require attention by the management of the premises.)



- ensure all young children are accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Maintain policies to deal with any young children who enter the premises unaccompanied
- The provision of satisfactory basic disclosure checks (criminal records checks) for all staff who will be working closely with children.
- training relating to child safeguarding issues.
- Designate at least one member of staff/management to take a lead on issues relating to safeguarding children and vulnerable people as a 'safeguarding co-ordinator'.

NB: Any supporting evidence of the above measures e.g. training manuals or other similar documents/written statements should be attached to the application.

1.10.4 Staff should be clearly identifiable so that customers, including children, can easily identify them for assistance, guidance or gambling advice.

1.10.5 The Licensing Authority also encourage premises to sign up to the British Amusement Catering Trade and Association (BACTA) Voluntary Code and restrict under 18s from playing category D cash fruit machines within their venues.

## **1.11 Protection of Vulnerable Persons Issues**

1.11.1 The Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect vulnerable persons. Applicants should refer to Part A section 17, to familiarise themselves with who the council considers vulnerable. The Licensing Authority will assess these policies and procedures on their merits, however, they may (depending on the particular permit being applied for) include appropriate measures / training for staff relating to the following:

- display Gamcare helpline stickers on all gaming machines
- display Gamcare posters in prominent locations on the premises
- training for staff members which focuses on building an employee's ability to maintain a sense of awareness of how much (e.g. how long) customers are gambling, as part of measures to detect persons who may be vulnerable
- consider appropriate positioning of ATM and change machines. (including the display of Gamcare stickers on any such machines)
- Customer self-exclusion systems (for example where the uFEC is adjacent to an AGC)

NB: Any supporting evidence of the above measures e.g. training manuals or other similar documents/written statements should be attached to the application.

## **1.12 Other miscellaneous issues**

1.12.1 The applicant should also be mindful of the following possible control measures (depending on the particular permit being applied for) to minimise crime and disorder and the possibility of public nuisance:

- maintain an effective CCTV system to monitor the interior and exterior of the premises
- keep the exterior of the premises clean and tidy
- ensure that external lighting is suitably positioned and operated so as not to cause nuisance to neighbouring or adjoining premises
- consider the design and layout of the outside of the premises to deter the congregation of children and youths.

NB: Any supporting evidence of the above measures e.g. training manuals or other similar documents/written statements should be attached to the application.

- 1.12.2 The Licensing Authority encourages applicants for UFEC Permits to consider adopting BACTA's voluntary Code of Practice for Amusement with Prizes Machines in Family Entertainment Centres. This Code of Practice promotes awareness of social responsibility, and acknowledges that proactive specific and appropriate commitment will be given to educating children and young persons, thereby minimising the potential for harm.

Permits cannot be issued to vessels or vehicles.

The position of premises holding an alcohol licence is dealt with below.

Applicants for Permits for Adult or Family Entertainment Centres (licensed or unlicensed) (formerly known as 'Amusement Arcades') are advised to speak to the Planning Department of this Council and/or the Dartmoor National Park Authority before making a formal application to the Licensing Authority.

## **2 (Alcohol) Licensed premises gaming machine permits – (Schedule 13 Para 4(1))**

### **2.1 Automatic Entitlement for up to two machines**

There is provision in the Act for premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, to automatically have two gaming machines of categories C and/or D. The premises merely need to notify the Licensing Authority. The Licensing Authority can remove the automatic authorisation in respect of any particular premises if:

- provision of the machines is not reasonably consistent with the pursuit of the licensing objectives;
- gaming has taken place on the premises that breaches a condition of section 282 of the Gambling Act (i.e. that written notice has been provided to the Licensing Authority, that a fee has been provided and that any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine has been complied with)
- the premises are mainly used for gaming; or
- an offence under the Gambling Act has been committed on the premises

- 2.2** Although not a legal requirement, this Licensing Authority request that a plan showing the intended location and type of gaming machines is provided with the notification. This plan may take the form of an amendment to the plan attached to the Premises Licence issued under Licensing Act 2003. The applicant must ensure there are adequate measures in place to prevent children from accessing the Category C machines and good supervision in the area in which they are located.

- 2.3** The Licensing Authority expect businesses to comply with the Gambling Commission Code of Practice for '[Gaming machines in clubs and premises with an alcohol licence](#).' Staff must be aware of this Code of Practice and how to ensure that they can meet the requirements around the location and supervision of machines.

- 2.4** Licensed premises will also need to refer to the Gambling Commission Code of Practice for '[Equal chance gaming in clubs and premises with an alcohol licence](#).' Where they provide bingo, poker, bridge, whist or other equal chance gaming.

### 2.3 Permit for three or more machines

If a premises wishes to have more than two machines, then it needs to apply for a permit and the Licensing Authority must consider that application based upon the licensing objectives, any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission under Section 25 of the Gambling Act 2005, and “other such matters as the Authority think relevant.”

- 2.4 This Licensing Authority considers that “such matters” will be decided on a case-by-case basis but generally there will be regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling. These applications will ordinarily be dealt with by officers, however, in certain cases (such as applications for large numbers of machines or where there are other concerns), applications may be referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee for determination.
- 2.5 Applicants should satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18-year-olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machines. Measures which will satisfy the authority that there will be no access may include the adult machines being in sight of the bar, or in the sight of staff that will monitor that the machines are not being used by those under 18. Notices and signage may also be helpful. As regards the protection of vulnerable persons, applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.
- 2.6 It is recognised that some alcohol licensed premises may apply for a premises licence for their non-alcohol licensed areas. Any such application would most likely need to be applied for and dealt with as an Adult Gaming Centre premises licence.
- 2.7 It should be noted that the Licensing Authority can decide to grant the application with a smaller number of machines and/or a different category of machines than that applied for. Conditions (other than these) cannot be attached.
- 2.8 A plan must accompany applications indicating where and what type of gaming machines are to be provided. This plan may take the form of an amendment to the plan attached to the Premises Licence issued under Licensing Act 2003. The plan should include the following:
- the boundary of the building with any external or internal walls, entrances and exits to the building and any internal doorways;
  - where any category D gaming machines are positioned and the particular type of machines to be provided (e.g. slot machines, penny-falls, cranes);
  - the positioning and types of any other amusement machines on the premises;
  - the location of any fixed or semi-fixed counters, booths or offices on the premises whereby staff monitor the customer floor area;
  - the location of any ATM/cash machines or change machines;
  - the location of any fixed or temporary structures such as columns or pillars;
  - the location and height of any stages in the premises;
  - any steps, stairs, elevators, balconies or lifts in the premises;
  - the location of any public toilets in the building.
- 2.9 The Licensing Authority expects permit holders to be mindful of their obligations in relation to supervision arrangements for gaming machines to protect the young and the vulnerable and to comply with the Gambling Commission’s Gaming Machines in [Clubs and Premises with an Alcohol Licence Code of Practice](#). These form a

condition of every permit and cover aspects such as the location and operation of machines; access to gambling by children and young persons; and self-exclusion.

Applicants should be aware that only those premises which have a 'bar' (servery) at which alcohol is sold for consumption on the premises will be eligible for a machine in the bar area of the premises. This means that premises such as restaurants which do not have a bar for serving drinks or can only sell alcoholic drinks as an ancillary to food will not automatically qualify for two machines.

### **3 Prize Gaming Permits – (Statement of Principles on Permits - Schedule 14 Para 8 (3))**

3.1 The Gambling Act 2005 states that a Licensing Authority may “prepare a statement of principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under this Schedule” which “may, in particular, specify matters that the Licensing Authority propose to consider in determining the suitability of the applicant for a permit”.

#### **3.2 Statement of Principles – Prize Gaming Permit**

3.2.1 This Licensing Authority has adopted a Statement of Principles in accordance with paragraph 8 of Schedule 14 of the Act and they are for the purposes of clarifying the measures that the Licensing Authority will expect applicants to demonstrate when applying for a prize gaming permit. This will allow the council to better determine the suitability of the applicant and the premises for a permit.

3.2.2 Within this process the Licensing Authority will aim to grant the permit where the applicant is able to demonstrate that:

- they are a fit and proper person to hold the permit
- they have considered and are proposing suitable measures to promote the licensing objectives; and
- they have a legal right to occupy the premises to which the permit is sought.

3.2.3 This Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to set out the types of gaming that he or she is intending to offer and that the applicant should be able to demonstrate:

- that they understand the limits to stakes and prizes that are set out in Regulations;
- that the gaming offered is within the law;
- clear policies that outline steps to be taken to protect children from harm.

3.2.4 In making its decision on an application for a prize gaming permit the Licensing Authority does not need to (but may) have regard to the licensing objectives but must have regard to any Gambling Commission guidance (Gambling Act 2005, Schedule 14 paragraph 8(3)).

3.2.4 The measures suggested in this document should be read as guidance only and the Licensing Authority will be happy for applicants to suggest measures above and beyond those listed in the document and/or to substitute measures as appropriate.

#### **3.3 Prize gaming permits**

3.3.1 Section 288 defines gaming as prize gaming if the nature and size of the prize is not determined by the number of people playing or the amount paid for or raised by the gaming. The operator will determine the prizes before play commences. Prize

gaming can often be seen at seaside resorts in amusement arcades where a form of bingo is offered and the prizes are displayed.

- 3.3.2 A prize gaming permit is a permit issued by the Licensing Authority to authorise the provision of facilities for gaming with prizes on specified premises.
- 3.3.3 Applicants should be aware of the conditions in the Gambling Act 2005 with which prize gaming permit holders must comply. The conditions in the Act are:
- the limits on participation fees, as set out in regulations, must be complied with;
  - all chances to participate in the gaming must be allocated on the premises on which the gaming is taking place and on one day; the game must be played and completed on the day the chances are allocated; and the result of the game must be made public in the premises on the day that it is played;
  - the prize for which the game is played must not exceed the amount set out in regulations (if a money prize), or the prescribed value (if non-monetary prize); and
  - participation in the gaming must not entitle the player to take part in any other gambling.
- 3.3.4 In line with the Act, while the Licensing Authority cannot attach conditions to this type of permit, the Licensing Authority can refuse applications if they are not satisfied that the issues raised in this “Statement of Principles” have been addressed through the application.

### **3.4 Supporting documents**

- 3.4.1 The Licensing Authority will require the following supporting documents to be served with all prize gaming permit applications:
- proof of age (a certified copy or sight of an original birth certificate, photo style driving licence, or passport – all applicants for these permits must be aged 18 or over)
  - proof that the applicant has the right to occupy the premises. Acceptable evidence would be a copy of any lease, a copy of the property’s deeds or a similar document
  - the result of a criminal records basic disclosure [criminal conviction certificate] (the disclosure must have been issued within the previous month). This will be used to check that the applicant has no relevant convictions (those that are set out in Schedule 7 of the Act.) – Basic Disclosures can be obtained from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). Further information is available on their [website](#).
  - A plan of the premises for which the permit is sought showing the following items:
    - (i) the boundary of the building with any external or internal walls, entrances and exits to the building and any internal doorways
    - (iii) The location where any prize gaming will take place (including any seating and tables) and the area where any prizes will be displayed
    - (iv) the positioning and types of any other amusement machines on the premises
    - (v) the location of any fixed or semi-fixed counters, booths or offices on the premises whereby staff monitor the customer floor area
    - (vi) the location of any ATM/cash machines or change machines
    - (vii) the location of any fixed or temporary structures such as columns or pillars

- (viii) the location and height of any stages in the premises; any steps, stairs, elevators, balconies or lifts in the premises
- (ix) the location of any public toilets in the building

Unless otherwise agreed with the Licensing Authority, the plan should be drawn to a standard scale with a key showing the items mentioned above. The standard scale is 1:100.

### 3.5 Child protection issues

3.5.1 The Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect children from harm. Harm in this context is not limited to harm from gambling but includes wider child protection considerations, including safeguarding and child sexual exploitation. Further information on these types of issues and the Licensing Authority's expectations is at Appendix B. The Licensing Authority will assess these policies and procedures on their merits, and they should (depending on the particular permit being applied for) include appropriate measures / training for staff relating to the following:

- maintain contact details for any local schools and or the education authority so that any truant children can be reported
- employ policies to address the problems associated with truant children who may attempt to gain access to the premises and gamble when they should be at school
- employ policies to address any problems that may arise during seasonal periods where children may frequent the premises in greater numbers, such as half terms and summer holidays
- maintain information at the premises of the term times of any local schools in the vicinity of the premises and also consider policies to ensure sufficient staffing levels during these times
- display posters displaying the 'Child Line' (or equivalent) phone number in discreet locations on the premises e.g. toilets
- maintain an incident register of any problems that arise on the premises related to children such as children gambling excessively, truant children, children being unruly or young unaccompanied children entering the premises. (The register should be used to detect any trends which require attention by the management of the premises.)
- ensure all young children are accompanied by a responsible adult.
- maintain policies to deal with any young children who enter the premises unaccompanied
- the provision of satisfactory basic disclosure checks (criminal records checks) for all staff who will be working closely with children.
- training relating to child safeguarding issues.
- designate at least one member of staff/management to take a lead on issues relating to safeguarding children and vulnerable people as a 'safeguarding co-ordinator'.

NB: Any supporting evidence of the above measures e.g. training manuals or other similar documents/written statements should be attached to the application.

3.5.2 Staff should be clearly identifiable so that customers, including children, can easily identify them for assistance, guidance or gambling advice.

### **3.6 Protection of Vulnerable Persons Issues**

- 3.6.1 The Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect vulnerable persons. Applicants should refer to Part A section 17, to familiarise themselves with who the council considers vulnerable. The Licensing Authority will assess these policies and procedures on their merits, however, they may (depending on the particular permit being applied for) include appropriate measures / training for staff relating to the following:
- display Gamcare helpline stickers on all gaming machines
  - display Gamcare posters in prominent locations on the premises
  - training for staff members which focuses on building an employee's ability to maintain a sense of awareness of how much (e.g. how long) customers are gambling, as part of measures to detect persons who may be vulnerable
  - consider appropriate positioning of ATM and change machines (including the display of Gamcare stickers on any such machines)

NB: Any supporting evidence of the above measures e.g. training manuals or other similar documents/written statements should be attached to the application.

### **3.7 Other miscellaneous issues**

- 3.7.1 The applicant should also be mindful of the following possible control measures (depending on the particular permit being applied for) to minimise crime and disorder and the possibility of public nuisance:
- maintain an effective CCTV system to monitor the interior and exterior of the premises
  - keep the exterior of the premises clean and tidy
  - ensure that external lighting is suitably positioned and operated so as not to cause nuisance to neighbouring or adjoining premises
  - consider the design and layout of the outside of the premises to deter the congregation of children and youths

NB: Any supporting evidence of the above measures e.g. training manuals or other similar documents/written statements should be attached to the application.

## **4 Club Gaming and Club Machines Permits**

- 4.1 Members' Clubs (but not Commercial Clubs) may apply for a Club Gaming Permit or a Club Gaming machines permit. The Club Gaming Permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (three machines of categories B3A, B4, C or D, but only one B3A machine), equal chance gaming and games of chance as set-out in regulations. A Club Gaming machine permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (three machines of categories B3A, B4, C or D).
- 4.2 Gambling Commission Guidance states: "A members' club is a club that is not established as a commercial enterprise and is conducted for the benefit of its members. Examples include working men's clubs, miners' welfare institutes, branches of the Royal British Legion and clubs with political affiliations... The Act states that members' clubs must have at least twenty-five members and be established and conducted "wholly or mainly" for purposes other than gaming, unless the gaming is restricted to bridge and whist. Members' clubs must be permanent in nature, but there is no need for a club to have an alcohol licence."

- 4.3 The Commission Guidance also notes that "licensing authorities may only refuse an application on the grounds that:
- (a) the applicant does not fulfil the requirements for a members' or commercial club or miners' welfare institute and therefore is not entitled to receive the type of permit for which it has applied;
  - (b) the applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons;
  - (c) an offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities;
  - (d) a permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or
  - (e) an objection has been lodged by the Commission or the police.
- 4.4 There is also a 'fast-track' procedure available under the Act for premises which hold a Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 (Schedule 12 paragraph 10). As the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities states: "Under the fast-track procedure there is no opportunity for objections to be made by the Commission or the police, and the ground upon which an authority can refuse a permit are reduced." The grounds on which an application under the process may be refused are:
- (a) that the club is established primarily for gaming, other than gaming prescribed under s.266 of the Act;
  - (b) that in addition to the prescribed gaming, the applicant provides facilities for other gaming; or
  - (c) that a club gaming permit or club machine permit issued to the applicant in the last ten years has been cancelled."
- 4.5 There are statutory conditions on club gaming permits that no child uses a category B or C machine on the premises and that the holder complies with any relevant provision of a code of practice about the location and operation of gaming machines.
- 4.6 Where a club does not hold a Club Premises Certificate issued under Licensing Act 2003 and is therefore not eligible for the 'fast-track' procedure, the Licensing Authority will need to satisfy itself that the club meets the requirements of the Gambling Act 2005 to hold a club gaming permit or a club machine permit. In order to do this, the Licensing Authority may ask for additional information from the operator, for example:
- Is there a list of committee members and evidence of their election by club members?
  - Are there minutes of previous meetings (where appropriate)?
  - Is the primary activity of the club something other than gaming?
  - Are the club's profits retained solely for the benefit of the club's members?
  - Are there 25 or more members?
  - Are the addresses of members of the club genuine domestic addresses and do most members live reasonably locally to the club?
  - Do members participate in the activities of the club via the internet?
  - Do guest arrangements link each guest to a member?
  - Is the 48 hour rule being applied for membership and being granted admission being adhered to?
  - Are there annual club accounts available for more than one year?
  - How is the club advertised and listed in directories and on the internet?
  - Are children permitted in the club?
  - Does the club have a constitution and can it provide evidence that the constitution was approved by members of the club?



- 4.7 When examining the club's constitution (where available), the Licensing Authority would expect to see evidence of the following:
- Who makes commercial decisions on behalf of the club?
  - Are the aims of the club set out in the constitution?
  - Are there shareholders or members? Shareholders indicate a business venture rather than a non-profit making club.
  - Is the club permanently established? (Clubs cannot be temporary).
  - Are there suitable rules as to the election and admission to the club of new members?
  - What is the usual duration of membership?
  - Can people join with a temporary membership? What is the usual duration of membership?
  - Are there long term club membership benefits?
  - Is there a provision for annual general meetings?
  - Is there a provision for the election of officers?
- 4.8 Aside from bridge and whist clubs, clubs may not be established, wholly or mainly for the purposes of gaming. The Licensing Authority will not consider such factors as:
- How many nights a week is gaming provided?
  - How is the gaming advertised?
  - What stakes and prizes are on offer?
  - Is there evidence of leagues with weekly, monthly or annual winners?
  - Is there evidence of members who do not participate in gaming?
  - Are there teaching sessions to promote gaming such as poker?
  - Is there a tie-in with other clubs offering gaming through tournaments and leagues?
  - Is there sponsorship from gaming organisations?
  - Are participation fees within the prescribed limits?

## **5 Temporary Use Notices**

- 5.1 Temporary use notices allow the use of premises for gambling where there is no premises licence but where a gambling operator wishes to use the premises temporarily for providing facilities for gambling. Premises that might be suitable for a temporary use notice, according to the Gambling Commission, would include hotels, conference centres and sporting venues.
- 5.2 This Licensing Authority can only grant a temporary use notice to a person or company holding a relevant operating licence, i.e. a non-remote casino operating licence. Other restrictions are:
- It can only be used to offer gambling of a form authorised by the operator's operating licence.
  - Gambling under a TUN may only be made available on a maximum of 21 days in any 12 month period for any or all of a named set of premises.
  - A TUN can only be used to permit the provision of facilities for equal chance gaming and where the gaming in each tournament is intended to produce a single overall winner.
  - Gaming machines may not be made available under a TUN.

- 5.3 The Secretary of State has the power to determine what form of gambling can be authorised by temporary use notices, and at the time of writing this Statement the relevant regulations (SI no 3157: The Act (Temporary Use Notices) Regulations 2007) state that temporary use notices can only be used to permit the provision of facilities or equal chance gaming, where the gaming is intended to produce a single winner, which in practice means poker tournaments.
- 5.4 There are a number of statutory limits as regards temporary use notices. The meaning of "premises" in Part 8 of the Act is discussed in Part 7 of the Guidance. As with "premises", the definition of "a set of premises" will be a question of fact in the particular circumstances of each notice that is given. In the Act "premises" is defined as including "any place".
- 5.5 In considering whether a place falls within the definition of "a set of premises", this Licensing Authority needs to look at, amongst other things, the ownership/occupation and control of the premises.
- 5.6 This Licensing Authority expects to object to notices where it appears that their effect would be to permit regular gambling in a place that could be described as one set of premises, as recommended in the Guidance.

## **6 Occasional Use Notices**

- 6.1 Occasional Use Notices enable betting on a track for up to eight days a year without a premises licence.
- 6.2 The Licensing Authority has very little discretion as regards these notices aside from ensuring that the statutory limit of eight days in a calendar year is not exceeded. This Licensing Authority will though consider the definition of a 'track' and whether the applicant is permitted to avail him/herself of the notice.
- 6.3 Further information on [Occasional Use Notices](#) can be found on the Gambling Commission's website.

## **7 Licensed Vessels**

- 7.1 The Licensing Authority when considering applications for premises licences in respect of vessels will give particular weight to the views of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency in respect of promoting the licensing objectives. Where in the opinion of the Licensing Authority any of the three objectives are undermined, and this cannot be resolved through the imposition of conditions, the application will be refused.
- 7.2 Licences may only be granted to vessels normally berthed in West Devon.

Where a premises licence is sought in connection with a vessel which will be navigated while licensable activities take place, the Licensing Authority will be concerned following the receipt of relevant representations, with the promotion of the licensing objectives on-board the vessel. The Licensing Authority will not focus on matters relating to safe navigation or operation of the vessel, the general safety of passengers or emergency provisions, all of which are subject to regulations which must be met before the vessel is issued with a Passenger Certificate and Safety Management Certificate. It is expected that if the relevant maritime agencies are satisfied that the vessel complies with Merchant

Shipping standards for a passenger ship, the premises will normally be accepted as meeting the public safety objectives.

## 8 Small Society Lotteries

- 8.1 Under the Gambling Act 2005, a lottery is unlawful unless it runs under an operating licence or is an exempt lottery. Promoting or facilitating a lottery will fall into two categories.
- Licensing lotteries (requiring an operating licence from the Gambling Commission).
  - Exempt lotteries (including small society lotteries registered with West Devon Borough Council)
- 8.2 Exempt lotteries are lotteries permitted to run without a licence from the Gambling Commission and are defined as:
- Small society lotteries
  - Incidental non-commercial lotteries
  - Private society lotteries
  - Work lotteries
  - Residents' lotteries
  - Customers' lotteries
- 8.3 Organisers of raffles or lotteries must follow the legislation contained within the Gambling Act 2005 to ensure that their arrangements are legal, to avoid an offence being committed. The Licensing Authority recommends those seeking to run lotteries take their own legal advice on which type of lottery category they fall within.
- 8.4 West Devon Borough Council will register and administer small society lotteries as defined under the Act. Advice regarding small society lotteries and the definitions of the above exempt lotteries is available from both the [Gambling Commission website](#) and the [West Devon Borough Council website](#). Applicants must apply to the Licensing Authority in the area where their principal office is located
- 8.5 Small society lotteries can only be operated by non-commercial societies, as defined in Section 19 of the Act. This states that a society is non-commercial if it is established and conducted:
- For charitable purposes, as defined in s.2 of the Charities Act 2006.
  - For the purpose of enabling participation in, or supporting, sport, athletics or cultural activity.
  - For any other non-commercial purpose other than that of private gain.
- 8.6 The society must have been established for one of the above permitted purposes and the proceeds of any lottery must be devoted to those purposes. It is not permissible to establish a society whose sole purpose is to facilitate lotteries. The Licensing Authority may request further information from the society, if not provided, such as:
- A copy of the terms and conditions / aims and objectives;
  - A copy of the constitution to establish that it is a non-commercial society;
  - A declaration stating that it is a bona fide non-commercial society.

- 8.7 Where a society employs an external lottery manager, it will need to satisfy itself that that person holds an Operating Licence issued by the Gambling Commission. The Licensing Authority will expect this to be verified in writing by the Society.
- 8.8 The Licensing Authority may refuse an application for registration if in their opinion:
- The applicant is not a non-commercial society;
  - A person who will or may be connected with the promotion of the lottery has been convicted of a relevant offence; or
  - Information provided in or with the application for registration is false or misleading.
- 8.9 The Licensing Authority will refuse applications for registration if in the previous five years either an Operating Licence held by the applicant for registration has been revoked, or an application for an Operating Licence made by the applicant for registration has been refused. Where the Licensing Authority is uncertain as to whether or not an application has been refused, it will contact the Gambling Commission for further advice.
- 8.10 Where the Licensing Authority intends to refuse registration of a society, it will give the society an opportunity to make representations and will inform the society of the reasons why it is minded to refuse registration and supply evidence on which it has reached that preliminary conclusion.
- 8.11 The Licensing Authority may revoke the registered status of a society if it thinks that they would have been obliged or permitted to refuse an application for registration if it were being made anew. No revocations will take place unless the Society has been given the opportunity to make representations. The Licensing Authority will inform the Society of the reasons why it is minded to revoke the registration and will provide an outline of the evidence on which it has reached that preliminary conclusion.
- 8.12 The Licensing Authority requires all registered small society lottery operators to maintain written records of any unsold and returned tickets for a period of one year from the date of the lottery draw.
- 8.13 The Licensing Authority is permitted to inspect the records of the lottery for any purpose related to the lottery. It is likely to do so where:
- The Society has failed to complete the statement of return correctly on two or more occasions;
  - The Society fails to submit a statement of return for a lottery the society has held within 3 months of the draw taking place.
- 8.14 This Licensing Authority will adopt a risk-based approach towards its enforcement responsibilities for small society lotteries. The Authority considers that the following list, although not exclusive, could affect the risk status of the operator:
- Submission of late returns (returns must be submitted no later than three months after the date on which the lottery draw was held);
  - Submission of incomplete or incorrect returns;
  - Breaches of the limits for small society lotteries.
- 8.15 Where the annual fee is not paid by the due date, the Licensing Authority may cancel the small society registration. The onus is firmly placed on the society to ensure that they pay the annual fee by the due date. If the registration is cancelled, the society will be required to submit a new application.

8.16 Further information on [fundraising and lotteries](#) can be found on the Gambling Commission website.

**Disclaimer:** This Licensing Authority wishes to make clear that the Gambling Commission's Guidance to Local Authorities was the most recent information available at the time of writing and can be the subject of change within the period that this statement of principles is in force. We would also draw your attention to the following:

- Legislation may change over time and the advice given is based on the information available at the time the guidance was produced – it is not exhaustive and is subject to revision in the light of the further information
- Only the courts can interpret statutory legislation with any authority; and
- This advice is not intended to be definitive guidance nor a substitute for the relevant law and independent legal advice should be sought where appropriate

## Appendix A - Summary of licensing authority delegations permitted under the Gambling Act

Matter to be dealt with	Full Council	Sub-Committee of Licensing Committee	Officers
Final approval of the Licensing Authority Policy statement	X		
Policy not to permit casinos	X		
Fee setting (when appropriate)	X (after recommendation from Licensing Committee and Executive)		
Application for premises licences		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations received/or have not been withdrawn
Application for a variation to a licence		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations received/or have not been withdrawn
Application for a transfer of a licence		Where representations have been received from the Gambling Commission	Where no representations received from the Gambling Commission
Application for a provisional statement		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations received/or have not been withdrawn
Review of a premises licence		X	
Application for club gaming/club machine permit		Where objections have been made (and not withdrawn)	Where no objections made/objections have been withdrawn
Cancellation of club gaming/club machine permits		X	
Applications for other permits			X
Cancellation of licensed premises gaming machine permits		Where permit holder requests a hearing	Where permit holder does not choose to have representations considered
Consideration of temporary use notice		Where representations are received	Where no representations are received
Decision to give a counter notice to a temporary use notice		X	

## **Appendix B - Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Persons**

West Devon Borough Council is committed to protecting children from harm through the sharing of intelligence and by working together with other key agencies. Safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons is everyone's business and responsibility, and it is therefore vital that all areas of society share relevant information with the Police and the local Safeguarding Boards.

### **Child Sexual Exploitation**

Gambling is an activity mainly carried out by adults, but that does not stop young people frequenting certain premises and partaking in particular activities, i.e. amusement arcades etc. Children are allowed to attend certain gambling premises without any adult supervision so the risk to those children may be escalated by the adults who attend those premises and find a vulnerability which they choose to prey on. Nationally, evidence has been found of the sexual exploitation of children taking place on licensed premises, or licensed premises being used for the purposes of grooming and enticement.

Gambling establishment licence and permit holders and their employees are in a good position to help identify victims of sexual exploitation because, through the operation of certain gambling activities, licence and permit holders and their employees regularly come into contact with children, young and vulnerable people.

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a crime that can affect any child, anytime, anywhere – regardless of their social or ethnic background. CSE involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive something, e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money, etc. as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities. Violence, coercion and intimidation are commonly involved in such exploitative relationships.

CSE involves perpetrators grooming youngsters and using their powers to sexually abuse them. Sexual exploitation of children and young people can take many forms, whether it occurs through a seemingly 'consensual' relationship with an older boyfriend, or a young person having sex in return for attention, gifts, alcohol or cigarettes.

Set out below is a list of considerations for gambling premises licence and permit holders and their employees to remember when they see young and vulnerable people in their gambling premises:

- Do any of your customers appear to be under 18 years old?
- Are they with a much older person and appear to be in a relationship?
- Do you think that they are under the influence of alcohol or drugs?
- Are children/young people being brought regularly to your premises by older people? If so, ask yourself why?

### **Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults**

If an adult with care and support needs is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect and as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect, you may need to take urgent action to protect the adult. Your first priority is with the adult, to make them safe (including reporting to the police if immediate action is required). Ideally, support the adult to take action to stop the

abuse. If they need to raise a concern with the Local Authority to help them stop the abuse support that person to contact the [Torbay and Devon Safeguarding Adults Partnership](#).

## Safeguarding Co-ordinator

At premises that are licensed for gambling, it is good practice to assign at least one member of staff or management to take a lead on issues relating to safeguarding children and vulnerable people (a 'Safeguarding Co-ordinator'). This role must be delegated to a suitable member of staff when the lead person is on holiday, or otherwise absent from the premises. This safeguarding measure should be included in the operating policy, to evidence a commitment to the core objectives of the legislation, (it is not necessary however to include the name of the Safeguarding Co-ordinator in the operating policy).

The designation of a safeguarding co-ordinator shows due diligence and can be an advantage at premises where there is a high turnover of staff, to ensure consistent standards operate and provide an induction to new staff. The assignment of a Safeguarding Co-ordinator may benefit the business during busy times, ensuring that the premises management is able to prioritise its safeguarding responsibilities and therefore meet the Core Objective to protect children and vulnerable people from harm, under the Gambling Act 2005.

The Safeguarding Co-ordinator must be fit and proper to work in proximity to children and vulnerable people. Staff assigned to the role of Safeguarding Co-ordinator must be adequately checked (for example via the Disclosure and Barring Service) if they are to have 1:1 contact with children or a responsibility to supervise children and safe recruitment procedures should be followed.

The following points give an example of the type of duties that the Safeguarding Co-ordinator should undertake at gambling premises (this list is not exhaustive).

- Ensure that policy is enforced in relation to children and vulnerable people.
- Monitor the effectiveness of existing safeguarding measures and review policy when necessary.
- Have a basic awareness of safeguarding issues relating to children and vulnerable adults, including the types of harm and potential risks at the premises.
- To train other staff to be aware of potential risks to children and vulnerable people and be able to advise staff what to do if safeguarding issues arise.

## Reporting concerns

If you are concerned about a child or young person in Devon and want to speak to someone contact the Devon Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on **0345 155 1071** or email [mashsecure@devon.gov.uk](mailto:mashsecure@devon.gov.uk) and give as much information as you can.

**If a child is at immediate risk from harm contact Devon and Cornwall Police on 999.**

If you see, hear or suspect that an adult may be at risk of abuse or neglect, you must tell someone about it. If they are in immediate danger contact the police on **999**. Otherwise contact Devon Adult Social Care on **0345 155 1007**.

Further information and links to relevant agencies can be found on our [website](#).



## **Appendix C – Information and support available to those experiencing gambling related harm (list provided by Public Health Devon)**

### **Gambling Support**

Public Health Devon encourage consistent availability and sharing of information on support for those experiencing gambling related harm. Details are listed below, further information is available on the [NHS website](#).

#### **South West NHS Gambling Service**

Each region in England now has a specialist NHS gambling treatment service. The [South West Gambling Service](#) provides free and confidential support including recovery courses, cognitive behaviour therapy, and support for affected family members.

People can self-refer to the Gambling Service by phoning 0330 022 3175 Monday to Friday, 9am – 7pm.

#### **National Gambling Helpline – GamCare**

[GamCare](#) provides information, advice and support for anyone affected by gambling harms. Contact the National Gambling Helpline – 0808 8020 133.

#### **Gamble Aware**

[Gamble Aware](#) raise awareness and identify support available for people affected by harmful gambling including guidance for self-exclusion.

#### **Ara Gambling Support**

[Ara](#) offer services in Wales and the South West. Confidential advice for people affected by harmful gambling, and their friends and family. Call 0330 1340 286.

#### **Gamblers Anonymous**

[Gamblers Anonymous](#) local peer support groups to stop gambling.

#### **GAMSTOP**

[GAMSTOP](#) is a free service to bar yourself from online gambling sites in the UK

### **Mental Health and Suicide**

#### **Samaritans**

Call 116 123 if you or someone you know is struggling with thoughts of suicide, or [visit their website](#) for other ways to get help.

#### **SHOUT**

Free 24/7 mental health support by text message – text 'SHOUT' to 85258. More information is [available on their website](#).

## **First Response Service**

[Devon Partnership NHS Trust](#) 24/7 crisis mental health support (18+) in Devon – call 111.

## **Talkworks**

Devon Partnership NHS Trust [Talking Therapies Service](#). A free confidential service (18+) in Devon. Tools and techniques to improve mental wellbeing.

## **Every Mind Matters**

Search [Every Mind Matters](#) for free, NHS approved advice and simple tips to help you look after your mental wellbeing.

## **Drug and Alcohol Support**

### **Together**

[Together drug and alcohol services](#) (18+) for Devon, recovery support including 1-to-1 support and group work.

### **Y-Smart**

[Y-Smart drug and alcohol services](#) for under 18s, support and advice for young people, parents, families and professionals.

## **Money/Debt Support**

### **MoneyHelper**

[Free, impartial guidance](#) about money and pensions, including information on money troubles, and signposting to further, trusted support.

### **National Debt Line**

[Free support](#) for anyone struggling with debt – includes impartial, expert, easy-to-read information, and contact by phone or web chat for support.