



Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles

~~2016~~ - ~~2019~~ - 2022

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~~STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES~~
~~Gambling Act 2005~~

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PART A – Introduction and Scope

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1. The Licensing Objectives

1.1 Guildford Borough Council (the Council) is the licensing authority for the purposes of the Gambling Act 2005 (the Act).

1.2 In exercising most of our functions under the Act, we must have regard to the licensing objectives as set out in section 1 of the Act. 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
- protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling

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1.3 The Gambling Commission (the Commission) states: “The requirement in relation to children is explicitly to protect them from being harmed or exploited by gambling”.

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1.4 The Council in making decisions about premises licences and temporary use notices will aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as we think it:

- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Commission
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Commission
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives and
- in accordance with the authority’s statement of principles

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2. Introduction

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2.1 This is our Statement of Principles (Statement) in relation to our licensing functions under the Act. This latest draft of the policy contains ~~the minimum of amendments and~~ no changes to the intent or direction of the previous policy, which is that the Council seeks to ensure that premises licensed for gambling uphold the licensing objectives. The statement includes the addition of a Local Area Profile, which has been developed as a guide which gambling operators can use when undertaking and preparing their local premises risk assessments; and sets out the Council’s expectations of operator’s risk assessments.

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2.2 We will publish this Statement at least every three years and we will review it from time to time and consult on any proposed amendments. If we make any changes, we will then re-publish the Statement.

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2.3 This Statement follows the format issued by the Local Authorities Coordinators of Regulatory Services (LACORS). All references to the ‘Guidance’ refer to the Commission’s Guidance to Licensing Authorities, ~~4th~~^{5th} Edition, published September ~~2012~~²⁰¹⁵.

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2.4 The borough is the second highest populated district in Surrey with ~~439,700~~^{146,800} residents in ~~2012~~²⁰¹⁶. The major urban areas are located in the town centre of Guildford and Ash and surrounding areas on the western fringes of the borough adjacent to Aldershot town.

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2.5 Guildford Borough is also the second largest borough in the county, covering approximately 269 square kilometres (104 square miles) of which 89% is land designated as Green Belt. Outside the urban areas and villages, rural areas contain the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty covering 99 square kilometres, several sites of importance for nature protection and areas of special scientific interest. The borough also has a rich and varied architectural heritage, including 36 scheduled ancient monuments.

2.6 2.6 Guildford is mostly an affluent area with relatively low unemployment and low levels of crime. Most residents are healthy and enjoy well above average life expectancy. The workforce is generally well-educated and highly skilled. The borough attracted over 4.9 million day visitors in 2016 and 351,000 staying trips, generating about £338.4 million in tourism income for local businesses, supporting around 6,167 actual jobs.

2.7 The town centre is a focus for major commercial and administrative functions and is a principal regional shopping destination, with a vibrant night time economy. In 2014 the town was awarded Purple Flag, recognising excellence in the management of the town centre at night. This prestigious award demonstrates the Council's and the other Purple Flag Partners' ambitions to develop and improve the night time economy, encouraging a broad outlook on how the town is presented at night and tackling all aspects from cleanliness to access and transport, street lighting to signage, entertainment variety and choice of styles in bars, clubs and restaurants. We have attached a map of Guildford Borough at Appendix A.

2.8 The Act requires the Council to consult the following parties:

- 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 Act.

2.9 Our consultation on this statement of principles took place between 31 July 2015 and 23 October 2015. ~~##dates in 2018##~~. We have attached a list of councils and partner organisations in Appendix B and a list of the persons we consulted at Appendix C. We followed the HM Government Code of Practice on Consultation (published July 2008), which is available at:

2.9 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>

2.10 We will make the full list of comments available by request to the Licensing Team, Guildford Borough Council, Millmead House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4BB. If you have any comments about this Statement please send them via letter or email licensing@guildford.gov.uk

2.11 The Full Council approved The Statement of Principles at a meeting on 9 December 2015. ~~##date 2018~~ and we published the Statement via our website. ~~We will place copies in the public libraries of the area as well as making it available in the Council Offices.~~

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2.12 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 we will consider each on its own merits and according to the statutory requirements of the Act.

3. Declaration

3.1 In producing the final Statement, Guildford Borough Council declares that we have had regard to the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005, the Guidance to Licensing Authorities issued by the Commission, and any responses from those consulted on the Statement.

4. Responsible Authorities

4.1 Regulations require the Council to state the principles we will apply in exercising our powers under Section 157(h) of the Act to designate, in writing, a body, which is competent to advise us 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.

4.2 In accordance with the suggestion in the Commission's Guidance, we designate the Surrey Safeguarding Children Board for this purpose.

4.3 We have published the contact details of all the Responsible Authorities under the Act on our website and at Appendix B of this Statement.

5. Interested parties

5.1 Interested parties can make representations about licence applications, or apply for a review of an existing licence. These parties are defined in the Act 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 applications 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)"

5.2 The principles we will apply to determine whether a person is an interested party are:

Each case will be decided upon its merits. We will not apply a rigid rule to our decision making. We will consider the examples provided in the Commission's Guidance at 8.449 to 8.4917. We will also consider the Commission's Guidance that the term "has business interests" will be given the widest possible interpretation and include partnerships, charities, faith groups and medical practices.

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5.3 Interested parties include democratically elected persons such as councillors and MPs. We will not require the councillor or MP to provide specific evidence of an interested party asking them to act as their representative as long as they represent the potentially affected ward. Likewise, we will consider potentially affected parish councils as interested parties. Other than these however, we will generally require written evidence that a person/body (e.g. an advocate / relative) 'represents' someone who either lives sufficiently close to the premises 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.

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5.4 If individuals wish to approach councillors to ask them to represent their views then they should take care 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 Team.

6. Exchange of Information

6.1 The Act requires the Council to include the principles we will apply in exercising our functions under sections 29 and 30 of the Act regarding the exchange of information between the Commission and us. This also applies in relation to the functions under section 350 of the Act with respect to the exchange of information between us and the other persons listed in Schedule 6 to the Act. [Those persons or bodies are listed in Schedule 6\(1\) as:](#)

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- [a constable or police force](#)
- [an enforcement officer](#)
- [a licensing authority](#)
- [HMRC](#)
- [the first tier tribunal](#)
- [the Secretary of State.](#)

6.2 In this regard, we will act in accordance with the provisions of the Act in our exchange of information, which includes the provision that we will not contravene the Data Protection Act 1998, [or General Data Protection Regulations](#). We will also have regard to any Guidance issued by the 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.

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6.3 Details of applications and representations which are referred to a Licensing Sub-Committee for determination will be published in reports that are made publicly available. Personal details of people making representations will be disclosed to applicants and only be withheld from publication on the grounds of personal safety where the licensing authority is asked to do so and is satisfied that it is appropriate to do so.

6.4 The authority will ensure that the information on the returns is accurate and sent to the Commission within agreed timescales.

6.5 We recognise the need to share information with other agencies about our inspections and compliance activities. The Council has various policies relating to 'information governance', which will be considered when deciding what information to share and the process for doing so. [The Council is also a signatory to the Surrey Multi Agency Information Sharing Protocol, which allows](#)

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[the sharing of information between Agencies for the purpose of the prevention and detection of crime and for public protection.](#)

6.6 Information can be accessed by data subjects via a number of routes including a Freedom of Information Request or Subject Access Request.

~~6.7 If we establish any protocols with regard information exchange with other bodies then we will make them available.~~

7. Compliance

7.1 The Act requires the Council to state the principles we will apply in exercising our functions under Part 15 of the Act with respect to the inspection of premises; and the powers under section 346 of the Act to institute criminal proceedings in respect of specified offences.

7.2 Our principles are that we will have regard to the Commission's Guidance and will endeavour to 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 focus on the problem, and minimise side effects.

7.3 We will endeavour to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes so far as possible.

7.4 We have adopted and implemented a risk-based inspection programme, based on:

- the licensing objectives
- relevant codes of practice
- guidance issued by the Commission, in particular at Part 36
- [the Council's Local Area Profile](#)
- the principles set out in this statement of principles

7.5 Our main enforcement role in terms of the Act is to ensure compliance with the premises licences and other permissions, which we authorise. The Commission is the enforcement body for operating licences and personal licences. It is also worth noting that we do not deal with concerns about manufacture, supply or repair of gaming machines, [or concerns about on-line or remote gambling](#) because this is part of the Commission's role.

7.6 This licensing authority also keeps itself informed of developments with regard to the work of the Better Regulation Delivery Office in its consideration of the regulatory functions of local authorities, in particular, with regard to the Regulators Code (April 2014) which provides a regulatory framework that supports compliance and growth while enabling resources to be focused where they are most needed. [We will make available our enforcement and compliance protocols and written agreements upon request.](#)

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7.7 Bearing in mind the principle of transparency, ~~we will make~~the Council has adopted an Enforcement Policy which sets out the Council's approach to securing compliance with regulatory requirements and applies to all our regulatory functions, including Gambling. The Policy is available on the Council's website.

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8. Licensing authority functions

8.1 The Act requires the Council to:

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- 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 Commission regarding details of licences issued (see section above in 6.1)
- maintain registers of the permits and licences that are issued under these functions

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8.2 It is worth noting that we are not involved in licensing remote gambling at all, because this is the Commission's role via operating licences.

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PART B: Part B – Promotion of the Licensing Objectives ~~Premises licences~~
(consideration of applications)

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9. Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime.

9.1 The Gambling Commission will take the lead role in keeping gambling free from crime by vetting applicants for operator and personal licences. The Council will have to be satisfied that the premises will not adversely affect the licensing objective and is compliant with the Commission's Guidance, codes of practice and this policy statement.

9.2 The Council will expect the applicant to have a good understanding of the local area in which they either operate, or intend to operate, a gambling premises. As part of the application, the applicant will provide evidence to demonstrate that in operating the premises they will promote this licensing objective.

9.3 Examples of the specific steps the Council may take to address this area can be found in the section covering specific premises in Part C and in relation to permits and notices in Part D of this policy.

10. Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way

10.1 The Gambling Commission is the body primarily concerned with ensuring that operators conduct gambling activities in a fair and open way, except in the case of tracks.

10.2 The Council will notify the Gambling Commission of any concerns about misleading advertising or absence of required game rules, or any other matters as set out in the Gambling Commission's Licence Conditions and Code of Practice.

10.3 Examples of the specific steps the Council may take to address this area can be found in the section covering specific premises in Part C and in relation to permits and notices in Part D of this policy.

11. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

11.1 Protection of Children: Persons under 18 cannot be admitted to many types of gambling premises. This objective means preventing children from taking part in most types of gambling.

11.2 Section 45 of The Act provides the following definition for child and young person:

Meaning of "child" and "young person"

1) In this Act "child" means an individual who is less than 16 years old.

2) In this Act "young person" means an individual who is not a child but who is less than 18 years old.

11.3 Children and young persons may take part in private and non-commercial betting and gaming, but the Act restricts the circumstances in which they may participate in gambling or be on premises where gambling is taking place as follows:

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- casinos, betting shops and adult gaming centres are not permitted to admit anyone under 18;
- bingo clubs may admit those under 18 but must have policies to ensure that they do not play bingo, or play category B or C machines that are restricted to those over 18;
- family entertainment centres and premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises can admit under 18s, but they are not permitted to play category C machines which are restricted to those over 18;
- clubs with a club premises certificate can admit under 18s, but they must have policies to ensure those under 18 do not play machines other than category D machines;
- All tracks can admit under 18s, but they may only have access to gambling areas on days where races or other sporting events are taking place, or are expected to take place. Tracks will be required to have policies to ensure that under 18s do not participate in gambling other than on category D machines.

11.4 The Council will have regard to any code of practice which the Gambling Commission issues as regards this licensing objective in relation to specific premises.

11.5 The Council will consider whether specific measures are required at particular premises, with regard to this licensing objective. These measure may include supervision of entrances / machines, segregation of areas, etc. Examples of the specific steps the Council may take to address this area can be found in the section covering specific premises in Part C and in relation to permits and notices in Part D of this policy.

11.6 Where gambling premises are located in sensitive areas where young and/or vulnerable persons may be present, for example near schools, this Licensing Authority will consider imposing restrictions on advertising the gambling facilities on such premises where it is considered relevant and reasonably consistent with the Licensing Objectives.

11.7 Protection of vulnerable people: It is difficult to define the term "vulnerable person". The Gambling Commission, in its Guidance to Local Authorities, does not seek to offer a definition, but will, for regulatory purposes assume that this group includes people:

"who gamble more than they want to, people who gamble beyond their means, elderly persons, and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to a mental impairment, or because of the influence of alcohol or drugs."

11.8 The Gambling Commission's Code of Practice clearly describes the policies and procedures that operators should put in place regarding:

- combating problem gambling
- access to gambling by children and young persons
- information on how to gamble responsibly and help for problem gamblers
- customer interaction
- self exclusion
- employment of children and young persons

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11.9 The Council may consider any of the measures detailed below as licence conditions should these not be adequately addressed by any mandatory conditions, default conditions or proposed by the applicant:

- leaflets offering assistance to problem gamblers should be available on gambling premises in a location that is both prominent and discreet
- training for staff members which focuses on an employee's ability to detect a person who may be vulnerable and providing support to vulnerable persons
- self exclusion schemes
- operators should demonstrate their understanding of best practice issued by organisations that represent the interests of vulnerable people
- posters and leaflets with GamCare Helpline and website displayed in prominent locations
- external advertising to be positioned or designed not to entice passers-by.

11.10 It is a requirement of the Gambling Commission's Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP), under Section 3, that licensees must have and put into effect policies and procedures intended to promote socially responsible gambling.

11.11 The LCCP say that licensees must make an annual financial contribution to one or more organisation(s) which between them research into the prevention and treatment of gambling-related harm, develop harm prevention approaches and identify and fund treatment to those harmed by gambling.

PART C: Premises Licences

12. General Principles

12.1 The Council will issue premises licences to allow those premises to be used for certain types of gambling. These are:

- a) casino premises,
- b) bingo premises"
- c) betting premises including tracks and premises used by betting intermediaries,
- d) adult gaming centre premises, or
- e) family entertainment centre premises.

9.4 12.2 Premises licences are subject to the requirements set out in the Act and regulations, as well as specific mandatory and default conditions, which the Secretary of State has detailed in regulations. The Council will exclude default conditions and attach others, where we believe it to be appropriate due to evidence of a risk to the licensing objectives.

(i) decision 12.3 The Gambling Commission has issued Codes of Practice for each interest area for which they must have regard. The Council will also have regard to these Codes of Practice.

13 Decision-making

9.2 When making decisions about premises licences ~~we will~~ the Council is ~~under a statutory duty by virtue of s.153 of the Act to~~ aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as we think it:

- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Commission;
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Commission;
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
- in accordance with our Statement.

9.3 13.1 We will not accept moral objections to gambling as a valid reason to reject applications for premises licences (except with regard to any 'no casino resolution' - see section on ~~Casinos~~ Casinos). Issues of nuisance, planning permission and building regulation are not issues that can be taken into account when considering an application for a premises licence.

9.4 13.2 We will not consider ~~unmet~~ whether there is demand for gambling as valid criteria when deciding whether to grant or reject applications for premises licences. Each application must be considered on its merits without regard for demand, reflecting the statutory 'aim to permit' principle outlined above.

(ii) definition of "premises"

13.3 However, we will consider the location of a premises so far as it relates to the licensing objectives and whether there is need for condition(s) to mitigate risks in respect of gambling in a particular location.

13.4 This Council has reviewed its constitution and scheme of delegation to officers to ensure effective implementation of the Act. The Licensing Committee and Sub-Committee have been set up to deal with licensing issues and the

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determination of applications in certain cases, ie those where representations have been made or where premises licences require review. Non contentious applications (ie those where no representations have been made) will be delegated to officers.

13.5 Where representations are received the Council will consider whether they are vexatious, frivolous or if they would influence the Council's determination of the application.

14. Definition of "premises"

9.5 The Act defines "premises" as including "any place". Section 152 of the Act therefore prevents more than one premises licence applying to any place. However, a single building could be subject to more than one premises licence, provided they are for different parts of the building and provided we can reasonably regard different parts of the building as being different premises. The legislation takes this approach 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, we will pay particular attention if there are issues about sub-divisions of a single building or plot and will ensure that licence holders observe mandatory conditions relating to access between premises.

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9.6 14.1 The Commission states in its Guidance at paragraphs 7.14-7.6 - 7.8 : "7.6 In most cases the expectation is that a single building / 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 officer. ~~However, the authority.~~ 7.7 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. 7.8 The Commission recognises that different configurations may be appropriate under different circumstances but the crux of the matter is whether the proposed premises are genuinely separate premises that merit their own licence - with the machine entitlements that brings – and are not an artificially created part of what is readily identifiable as a single premises."

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9.7—14.2 The Council takes particular note of the Commission's Guidance, which states that licensing authorities should take pay particular care attention 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 we will be this Authority is aware that entrances and exits from parts of a building covered by one or more licences should be separate and identifiable so that the following:~~

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- separation of different premises is not compromised and that people do not 'drift' into a gambling area. The Authority will pay particular attention to applications where access to the licensed premises is through other premises (which themselves may be licensed or unlicensed). Additionally, the third licensing objective seeks to protect children from being harmed by gambling. In

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practice, this means not only preventing children from taking part in gambling, but also preventing them from being in close proximity to gambling. Therefore, licence holders should configure premises so that they do not invite children to participate in, have accidental access to or 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 normally be possible to access the premises without going through another licensed premises or premises with a permit.~~
- ~~• customers should be able to participate in the activities named on the premises licence.~~

~~9.8 The Guidance also gives a list of factors which the Council 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 access to the premises be obtained from any other gambling premises?~~

14.3 Clearly, there will be specific issues that the Authority will consider before granting such applications, for example, whether children can gain access; compatibility of the two establishments; and ability to comply with the requirements of the Act. But, in addition, an overriding consideration should be whether, taken as a whole, the co-location of the licensed premises with other facilities has the effect of creating an arrangement that otherwise would be prohibited under the Act.

14.4 This Authority takes particular note of the Gambling Commission’s Guidance to Licensing Authorities relating to the artificial sub-division of premises. It also takes note of section 152 (1) of the Act and will look very carefully at any application that may appear to breach these provisions.

9.9 14.5 The Council will consider these and other relevant factors in making its decision, depending on all the circumstances of the case.

9.10 14.6 The Commission’s relevant access provisions for each premises type are reproduced below:

Guidance to Licensing Authorities Paragraph 14.7.26:

Casinos

- the principal access entrance to the premises must be from a street (as defined at 7.2421 of the Guidance)
- no entrance to a casino must be from premises that are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons

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- no customer must be able to enter a casino directly from any other premises which holds a gambling premises licence

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14.8 Adult Gaming Centre

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- no customer must be able to access the premises directly from any other licensed gambling premises

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14.9 Betting Shops

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- access must be from a street (in line with paragraph 7.2421 of the Guidance) or from another premises with a betting premises licence
- 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 and you could not have a betting shop at the back of a café – the whole area would have to be licensed.

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14.10 Tracks

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- no customer should be able to access the premises directly from:
 - a casino
 - an adult gaming centre

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14.11 Bingo Premises

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- no customer must be able to access the premise directly from:
 - a casino
 - an adult gaming centre
 - a betting premises, other than a track

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14.12 Family Entertainment Centre

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- no customer must be able to access the premises directly from:
 - a casino
 - an adult gaming centre
 - a betting premises, other than a track

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14.13 Part 7 of the Commission’s Guidance contains further guidance on this issue, which we will also take into account in our decision-making.

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(iii) Premises “ready for gambling”

15.1 The Guidance states that a licence to use premises for gambling should only be issued in relation to premises that the 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.

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

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9.14 15.3 In deciding whether a premises licence can be granted where there are outstanding construction or alteration works at a premises, we 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.

9.15 15.4 Applicants should note that the Council 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.

9.16 15.5 Detailed examples of the circumstances in which the Council may grant such a licence are at paragraphs 7.6058-7.6765 of the Guidance.

(iv) location

16. Location

9.17 16.1 The Council will not consider demand issues with regard to the location of premises but we will consider the potential impact of the location on the licensing objectives in our decision-making. In line with the Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities, we 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 we decide on any specific policy with regard to areas where gambling premises should not be located, we will update this statement. It is worth noting that any such policy does not preclude the applicant from making an application. We will decide each application on its merits, with the onus upon the applicant to show how they will overcome potential concerns.~~

(v) planning

16.2 With regards to these licensing objectives it is the Council's policy, upon receipt of any relevant representation to look at specific location issues which include:

- the possible impact that a gambling premises may have on any sensitive premises that provide services to children or young people or vulnerable people; eg a school, vulnerable adult centre;
- the possible impact a gambling premises may have on a residential area where there is a high concentration of families with children;
- the nature and size of the gambling activities taking place;
- any levels of crime in the area.

16.3 The Council will need to be satisfied that there is sufficient evidence that the particular location of the premises would be harmful to the licensing objectives. It is a requirement of the Gambling Commission's Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP), under Section 10, for licensees to assess the local risks to the licensing objectives posed by the provisions of gambling facilities at each of their premises, and have policies, procedures and control measures to mitigate those risks. In undertaking their risk assessments, they must take into account relevant matters identified in this policy statement

16.4 The LCCP say that licensees must review (and update as necessary) their local risk assessments:

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- to take account of significant changes in local circumstances, including those identified in this policy statement;
- when there are significant changes at a licensee's premises that may affect their mitigation of local risks;
- when applying for a variation of a premises licence; and
- in any case, undertake a local risk assessment when applying for a new premises licence.

16.4 The Council will expect the local risk assessment to consider as a minimum:

- the location of services for children such as schools, playgrounds, leisure/community centres and other areas where children will gather;
- the demographics of the area in relation to vulnerable groups;
- whether the premises is in an area subject to high levels of crime and/or disorder.

16.5 Local risk assessments should show how vulnerable people, including people with gambling dependencies are protected.

16.6 The Council would also strongly recommend that the following matters are considered by operators when making their risk assessment, and they have taken action in the form of conditions where the operators have not demonstrated that they are sufficiently mitigating the risks. This list is not exhaustive and other factors not in this list that are identified must be taken into consideration:

- Information held by the licensee regarding self-exclusions and incidences of underage gambling
- Gaming trends that may reflect benefit payments
- Arrangement for localised exchange of information regarding self-exclusions and gaming trends
- Urban setting such as proximity to schools, commercial environment, factors affecting footfall
- Assessing staffing levels when a local college closes and the students begin to vacate the grounds.
- Proximity of machines to the entrance door
- Age verification policies including 'Think 21' and 'Think 25'
- Consideration of line of sight from the counter to gambling machines.
- Larger operators (William Hill, Coral, Ladbrokes, Betfred and Paddy Power) are responsible for conducting/taking part in underage testing, results of which are shared with the Gambling Commission. However, operators are urged to also make the results available to licensing authorities. Where the licensing authority receives intelligence in relation to failed 'Think 21' test purchases, the licensing authority would encourage the consideration of additional tasking over the standard once a year visits as a means of assessing risk.
- Providing the licensing authority with details when a child or young person repeatedly attempts to gamble on their premises. This may provide the Licensing authority with an opportunity to consider safeguarding concerns. The Crime, Enforcement and Regulation Service continue to raise awareness in cooperation with the Metropolitan Police of child sexual exploitation via Operation Makesafe amongst the business community. To date efforts have been focussed on providing awareness to hotels, taxi companies and licensed premises, nonetheless, extending such an approach to operators where there is a specific issue in relation to child safeguarding would be considered.

- Range of facilities in proximity to the licensed premises such as other gambling outlets, banks, post offices, refreshment and entertainment type facilities
- Known problems in the area, such as problems arising from street drinkers, youths participating in anti-social behaviour, drug dealing activities, etc.

16.7 The Council would expect a risk assessment to be tailored to each premises and not solely based on a 'standard' template. The Council would also expect that each assessment is completed by a suitably competent person.

16.8 It will be the responsibility of the gambling operator to assign the assessor for assessing the local risks for their premises. The person assigned as the assessor must be competent to undertake this role as failure properly to carry out this function could result in a breach of the provisions of the LCCP. The Gambling Commission has not produced any guidance on the competencies of assessors, however the Council would expect the assessor to understand how the premises operate or will operate, its design, and where it is located. The assessor will need to understand the local area and can use staff or area managers to assist in gaining an understanding of that local area. The assessor should also be suitably experienced in assessing gambling related risk and identification of appropriate controls

16.9 The Council expects that local risk assessments are kept on the individual premises and are available for inspection.

16.10 It should be noted that this policy does not preclude any application being made and each application will be decided on its merits, with the onus upon the applicant to show how potential concerns can be overcome.

17. Planning

9.18 17.1 The Commission's Guidance states at paragraph 7.6058: "In determining applications the licensing authority ~~has a duty to~~ should not take into consideration ~~all relevant~~ matters and not to take into consideration any irrelevant matters, i.e. those that are not related to gambling and the licensing objectives. One example of an irrelevant matter would be the likelihood of the applicant obtaining planning permission or building regulations approval for their proposal". Licensing Authorities should bear in mind that a premises licence, once it comes into effect, authorises premises to be used for gambling. Accordingly, a licence to use premises for gambling should only be issued in relation to premises that the licensing authority can be satisfied are going to be ready to be used for gambling in the reasonably near future..."

9.19 17.2 The Council will not take into account irrelevant matters in line with the above guidance. In addition, we note the following excerpt from the Guidance at paragraph 7.6765: "When dealing with a premises licence application for finished buildings, the licensing authority should not take into account whether those buildings have ~~erto~~ 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~~ other regulations and must not form part of the consideration for the premises licence. Section 210 of the ~~2005~~ 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

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does not prejudice or prevent any action that may be appropriate under the law relating to planning or building”.

(vi) duplication 18. Duplication with other regulatory regimes

9.20 **18.1** The Council seek to avoid any duplication with other statutory or regulatory systems where possible, including planning. When we consider a licence application, we will not consider whether we will award planning permission or building regulations approval through the planning process. We will though, listen to, and consider carefully, any concerns about conditions, which licensees are unable to meet due to planning restrictions, should such a situation arise.

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9.24 **18.2** When dealing with a premises licence application for finished buildings, we will not take into account whether those buildings have to comply with the necessary planning or buildings consents. We will not take fire or health and safety risks into account, as these matters do not form part of the consideration for the premises licence. We will deal with those matters under relevant planning control, buildings and other regulations.

19. The Licensing objectives—Objectives

9.22 **19.1** Premises licences granted must be reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives. With regard to these objectives, we have considered the Commission’s Guidance and ~~we make the comments below: have set out our policy in Part B.~~

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~~9.23 **Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime**—The Council is aware that the Commission takes a leading role in preventing gambling from being a source of crime. The 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. Thus, where an area has known high levels of organised crime we 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. We are aware of the distinction between disorder and nuisance. Issues that are merely a nuisance are not relevant considerations. The Gambling Commission has defined disorder as intending to mean activity that is more serious and disruptive than mere nuisance. We will consider factors (for example whether police assistance was required and how threatening the behaviour was to those who could see it) to make that distinction.~~

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~~9.24 **Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way**—The 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. There is however, more of a role with regard to tracks, which we have explained in more detail in the ‘tracks’ section.~~

~~9.25 **Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling**—The Council notes the Commission’s Guidance 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). We will therefore consider, as suggested in the~~

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~~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 and so on.~~

~~9.26 The Council is also aware of the Commission Codes of Practice with regard this licensing objective, in relation to specific premises.~~

~~9.27 With regard the term 'vulnerable persons,' we note that the Commission does not seek to offer a definition. However, the Commission states: "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." We will consider this licensing objective on a case-by-case basis.~~

20. Local Area Profile

20.1 Local Area Profile – a map of this Local Authority's area has been attached as Appendix D. The map contains the location of all schools, hostels and homes for vulnerable people, hotspots of reported crime, and centres for people with gambling addictions. This Authority will pay particular attention to applications for the new grant of, or variations to existing, premises licences where those premises lie within areas with a concentration of schools, crime, hostels/homes for vulnerable people and centres for people with a gambling addiction.

20.2 The Council will expect applicants to fully explain in their applications how their proposal will not exacerbate any problems to individuals living in the vicinity, or exacerbate any crime problems within the vicinity generally. Applicants will be expected to tailor their application, and have policies, procedures and control measures to mitigate any risks. They should have the appropriate numbers of trained staff, and propose licence conditions, to cater for the local area in which they propose to run their business.

20.3 Applicants should also be aware of areas with concentrations of hostels and other types of accommodation for vulnerable people. Where they propose to make an application for the new grant of a premises licence, or a variation to an existing licence, in such areas they should explain fully in their risk assessments how they will mitigate any risks of operating gambling premises in close proximity to concentrations of housing for vulnerable people.

20.4 Other publicly available sources of information are available to assist in operators completing a Local Area Profile.

20.5 This Authority will expect applicants for the new grant of, or variation to an existing, licence to include full details of their risk assessment in compliance with Social Responsibility code 10.1.1 and Ordinary code provision 10.1.2.

21. Conditions

21.1 The Secretary of State has set mandatory and default conditions and the Gambling Commission has set Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice on Operator's Licences which are necessary for the general good conduct of gambling premises, therefore it is unlikely that the Council will need to impose individual conditions imposing a more restricted regime in relation to matters that have already been dealt with.

21.2 If the Council is minded to impose conditions because there are regulatory concerns of an exceptional nature, then any additional licence conditions must relate to the licensing objectives.

9.28 21.3 ~~Conditions~~ 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.

9.29 21.4 The Council will make all decisions ~~upon~~ individual conditions on a case-by-case basis, although there will be a number of measures we will consider utilising should there be a perceived need, such as the use of supervisors, appropriate signage for adult only areas and so on. We have made some specific comments in this regard under some of the licence types below. The Council will also expect the licence applicant to offer his/her own suggestions as to the way in which he/she can effectively meet the licensing objectives.

9.30 21.5 We will also consider specific measures, which may be required for buildings 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 Commission's Guidance.

9.34 21.6 The Council will also ensure that where category C or above machines are on offer in premises to which children are admitted (including buildings where multiple premises licences are applicable):

- 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.

9.32 21.7 The Council 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. In line with the Commission's Guidance, we 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.

9.33 21.8 We note that there are conditions which the Council cannot attach to premises licences which are:

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- any condition 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, winning or prizes.

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22. Door Supervisors

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9.34 **22.1** The Commission advises in its Guidance: “~~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 ~~the licensing authority is entitled~~ to impose a condition on the premises licence to this effect.”

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9.35 **22.2** Where we decide that supervision of entrances/machines is appropriate for particular cases, a consideration of whether the supervisors should be SIA licensed or not will be necessary. We will not automatically assume that the supervisors need to be licensed, as the statutory requirements for different types of premises vary ~~(, in line with the Guidance, Part 33).~~

[part 33 of the Gambling Commission Guidance.](#)

23. Adult Gaming Centres

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40.4 **23.1** An Adult Gaming Centre (AGC) is one of three types of amusement arcade. This type of arcade can provide higher payout gaming machines (Category B3 and B4) and access is restricted to persons who are aged 18 years or over.

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40.2 **23.2** The Council 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, for example, ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the premises.

40.3 **23.3** We may consider measures to meet the licensing objectives. This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures:

- proof of age schemes
- CCTV Supervision of entrances / machine areas
- physical separation of areas
- location of entry Notices / signage
- specific opening hours
- self-exclusion schemes
- provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

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44.24. Licensed Family Entertainment Centres

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41.1 [24.1](#) A Licensed family entertainment centre (LFEC) is the second type of amusement arcade. This type of arcade can provide the lowest two categories of gaming machine (category C and D). Children can enter an LFEC but they can only gamble on category D machines. All category C machines must be located in a separate area, which can only be accessed by persons who are aged 18 years or over.

41.2 [24.2](#) The Council 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, for example, that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machine areas.

41.3 [24.3](#) We may consider measures to meet the licensing objectives. This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures such as:

- CCTV
- supervision of entrances / machine areas
- physical separation of areas
- location of entry
- notices / signage
- specific opening hours
- self-exclusion schemes
- provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare
- measures / training for staff on how to deal with suspected truant school children on the premises

41.4 [24.4](#) In line with the Commission's guidance, the Council will refer to the Commission's website to see any conditions that apply to operating licences covering the way in which the area containing the category C machines should be delineated. We will also be aware of any mandatory or default conditions on these premises licences, when we have published them.

4225. Casinos

[25.1](#) The Act states that a casino is an arrangement whereby people are given the opportunity to participate in one or more casino games. Casino games are defined as a game of chance which is not equal chance gaming. This means that casino games offer the chance for multiple participants to take part in a game competing against the house or bank at different odds to their fellow players. Casinos can also provide equal chance gaming and gaming machines. Large and small casinos can also provide betting machines.

42.1 [25.2](#) No casinos resolution – The licensing authority previously passed a 'no casino' resolution under Section 166 of the Gambling Act 2005 however this resolution expired on 31 January 2010 and was not renewed.

42.2 [-25.3](#) The Gambling (Geographical Distribution of Large and Small Casino Premises Licences) Order 2008 specifies which authorities may issue large and small casino premises licences. As Guildford Borough Council is not one of the local authorities permitted to issue these casino licences, it is therefore not necessary to consider making a further 'no casino' resolution.

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~~1325.4~~ Should legislation change and/or the council decide in the future to pass such a resolution, it will update this policy statement with details of that resolution. Any such decision will be made by the Full Council.

26. Bingo premises

~~13.1~~ 26.1 A Bingo Hall is a place in which Bingo is played. There is no legal definition of Bingo but it is a game in which players mark off numbers on cards as the numbers are drawn randomly by the caller, the winner being the first person to mark off all the numbers on their card.

~~13.2~~ 26.2 The Commission's Guidance states at paragraph 18.45: "Licensing authorities ~~will~~ need to satisfy themselves that bingo can be played in any bingo premises for which they issue a premises licence". This will be a relevant consideration where the operator of an existing bingo premises applies to vary their licence to exclude an area of the existing premises from its ambit and then applies for a new premises licence, or multiple licences, for that or those excluded areas".

~~13.3~~ 26.3 The Council notes the Guidance at paragraph 18.89 regarding the unusual circumstances in which we might permit pre-existing premises to be split into two adjacent premises and in particular, that it is not permissible to locate sixteen Category B3 gaming machines in one of the resulting premises, as the gaming machine entitlement for that premises would be exceeded.

~~13.4~~ 26.4 The Council also notes the Guidance at paragraph 18.67, that 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.

4427. Betting premises

~~Betting premises can offer facilities 27.1~~ The Act contains a single class of licence for betting on premises however within this single class there are different types of premises which require licensing such as high street bookmakers, bookmakers located in self contained facilities at racecourses as well as the outcome of a particular event. General/general betting premises licence holders can offer those facilities at a premises based bookmakers (off course), or at a racecourse (on course). This type of premises can provide a total of four gaming licences that track operators will require.

~~27.2 Betting machines for gambling~~ Section 181 of the Act states:

"A condition of a betting premises licence may relate to –
~~14.4~~ a) the number of machines used on the premises for the purpose of making or accepting bets;

~~Betting machines~~ The Council will follow b) the Commission's Guidance when considering the number, nature and of those machines;

c) the circumstances of betting in which those machines an operator wants are made available for use."

~~14.2~~ 27.3 When considering whether to offer. We impose a condition on a licence the council will take into account the size of the premises, the number of

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counter positions available for person-to-person transactions, and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines ~~by children and young persons or by vulnerable people.~~

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~~4527.4 Where certain measures are not already addressed by the mandatory and default conditions and the Gambling Commissions Codes of Practice or by the applicant, the council may consider licence conditions to address such issues.~~

28. Tracks

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~~45.1 28.1~~ Guildford does not currently have a track in the Borough however, history shows a previous point-to-point track which could be reinstated.

~~45.2 28.2~~ The Council 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. The Council will follow the Commission's Guidance and consider the impact upon the third licensing objective (i.e. the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling). We will consider 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.

~~45.3 28.3~~ The Council 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.

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~~45.4 28.4~~ We may consider measures to meet the licensing objectives. This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures such as:

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

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~~45.5 28.5~~ Gaming machines - 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.

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~~45.6 28.6~~ Betting machines – The Council will ~~follow Part 6 of~~ the Commission's Guidance and take into account the size of the premises and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by children and young persons, or by vulnerable people, when considering the number, nature and circumstances of betting machines an operator proposes to offer.

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45.7 28.7 Applications and plans. Applicants are required by regulations made under section 159 of The Gambling Act to submit plans of the premises with their application, in order to ensure that the licensing authority has the necessary information to make an informed judgement about whether the premises are fit for gambling. We will use the plan to prepare future premises inspection activity. ~~(See the Guidance at paragraph 20.28).~~

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45.8 28.8 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. ~~(See the Guidance at paragraph 20.29).~~

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45.9 28.9 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 ~~(See the Guidance at paragraph 20.31).~~

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45.10 28.10 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 ~~(See the Guidance at paragraph 20.32).~~

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45.14 28.11 The Council appreciates that it is sometimes difficult to define the precise location of betting areas on tracks. The precise location of where betting facilities are provided is not required to be shown on track plans, both by virtue of the fact that betting is permitted anywhere on the premises and because of the difficulties associated with pinpointing exact locations for some types of track. Applicants should provide sufficient information so that this authority can satisfy itself that the plan indicates the main areas where betting might take place. For racecourses in particular, any betting areas subject to the "five times rule" (commonly known as betting rings) must be indicated on the plan ~~(See the Guidance at paragraph 20.33).~~

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4629. Travelling Fairs

46.1 29.1 Where category D machines and / or equal chance prize gaming without a permit is to be made available for use at travelling fairs, the Council is responsible for deciding whether the statutory requirement that facilities for gambling amount to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair is met.

46.2 29.2 We will also consider whether the applicant falls within the statutory definition of a travelling fair.

46.3 29.3 We note that the 27-day statutory maximum for the land being used as a fair applies on a per calendar year basis, 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. We will work with our neighbouring councils to ensure that we all monitor land, which crosses our boundaries so that the statutory limits are not exceeded.

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4730. Provisional Statements

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47.1 30.1 Developers may wish to apply to us 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.

47.2 30.2 Section 204 of the Gambling Act provides for a person to make an application to the licensing authority for a provisional statement in respect of premises that he or she expects to:

- be constructed;
- be altered; or
- acquire a right to occupy.

47.3 30.3 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.

47.4 30.4 In contrast to the premises licence application, the applicant does not have to hold or have applied for an operating licence from the 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.

47.5 30.5 The holder of a provisional statement may then apply for a premises licence once the premises are constructed, altered or acquired. The Council 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 will 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.

47.6 30.6 In addition, we 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 our 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 we will discuss any concerns we have with the applicant before making a decision.

4831. Reviews

48.1 31.1 Interested parties or responsible authorities can make requests for a review of a premises licence; however, it is for the Council to decide whether

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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 Commission;
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Commission;
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
- in accordance with the authority's statement of principles.

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48.2 31.2 The Council will consider whether the request is frivolous, vexatious, or whether it will cause us to wish to alter/revoke/suspend the licence, or whether it is substantially the same as previous representations or requests for review.

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48.3 31.3 The Council can also initiate a review of a particular premises licence, or a particular class of premises licence based on any reason, which we think, is appropriate.

48.4 31.4 Once a valid application for a review has been received, responsible authorities and interested parties can make representations during a 28-day period. This period begins 7 days after we receive the application and we will publish notice of the application within 7 days of receipt.

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48.5 31.5 The Council will carry out the review as soon as possible after the 28-day period for making representations has passed.

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48.6 31.6 The purpose of the review will be to determine whether the Council should take any action in relation to the licence. If action is justified, the options open to us are:

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(a) —_add, remove or amend a licence condition imposed by the licensing authority;

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(b) —_exclude a default condition imposed by the Secretary of State (e.g. opening hours) or remove or amend such exclusion;

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(c) —_suspend the premises licence for a period not exceeding three months; and

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(d) —_revoke the premises licence.

48.7 31.7 We will have regard to the principles set out in section 153 of the Act, as well as any relevant representations in determining what action, if any, we should take following a review.

48.8 31.8 In particular, we may also initiate a review of a premises licence if 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.

48.9 31.9 Once the review has been completed, we will, as soon as possible, notify our decision to:

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- 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

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- Her Majesty's Commissioners for Revenue and Customs

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PART C: ~~PERMITS / TEMPORARY & OCCASIONAL USE NOTICE~~ Permits / Temporary and Occasional Use Notices

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49.32. Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre gaming machine permits (Statement of Principles on Permits - Schedule 10 paragraph 7)

49.4 32.1 An unlicensed family entertainment centre (UFEC) is the third type of amusement arcade. The category of machine in this type of arcade is restricted to the lowest category D and children can enter and gamble.

49.2 32.2 Where a person does not hold a premises licence but wishes to provide gaming machines, he/she may apply to us for this permit. The applicant must show that the premises will be wholly or mainly, used for making gaming machines available for use (Section 238).

49.3 32.3 The Gambling Act 2005 states that a licensing authority may prepare a *statement of principles* that they propose to consider in determining the suitability of an applicant for a permit and in preparing this statement, and/or considering applications, it need not (but may) have regard to the licensing objectives and shall have regard to any relevant guidance issued by the Commission ~~under section 25.~~ The Commission's Guidance also states: "In ~~their three year its statement of policy, a~~ licensing ~~policy statement, licensing authorities may authority may~~ include a statement of principles that ~~they proposeit proposes~~ to apply when exercising ~~theirits~~ functions in considering applications for permits...., licensing authorities ~~will wantmay wish~~ to give weight to ~~childmatters relating to~~ protection ~~issues.~~ of children from being harmed or exploited by gambling....." (Paragraph 24.68)

49.4 32.3 Guidance also 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....~~Licensing authorities might wish to~~The licensing authority may also consider asking ~~applications~~applicants to demonstrate:

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- 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 ~~staffemployees~~ are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes." (Paragraph 24.79)

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It should be noted that a licensing authority cannot attach conditions to this type of permit.

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49.5 32.4 **Statement of Principles:** The Council expects the applicant to show that he/she has 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. We will consider the efficiency of such policies and procedures on their merits, however, they may include appropriate measures / training for staff with regard to suspected truant schoolchildren on the premises, measures / training covering how staff would deal with unsupervised very young children being on the premises, or children causing perceived problems on / around the premises. We will also expect applicants 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

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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.

2033. (Alcohol) Licensed premises gaming machine permits - (Schedule 13 paragraph 4(1))

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Automatic entitlement: 2 machines

20.4 33.1 The Gambling Act provides for premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, to have an automatic entitlement to 2 gaming machines, of categories C and/or D. The premises merely need to notify the Council in writing.

20.2 33.2 We 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 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.

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Permit: for 3 or more machines

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20.3 33.3 If a person wishes to have more than two machines on the premises, then he/she must apply for a permit and we will consider that application based upon the licensing objectives; any guidance issued by the Commission issued under Section 25 of the Gambling Act 2005, and “such matters as we think relevant”.

20.4 33.4 This Council will consider “such matters” on a case-by-case basis. In general we will 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 us that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machines. We will be satisfied that there will be no access by measures which may include such things as the adult machines being in sight of the bar, or in the sight of staff who will monitor that the machines are not being used by those under 18. Notices and signage may also be helpful. With regard to the protection of vulnerable persons, applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

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20.5 33.5 We recognise that some alcohol-licensed premises may apply for a premises licence for their non-alcohol licensed areas. The applicant would most likely need to apply for (and be dealt with) as an Adult Gaming Centre premises licence.

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20.6 33.6 The Council can decide to grant the application with a condition to provide a lesser number of machines and/or a different category of machines than requested in the application. We cannot attach other conditions.

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20.7 [33.7](#) The holder of a permit must comply with any Code of Practice issued by the Commission about the location and operation of the machine.

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21.34. Prize Gaming Permits

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21.4 [34.1](#) 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 proposes to consider in determining the suitability of the applicant for a permit”.

21.2 [34.2](#) We have not prepared a statement of principles. Should we decide to do so, we will include details in a revised version of the Statement.

21.3 [34.3](#) In making our decision on an application for this permit we may (but do not need to) have regard to the licensing objectives but we must have regard to any Commission guidance (Gambling Act 2005, Schedule 14 paragraph 8(3)).

21.4 [34.4](#) The Gambling Act 2005 provides conditions with which the permit holder must comply, but the licensing authority cannot attach conditions. The conditions in the Act are:

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- 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.

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22.35. Club Gaming and Club Machines Permits

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22.4 [35.1](#) Members Clubs and Miners' welfare institutes (but not Commercial Clubs) may apply for a Club Gaming Permit. The Club Gaming Permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D), equal chance gaming and games of chance.

22.2 [35.2](#) Members Clubs and Miner's welfare institutes (and Commercial Clubs) may apply for a Club Machine Permit. A Club Machine permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D). Please note that Commercial Clubs may not site category B3A gaming machines offering lottery games in their club.

22.3 [35.3](#) The Commission's Guidance states: "~~Members~~[The Act states that members'](#) clubs must have at least 25 members and be established and conducted “wholly or mainly” for purposes other than gaming, unless the gaming is ~~permitted by separate regulations. The Secretary~~[restricted to that of State has made regulations and these cover](#) a prescribed kind (currently bridge

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and whist ~~clubs, which replicates the position under the Gambling Act 1968. A members' club must be permanent in nature, not established to make commercial profit, and controlled by its members equally. nature~~ But there is no need for a club to have an alcohol licence." Examples include working men's clubs, branches of Royal British Legion and clubs with political affiliations."

22.4 35.4 The Commission's Guidance also notes that "~~licensing~~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.

22.5 35.5 The Act provides a 'fast-track' procedure for premises, which hold a Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 (Schedule 12 paragraph 10). The Commission's Guidance states: "Under the fast-track procedure there is no opportunity for objections to be made by the Commission or the police, and the grounds upon which an authority can refuse a permit are reduced." and "The grounds on which an application under ~~the~~his process may be refused are ~~that~~:

- a) ~~that~~ the club is established primarily for gaming, other than gaming prescribed ~~by regulations~~ under ~~schedule 12s266 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."

22.6 35.6 Statutory conditions on club gaming permits require 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.

23.36. Temporary Use Notices

23.4 36.1 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 Commission, would include hotels, conference centres and sporting venues.

23.2 36.2 The Council 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.

23.3 36.3 The Secretary of State has the power to determine the form of gambling that can be authorised by Temporary Use Notices. At this time the relevant

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regulations (SI no 3157: The Gambling Act 2005 (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.

23.4 36.4 There are a number of statutory limits with regard to Temporary Use Notices. You can see discussion around the meaning of "premises" in Part 7 of the Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities. 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. The Act defines "premises" as including "any place".

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23.5 36.5 In considering whether a place falls within the definition of "a set of premises", the Council will look at, amongst other things, the ownership/occupation and control of the premises.

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23.6 36.6 The Council will 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 Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities.

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2437. Occasional Use Notices

24.4 37.1 The Council has very little discretion with regard to these notices but we will ensure that the applicant does not exceed the statutory limit of 8 days in a calendar year. We will also consider the definition of a 'track' and whether the Act permits the applicant to avail him/herself of the notice.

2538. Small Society Lotteries

25.1 38.1 The Council will adopt a risk-based approach towards our compliance responsibilities for small society lotteries. We consider 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

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25.2 38.2 Non-commercial gaming is permitted if it takes place at a non-commercial event as either an incidental or principal activity at the event. Events are non-commercial if no part of the proceeds is for private profit or gain. The proceeds of such events may benefit one or more individuals if the activity is organised:

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- By, or on behalf of, a charity or for charitable purposes
- To enable participation in, or support of, sporting, athletic or cultural activities.

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25.3 38.3 Charities and community groups should contact us on (01483) 444374505050 or email licensing@guildford.gov.uk to seek further advice.

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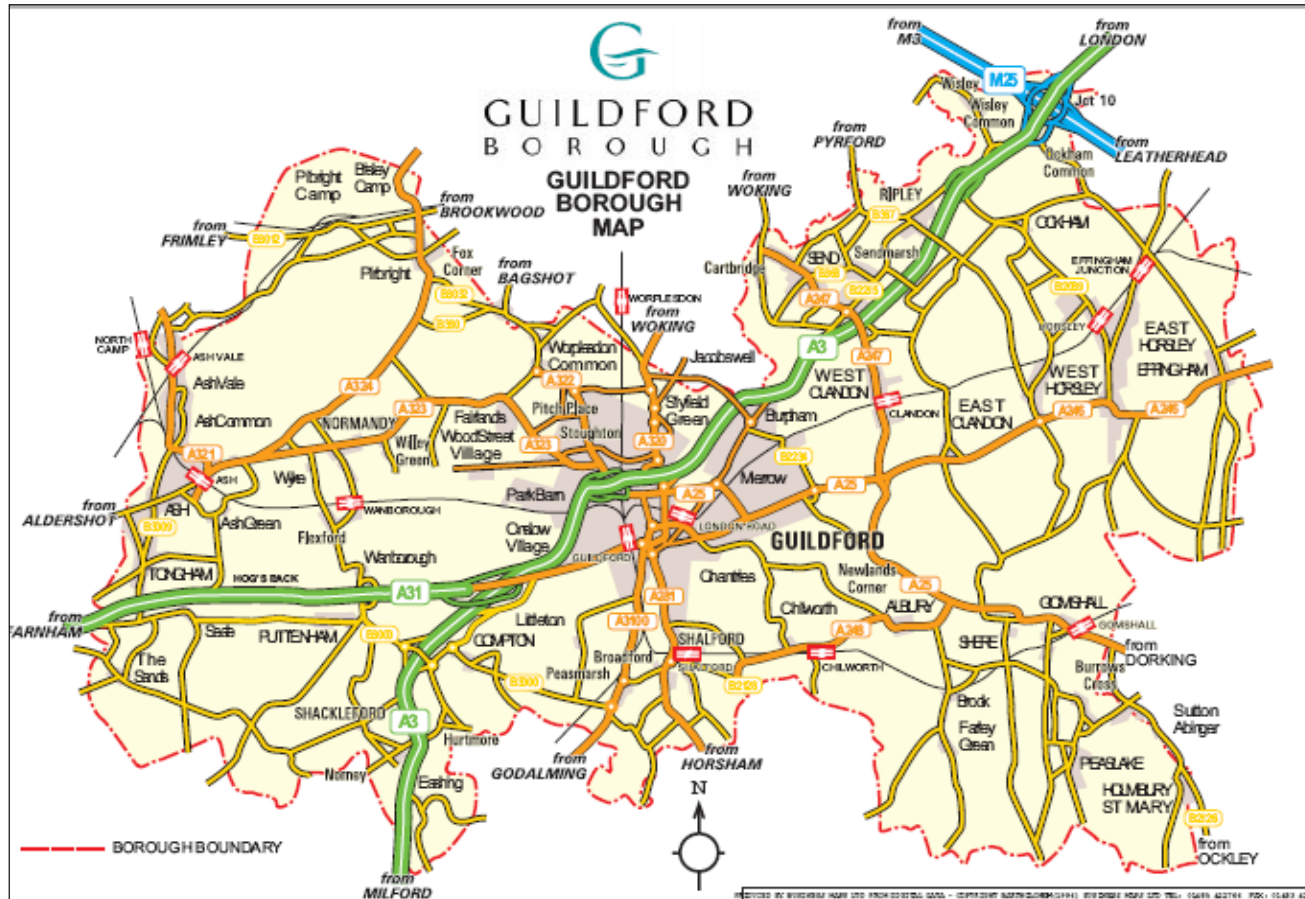
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Appendix A
Map of Guildford Borough



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**Appendix B
List of Responsible Authorities**

Licensing Authority

Guildford Borough Council
Licensing Team
Millmead House
Millmead
Guildford
Surrey
GU2 4BB

Gambling Commission

Gambling Commission
Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4BP

Chief Officer for Police

Surrey Police
The Licensing Unit

PO Box 101

Guildford

Surrey

GU1 9PE

Fire and Rescue Authority

Surrey Fire and Rescue Service
Fire Station

Guildford Road

Farnham

Surrey

GU9 9QB

Planning Authority

Guildford Borough Council
Planning Services

Millmead House

Millmead

Guildford

Surrey

GU2 4BB

Environmental Health Authority

Guildford Borough Council

Environmental Health Team
Millmead House

Millmead

Guildford

Surrey

GU2 4BB

Child Protection Authority

Surrey County Council
Safeguarding Children Unit

Quadrant Court

HM Revenue and Customs

HM Revenue and Customs
National Registration Unit
Portcullis House
21 India Street

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Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership	Lyndsey.Armitage@guildford.gov.uk
Surrey County Council Trading Standards Service	business.advice@surreycc.gov.uk
Security Industry Authority	info@sia.homeoffice.gov.uk
Star Oyster Ltd	michelh@staroyster.co.uk
Society for the Study of Gambling	ssgtreasurer@aol.com
The Bingo Association	info@bingo-association.co.uk
The Environment Agency	enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk
The Lotteries Council	tina@lotteriescouncil.org.uk
The Working Men's Club & Institute Union	253/254 Upper Street, London N1 1RY
William Hill Plc	jnorris@williamhill.co.uk
Guildford Baptist Church	office@guildfordbaptist.org
Emmanuel Church	parish.office@emmanuelchurch.co.uk
Samaritans	admin@samaritans.org

Appendix D
Local Area Profile

1. Introduction

The Gambling Act 2005 (the Act) gave Local Authorities (LAs) responsibility for issuing premises licenses for gambling venues. The Act states that LAs should 'aim to permit' the use of premises for gambling so long as applications for premises licences are reasonably consistent with the Gambling Commission's code of practice, the Gambling Commission guidance, the licensing objectives and the Council's Statement of Principles.

The licensing objectives are:

- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and 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

Recently, there have been changes in the recommended approach to gambling licensing and regulation, as expressed in the guidance published by the Gambling Commission (the Commission). These changes can be summarised into three broad themes:

- Increased focus on risk and regulation
- Greater attention to local area risk, and;
- Encouragement of partnership and collaboration between stakeholders to mitigate risk

All industry operators have to undertake local area risk assessments to explore what risks gambling venues pose to the licensing objectives, including the protection of young and vulnerable people.

Guildford Borough Council (the Council) has developed this document as a guide which gambling operators can use when undertaking and preparing their local premises risk assessments. This guide is intended for all gambling operators and has not been designed with a specific gambling sector in mind.

The Gambling Commission introduced new provisions in its social responsibility code within the Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP), which require gambling operators to assess the local risks to the licensing objectives posed by the provision of gambling facilities at each of their premises, and to have policies, procedures and control measures to mitigate those risks. This change in national policy is intended to provide a well evidenced and transparent approach to considering and implementing measures to address the risks associated with gambling.

The introduction of new provisions in the social responsibility code within the LCCP encourages local authorities, the Commission and the industry to work in partnership to address local issues and

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concerns. This movement towards increased partnership working is something that Guildford has been doing for a number of years and continues to support. We have found that a risk-based approach to regulation is beneficial for businesses and the authority to prioritise their actions in response to the identified risk.

The risk based approach provides a better understanding of, and enables a proportionate response, to risk. This approach includes looking at future risks and thinking about risks in a probabilistic way. Risk is not necessarily related to an event that has happened. Risk is related to the probability of an event happening and the likely impact of that event. In this case it is the risk of the impact on the licensing objectives.

This guide provides a framework for the local risk assessment process that will provide the necessary frame work to comply with the LCCP requirements. Local risk assessments will be beneficial to the Council as Licensing Authority under the Act, as well as responsible authorities and interested parties when considering new and variation applications. A well thought out and complete risk assessment will benefit gambling operators in the process of applying for new and varying existing premises licences by reducing the need for additional information or possibly the imposition of conditions.

Gambling operators are required to undertake a risk assessment for all of their existing premises and must also undertake a review of those assessments when certain triggers are met. These triggers, along with the Council's views on what may instigate either a new assessment or the review of an existing one are detailed within this guidance document.

The Council considers that these local risk assessments are a key component of the overall assessment and management of the local risks. The Council would expect a risk assessment to be tailored to each premises and not solely based on a 'standard' template. The Council would also expect that each assessment is completed by a suitably competent person.

This local risk assessment process is not the same as other forms of risk assessment undertaken by gambling operators, such as Health and Safety at Work, Fire Safety and Food Hygiene, etc. These local risk assessments are specific to the potential harm that gambling premises can have on one or more of the licensing objectives under the Act. They are specific to the premises, the local area and the local community.

The Licensing Authority will set out how it intends to carry out its functions under the Act in this Statement of Licensing Principles, also known as Licensing Policy. This statement is kept under review and is updated every three years (as a minimum).

The Commission is responsible for issuing operating licences to gambling operators who are deemed suitable and competent to provide facilities for gambling. As a requirement of these operating licences, gambling operators must ensure that they comply with and meet the requirements of the LCCP.

In February 2015, the Commission introduced a new social responsibility code provision making it a requirement for certain gambling operators to assess the local risks to the licensing objectives posed by each of their premises based gambling operations. The Commission also introduced an ordinary code provision relating to sharing local risk assessments. The relevant provisions of the code state:

Social responsibility code provision 10.1.1 **Assessing local risk**

All non-remote casino, adult gaming centre, bingo, family entertainment centre, betting and remote betting intermediary (trading room only) licences, except non-remote general betting (limited) and betting intermediary licences.

1. Licensees must 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

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mitigate those risks. In making risk assessments, licensees must take into account relevant matters identified in the licensing authority's statement of licensing policy.

2. Licensees must review (and update as necessary) their local risk assessments:

to take account of significant changes in local circumstances, including those identified in a licensing authority's statement of licensing policy;
when there are significant changes at a licensee's premises that may affect their mitigation of local risks;
when applying for a variation of a premises licence; and
in any case, undertake a local risk assessment when applying for a new premises licence.

Ordinary code provision 10.1.2 **Sharing local risk assessments**

All non-remote casino, adult gaming centre, bingo, family entertainment centre, betting and remote betting intermediary (trading room only) licences, except non-remote general betting (limited) and betting intermediary licences

1. Licensees should share their risk assessment with licensing authorities when applying for a premises licence or applying for a variation to existing licensed premises, or otherwise on request.

These code provisions came into effect on 6th April 2016. As a result, all premises that provide facilities for gambling within Guildford must be assessed to identify the local risks posed by the provision of gambling facilities in their respective locations. This guidance will assist operators in complying with these code provisions.

2. Guildford Area Profile

Although gambling is a legal entertainment activity it can, in some locations have a negative impact on individuals and the wider community. The Council is keen to understand how gambling can affect its residents and visitors.

The Borough is the second highest populated district in Surrey with 139,700 residents in 2012. The major urban areas are located in the town centre of Guildford and Ash and surrounding areas on the western fringes of the borough.

Guildford Borough is also the second largest borough in the county, covering approximately 269 square kilometres (104 square miles) of which 89% is land designated as Green Belt. Outside the urban areas and villages, rural areas contain the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty covering 99 square kilometres, several sites of importance for nature protection and areas of special scientific interest. The borough also has a rich and varied architectural heritage, including 36 scheduled ancient monuments.

Guildford is mostly an affluent area with relatively low unemployment and low levels of crime. Most residents are healthy and enjoy well above average life expectancy. The workforce is generally well-educated and highly skilled. Guildford is home to the University of Surrey.

The town centre is a focus for major commercial and administrative functions and is a principal regional shopping destination, with a vibrant night time economy. In 2014 the town was awarded Purple Flag, recognising excellence in the management of the town centre at night. This prestigious award demonstrates the Council's and the other Purple Flag Partners' ambitions to develop and improve the night time economy, encouraging a broad outlook on how the town is presented at night and tackling all aspects from cleanliness to access and transport, street lighting to signage, entertainment variety and choice of styles in bars, clubs and restaurants. In order to retain this award, the Council, corporately, is keen to encourage a diverse entertainment economy, and recognises that the gambling sector contributes to this area.

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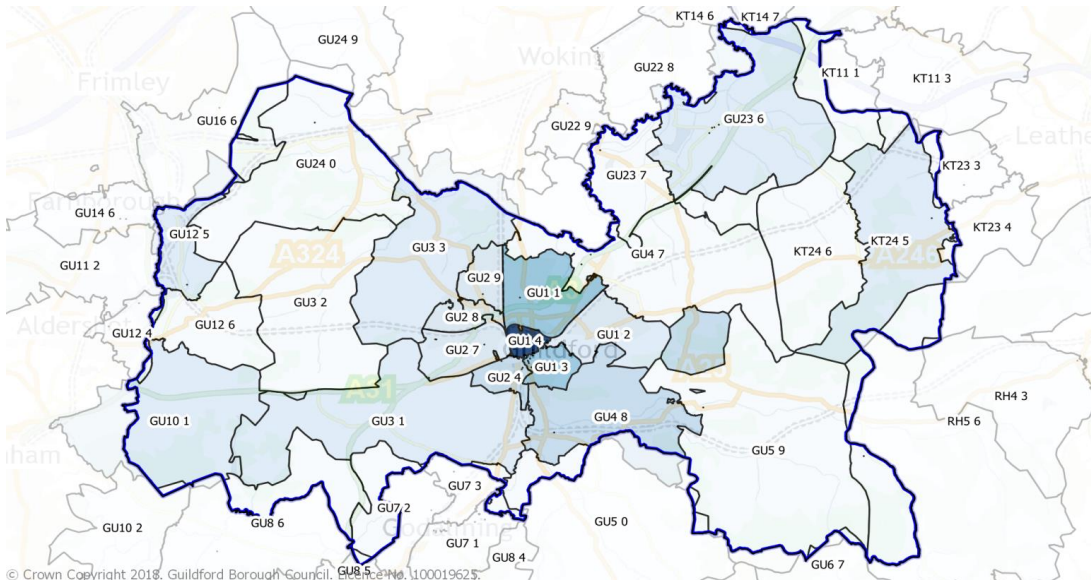
Guildford has the following currently licensed for Gambling. There are:

- 11 licensed betting premises, operated by national bookmakers
- 1 Family entertainment centre at Spectrum leisure centre
- Club Gaming permits at Members Clubs
- Club machine permits at Members Clubs
- Licensed premises gaming machine permits at alcohol licensed premises
- 44 Licensed premises gaming machine notifications at alcohol licensed premises
- 85 Small Society Lotteries

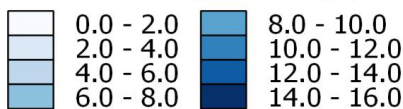
The majority of gaming premises are concentrated around the area of the town centre. Map 1 below shows the number and distribution of premises licensed for gambling per postcode sector of the Borough.

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MAP 1: Distribution of premises licensed for gambling per postcode sector



Number of gambling premises



[Despite the 2015 guidance from the Commission detailing the requirement for a local area profile, there is little guidance available about what should be contained within a local area profile. Westminster and Manchester Councils have been seen to lead the way in this area and commissioned research in 2015 to identify individuals in their local areas who were potentially vulnerable to gambling-related harm. The results of this research were published in two reports:](#)

- [Exploring area-based vulnerability to gambling-related harm: Who is vulnerable? Findings from a quick scoping review – 13th July 2015](#)
- [Exploring area-based vulnerability to gambling-related harm: Developing the gambling related harm risk index – 9th February 2016](#)

[Additional research by Leeds Beckett University \(July 2016\) into 'problem' gambling reports that national evidence shows that problem gambling can affect anyone at any time. 'Problem' gambling is defined as "gambling to a degree that compromises, disrupts or damages family, personal or recreational pursuits".](#)

[Even when defined this way, the term 'problem gambling', is in fact not without its difficulties and needs careful explanation. The licensing objectives for gambling premises, emerging from the 2005 Gambling Act, call for vulnerable people to be protected from harm from gambling, not to be protected from problem gambling. This is an important distinction. Some people may experience harm from their gambling that is short lived, or episodic, or correspondingly they may experience harm whilst not considered to be 'problem gamblers'. At the same time, some people who do not gamble or who do so responsibly and sustainably may experience harm because of the consequences of the gambling behaviour of others.](#)

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In short, the concept of *gambling related harm* is broader than that of *problem gambling*. There is an increasing expectation that policy makers (nationally and locally), industry regulators and operators in the industry consider this broader perspective and develop strategies to mitigate gambling related harm.

Rates of 'problem' gambling among all adults in Britain tends to be low although there are some groups who are more likely to experience problems. The research identified the following characteristics where there is evidence to support inclusion as being "at risk" from gambling related harm:

- Problem gamblers who are seeking treatment
- Substance abuse/misuse
- Poor mental health
- People with poorer intellectual functioning and learning disabilities
- Unemployment
- People from certain minority ethnic groups
- Younger people (including students)
- Adults living in constrained economic circumstances; particularly, those on very low incomes and benefits
- Homeless people and those living in areas of greater deprivation
- Offenders and ex-offenders, (including those on probation and some custodial circumstances)
- Immigrants
- People under the influence of alcohol

The groups listed above are also more likely to be vulnerable to debt and other problems, although little is known about why these groups are more vulnerable.

The 2018 Annual Report by the Gambling Commission into Gambling Participation and Perception found that overall, gambling participation has decreased since 2016 with 45% of people aged 16+ having participated in at least one form of gambling in the past four weeks in 2017 (48% in 2016). This is predominantly driven by participation in the National Lottery draws, as when people who have only gambled in the National Lottery draws are excluded, participation is at 31%. By contrast, online gambling participation has increased, with 18% of people have gambled online in the past four weeks (17% in 2016).

Overall perceptions and attitudes towards gambling are more negative than in 2016 with 33% of respondents thinking that gambling is fair and can be trusted and 41% thinking that gambling is associated with criminal activity. Theft and fraud are the crimes people associate the most with gambling. In addition, 80% of people think there are too many opportunities for gambling nowadays and 71% think that gambling is dangerous for family life, however 64% of respondents thought that people should have the right to gamble whenever they want.

Further information about the potential risk factors and exact data used are now discussed:

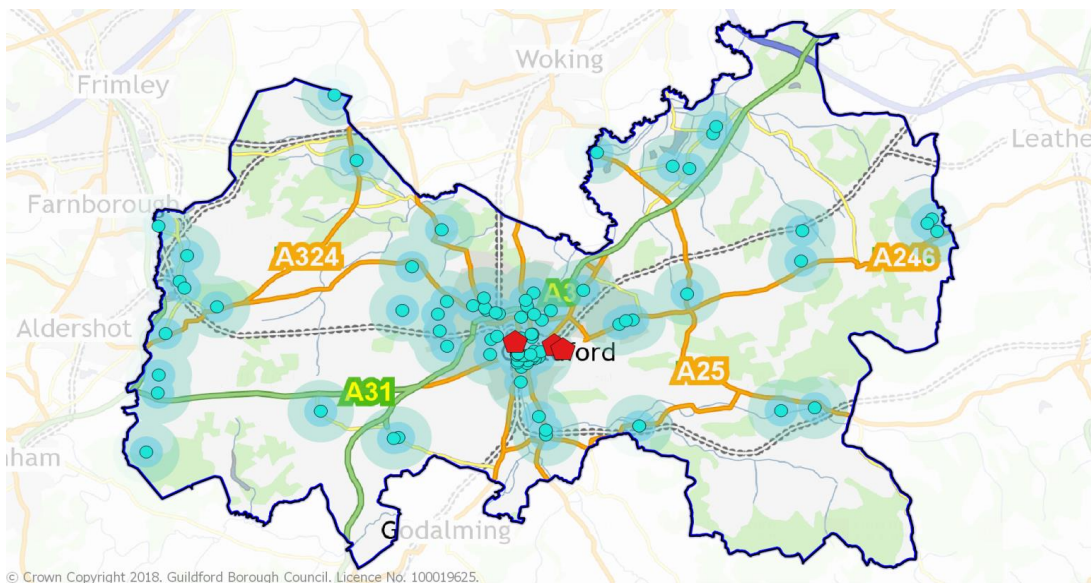
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[Risk factor: problem gamblers seeking treatment](#)






[Dataset used: Gamblers Anonymous meetings, and Gamcare counselling locations](#)

[These locations are derived from lists provided by Gamcare and the Gamblers Anonymous website. These locations show the places where people with gambling problems will be visiting and hence 'pull' this potentially vulnerable group to this location.](#)

MAP 2: Location of gambling premises and gambling treatment centres



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-  Gambling Treatment Locations
-  Gambling Premises
-  200m distance
-  500m distance
-  1km distance

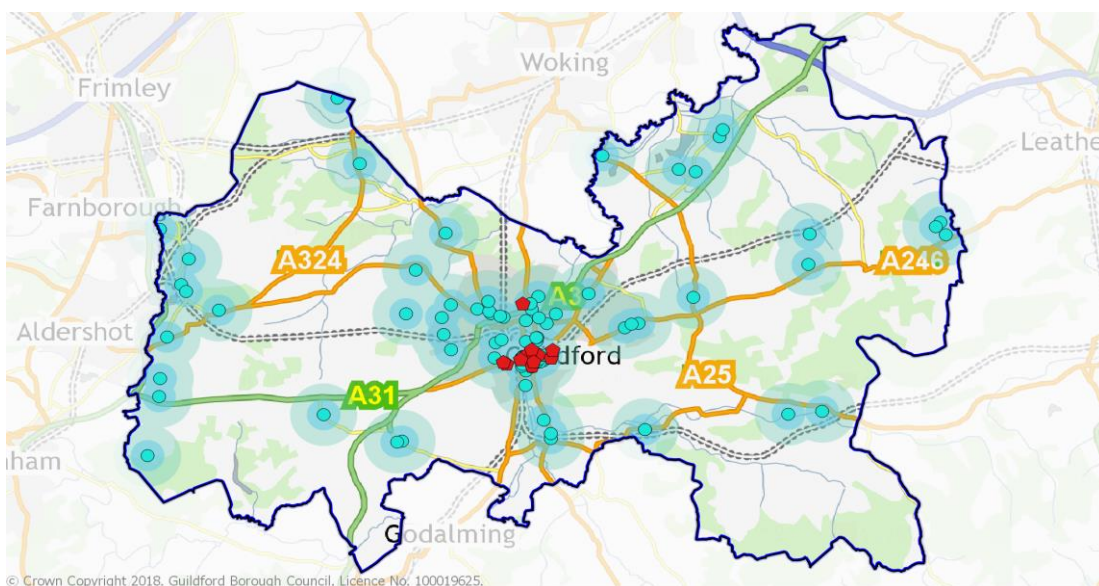
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Risk factor: people with substance abuse or misuse problems

Dataset used: Drug and alcohol treatment and recovery centres/clinics and clinics within GP surgeries, needle exchanges, accommodation for persons who require treatment for substance misuse

As with problem gambling treatment centres, these clinics are likely to act as 'pull' for potentially vulnerable people to these locations. This dataset is an amalgamation of LA internal lists supplemented by web searches for any possible missing data on government websites (public health departments, LAs, NHS, Care Quality Commission).

MAP 3: Location of gambling premises and substance misuse treatment centres



- ◆ Substance Misuse Treatment Centres
- Gambling Premises
- 200m distance
- 500m distance
- 1km distance

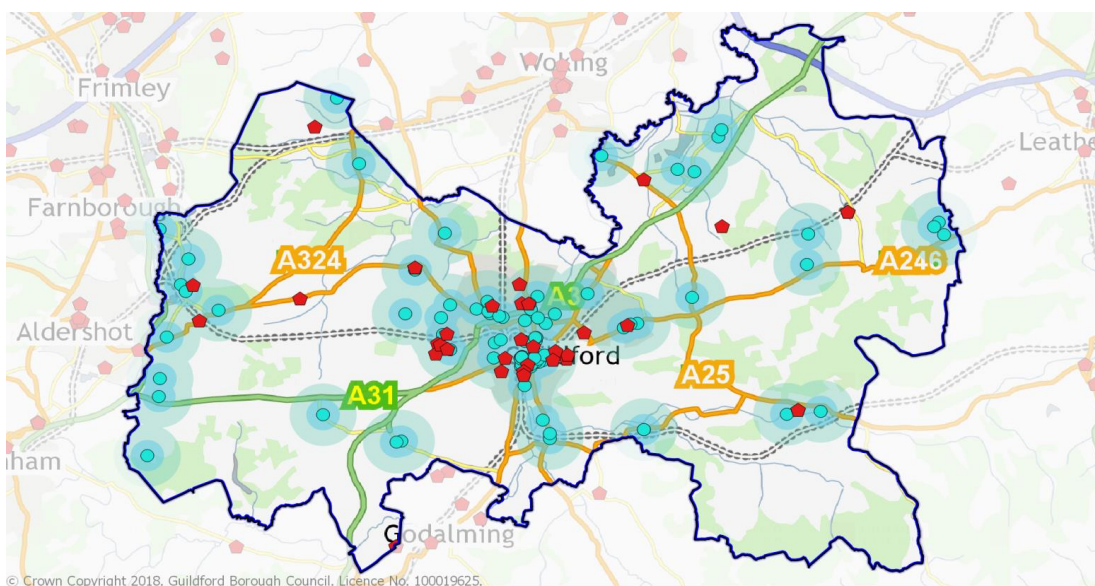
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Risk factor: people with poor mental health

Datasets used: *Mental health treatment and recovery centres/clinics and clinics within GP surgeries, accommodation for persons who require treatment.*

As with problem gambling treatment centres, these clinics are likely to act as 'pull' for potentially vulnerable people to these locations. This dataset is an amalgamation of LA internal lists supplemented by web searches for any possible missing data on government websites (public health departments, LAs, NHS, Care Quality Commission).

MAP 4: Location of gambling premises and medical centres



- Medical centres for mental health
- Gambling Premises
- 200m distance
- 500m distance
- 1km distance

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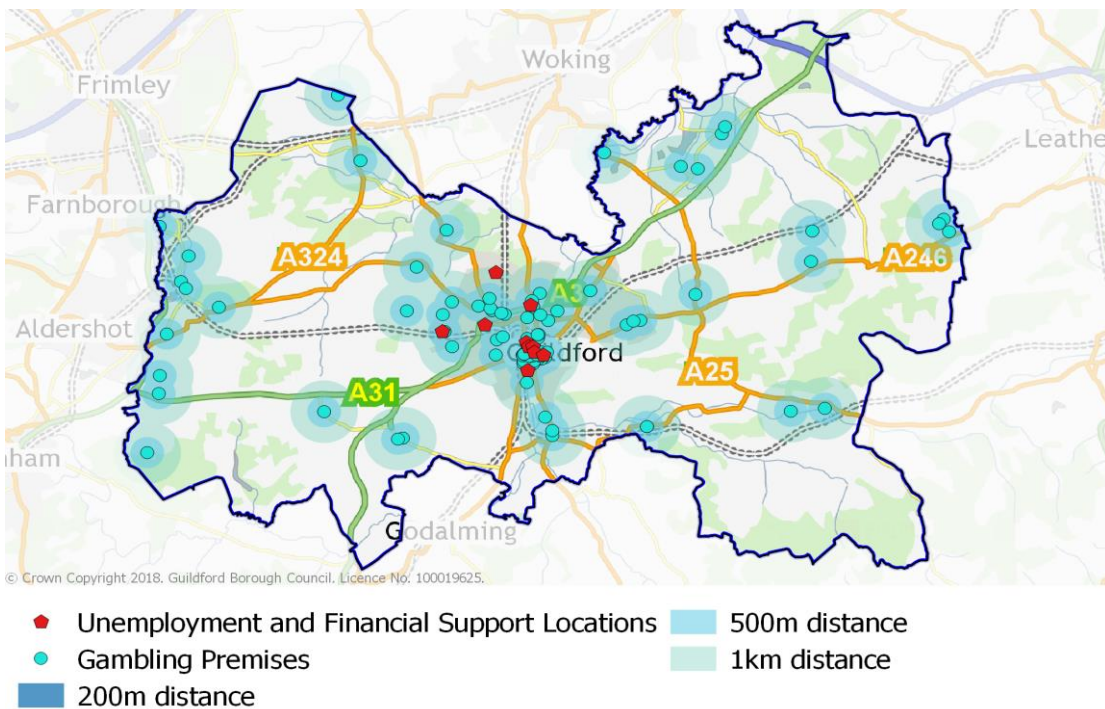
Risk factor: Unemployment and those with financial difficulties and/or debt

Datasets used: Location of job centres, CABs, payday loan shops, pawn brokers, CABs, food banks, soup kitchens etc.

Job centres and CABs will be accessed by members of the population who are likely to be unemployed and considered likely to have a combination of very low income and a large amount of personal disposable time. The Directgov website should provide a complete and current list of job centre locations.

These data represent locations where those with financial difficulties and debt problems are more likely to be present, visiting places where credit is accessed through less secured means, or places where people are so severely financially constrained they cannot afford to buy food. Although pay day loan shops may be accessed by many members of the population, these locations may serve to pull vulnerable populations with financial and debt problems into an area by providing them with access to unsecured and easy-access finance. These data are therefore derived from local web searches.

MAP 5: Location of gambling premises and unemployment and finance support centres



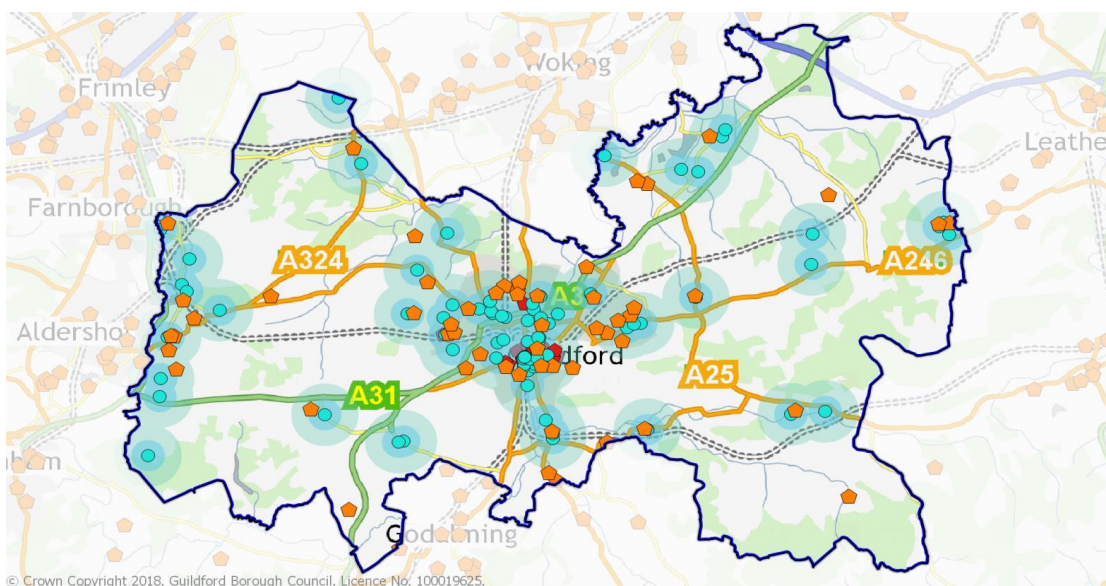
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Risk factor: Youth

Datasets used: Education institutions

These data list all known educational institutions and are derived from a complete and current government database. These locations have been included as they represent areas where younger people will be present in greater numbers at certain points of the day. Many educational institutions can have catchment areas much broader than their immediate locale and they reflect the daytime population. In the case of higher educational institutes, this will also reflect greater night-time populations too.

MAP 6: Location of gambling premises and educational institutions



- Orange pentagon: Educational Institutions
- Cyan circle: Gambling Premises
- Dark blue square: 200m distance
- Light blue square: 500m distance
- Light green square: 1km distance

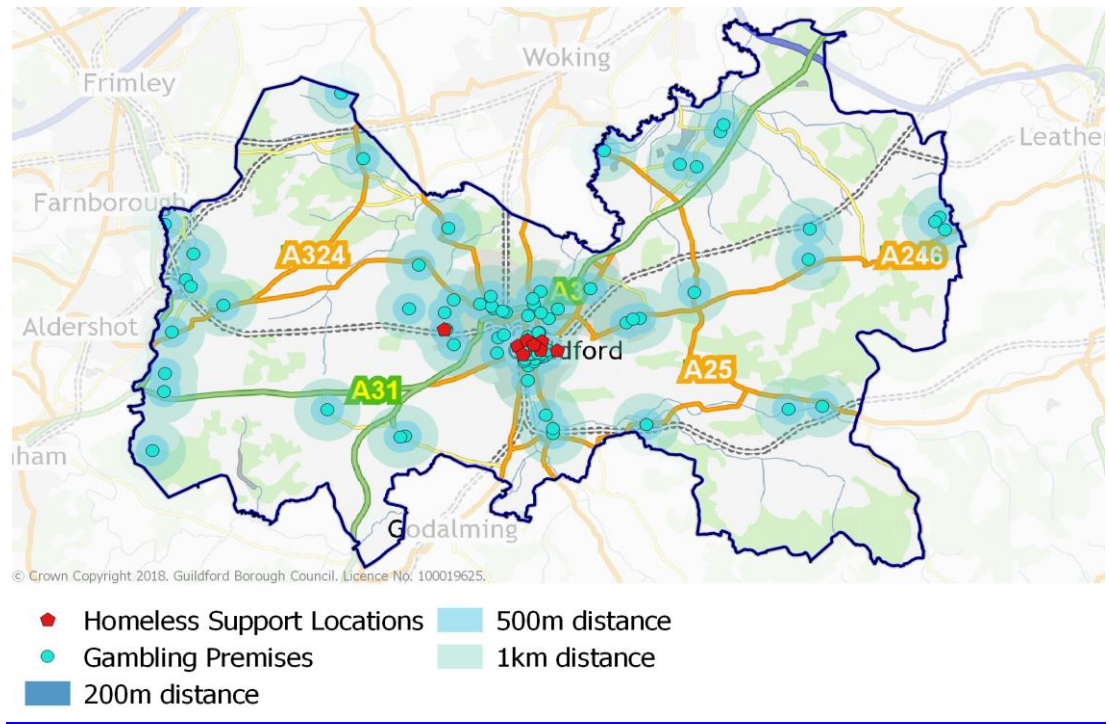
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Risk factor: Homelessness/housing instability

Dataset used: The location of homeless accommodation from Local Authority lists/Homeless UK

There are a variety of accommodation provision types for the homeless, ranging from emergency shelters to more mid to long-term support representing broader 'housing instability'. Data on the location of accommodation for homeless have been derived from online lists available at Homeless UK which give key locations. However, this database may not include sensitive locations not fit for publishing in the public domain (for example, women's refuges), as well as smaller accommodation provision.

MAP 7: Location of gambling premises and homeless support centres



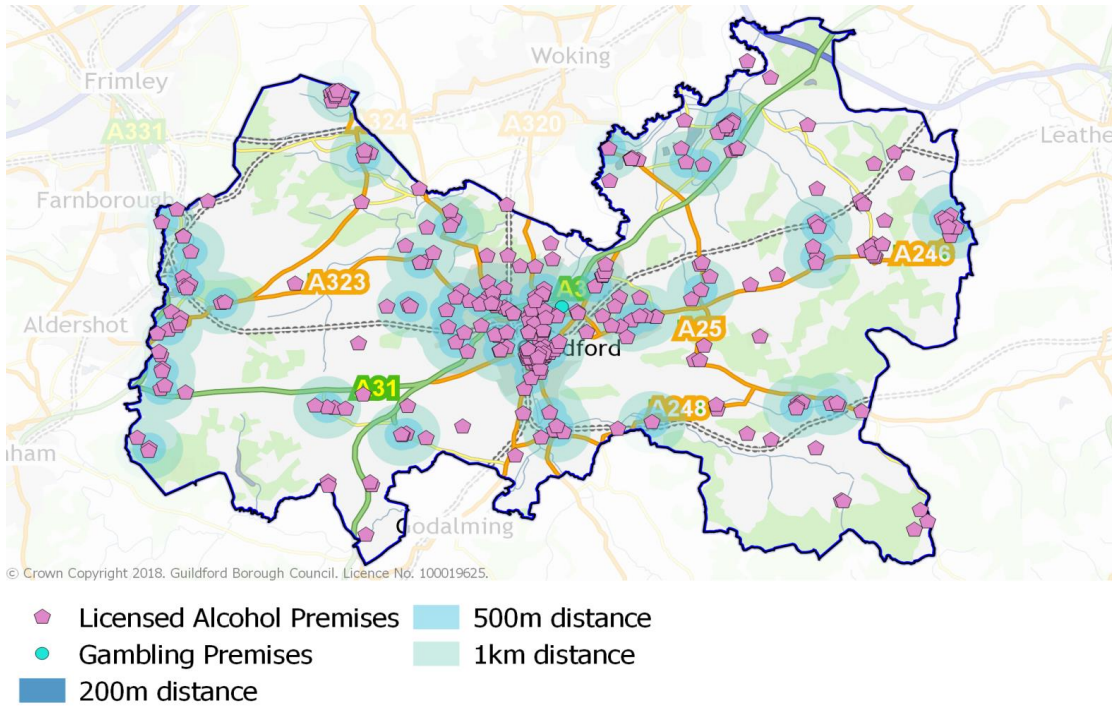
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Risk factor: Alcohol impairment

Dataset used: Location of premises licensed by Guildford Borough Council for the sale of alcohol

There is evidence to suggest that persons impaired by the influence of alcohol may be at risk of gambling related harm. The data used is from the Council's register of licensed premises.

MAP 8: Location of gambling premises and alcohol licensed premises



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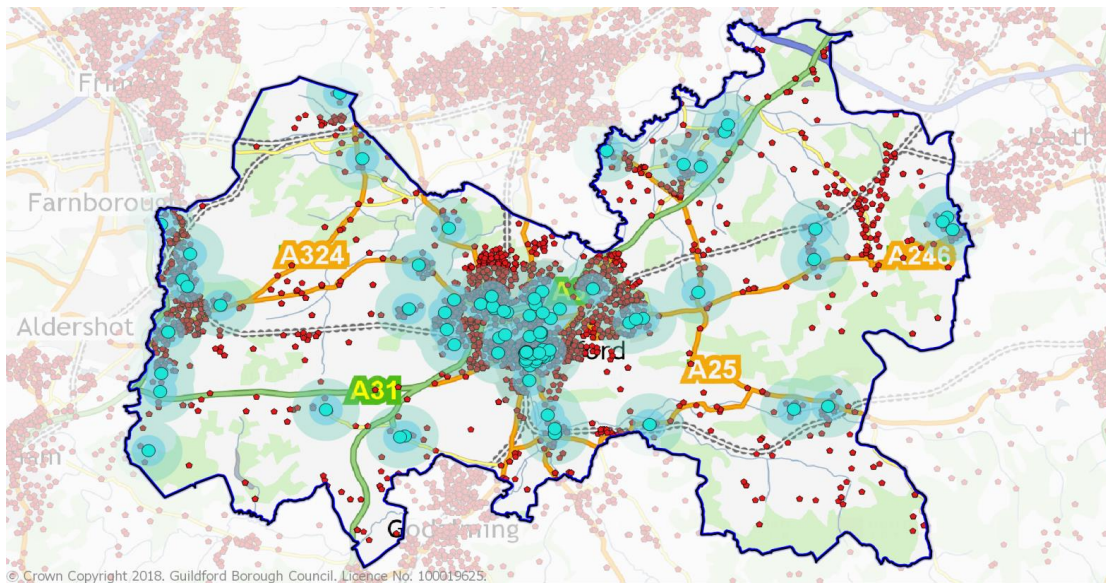
Risk factor: Crime

Dataset used: Surrey Police Crime Statistics

The gambling objectives also aim to prevent gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime.

In order to assist operators with their assessments, crime patterns associated with the Borough for the year 2017 have been included in the Guildford area profile.

MAP 9: Location of gambling premises and reported crimes in 2017

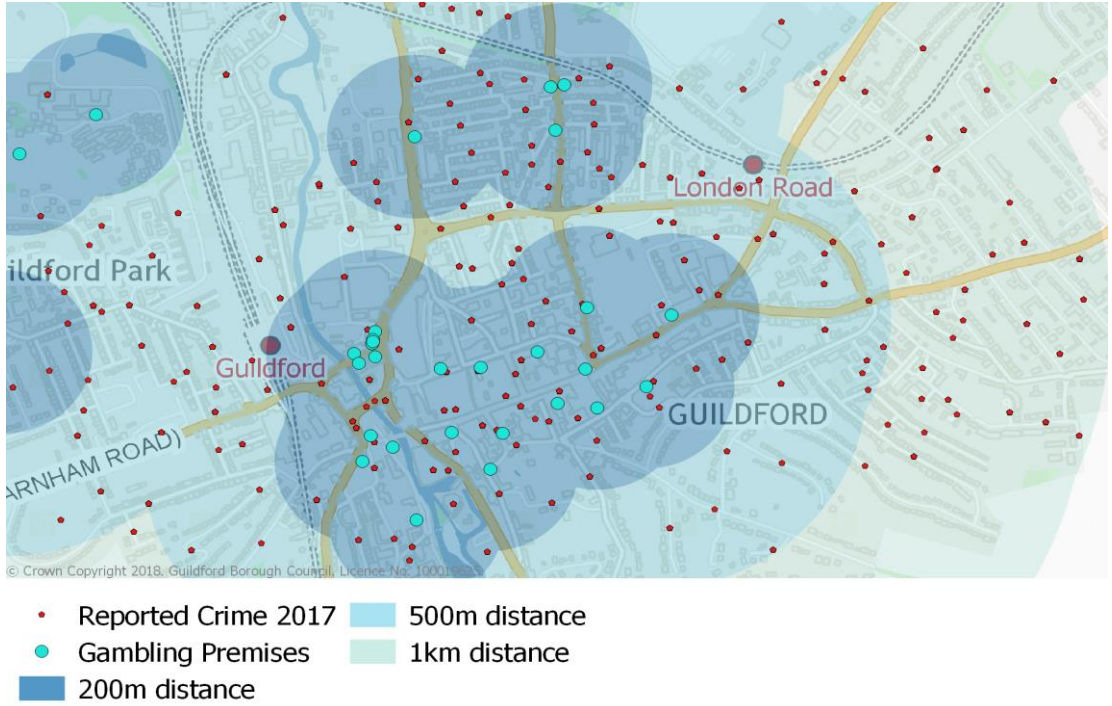


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- Reported Crime 2017
- Gambling Premises
- 200m distance
- 500m distance
- 1km distance

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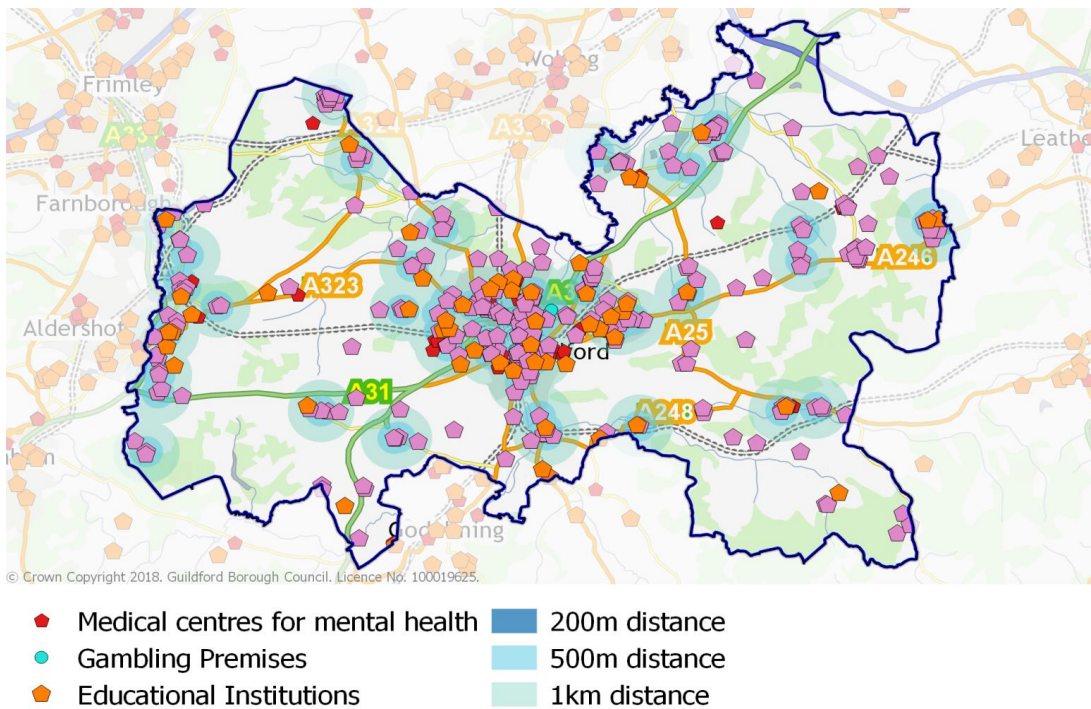
MAP 10: Location of gambling premises and reported crimes in 2017 focussed on the town centre



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[All risk factor comparison and Town Centre Focus](#)

[MAP 11: Location of gambling premises, alcohol licensed premises and other identified risk groups](#)



[Map 11, showing the location of gambling premises against all risk groups indicates a close proximity of gambling premises and likely locations of vulnerable groups, particularly around Guildford town centre. Map 12 shows a zoom of the town centre and compares gambling premises and likely vulnerable groups.](#)

[Whether such proximity is that significant a factor is open to argument given that gamblers like anyone else can move around easily. Additionally, the increase in online gambling means that a person can effectively gamble wherever they are on their mobile device. Nonetheless, the Council would expect operators, particularly those in the town centre, to have identified the close proximity to vulnerable groups and have sufficient controls included in their risk assessment.](#)

[There is also a close correlation between premises licensed for gambling and for the sale of alcohol, mainly due to a number of licensed premises and clubs providing facilities for gaming. The Council would therefore expect operators to have identified alcohol consumption as a risk factor and have sufficient controls included in their risk assessment.](#)

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MAP 12: Location of gambling premises support centres for vulnerable groups in the town centre



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3. Risk assessment triggers

The local risk assessment code provisions provide a number of triggers for when a new assessment is required and for when an existing one requires review. The Gambling Commission has not provided any further detail on these triggers and it will be ultimately down to gambling operators, the Commission and the Council to assess when these triggers have been met.

In order to assist gambling operators this section sets out the Licensing Authority's views on what these triggers may be and when operators should provide a copy of their assessments to the Licensing Authority.

3.1 New premises

If an operator intends to apply for a new premises licence under Part 8 of the Act then a local risk assessment must be carried out as required by the Commissions LCCP social responsibility code provision 10.1.1. That assessment should be based on how the premises are proposed to operate at the premises location and must take into account the local area. The completed assessment should be provided with the application for a new premises licence upon submission to the Licensing Authority.

3.2 Significant changes in local circumstances

Operators are required to review their local risk assessment if significant changes in local circumstances occur. Changes to local circumstances happen frequently and can be either temporary or permanent depending on the change, how long that change will remain in place and how it affects the local area. However, the requirement for review of the risk assessment is only applicable when that change is significant.

The review of the premises risk assessment may simply mean that after review no action is necessary as the measures and systems already in place will mitigate any risk associated with that significant change. In this case gambling operators may record that a review has taken place, why it had occurred and that no action was necessary. This would enable the gambling operator to maintain an appropriate audit trail so as to demonstrate that action had been taken.

However, on occasions the significant change in local circumstances may require a need to update and amend the existing risk assessment. In those cases gambling operators may wish to ensure that their assessments are updated adequately and that any relevant control measures are introduced correctly.

As the Gambling Commission has not set out what a significant change in local circumstances is it will be the gambling operator's responsibility to identify these changes and take the appropriate action in reviewing their risk assessments. The Council, in an attempt to assist gambling operators has produced the following lists of examples that may be considered to be significant changes in local circumstances:

- The local area is classified or declassified by the Licensing Authority as being an area of heightened risk within its Statement of Licensing Principles.
- Any new pay day loan or pawn brokers open in the local area
- Educational facilities increase in the local area. This may occur as a result of the construction of a new school/college or where a significant change is made to an existing establishment.
- The local area is identified as a crime hotspot by the police and/or Licensing Authority.
- Any vulnerable group is identified by the Licensing Authority or venues relating to those vulnerable groups are opened in proximity to gambling premises (e.g. additional homeless hostels or gambling or mental health care/support facilities are opened in the local area).

The list above is not an exhaustive list of examples of what could be considered as significant changes in local circumstances. The Council will provide information to gambling operators when it feels a significant change has occurred in the local area to enable them to take any necessary steps in

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reviewing their risk assessments. The Council may inform gambling operators when it feels that a significant change has occurred in the area. The Council may also include any specific concerns that it feels may be considered as part of any review of the local area risk assessment for that premises. The notification of any significant changes from the Council should be a prompt to gambling operators to consider carrying out a review of their local risk assessments and having regard to any specific concerns raised by the Council.

3.3 Significant changes to the premises

From time to time operators will undertake changes to the premises' layout and décor, which is unlikely to prompt a review of the risk assessment for that premises. However, where there is a significant change at the premises that may affect the mitigation of local risks, then an operator must review its risk assessment and if necessary update it, taking into account the change and how it may affect one or more of the licensing objectives.

It is expected that gambling operators will undertake this risk assessment process as a matter of course for any premises refit, changes to layout or internal control measures. If any changes do require a review of the risk assessments for that premises gambling operators should ensure that they have a system in place to record and action any measures identified in that review.

The gambling operator will be responsible for identifying when a significant change to the premises has occurred. In order to assist gambling operators the Council has provided the following list of examples of what could be classified as a significant change to the premises (some of which may also require a variation to the existing premises licence).

- Any building work or premises refit where gambling facilities are relocated within the premises.
- The premises licence is transferred to a new operator who will operate the premises with its own procedures and policies which are different to those of the previous licensee.
- Any change to the operator's internal policies which as a result requires additional or changes to existing control measures; and/or staff will require retraining on those policy changes.
- The entrance or entrances to the premises are changed, for example, the door materials are changed from metal with glazing to a full glass door or doors are reallocated from egress to ingress or vice versa.
- New gambling facilities are made available on the premises which were not provided previously, for example, bet in play, handheld gaming devices for customers, Self Service Betting Terminals, or a different category of gaming machine is provided.
- The premises operator makes an application for a licence at that premises to provide an activity under a different regulatory regime, for example, to permit the sale of alcohol or to provide sexual entertainment on the premises.

As with the examples of significant changes in local circumstances set out in paragraph 3.7, the list above is not an exhaustive list of significant changes to premises.

The Council will not, as general practice, request a copy of the reviewed risk assessment if a significant change to the licensed premises has occurred, unless the change is one that will necessitate a variation application.

3.4 Variation of the premises licence

Variations to premises licences are only those required to be made under section 187 of the Act and will not include changes of circumstances such as a change of premises' name or a change of licensee's address, etc.

The Commissions LCCP social responsibility code provision 10.1.1 requires that gambling operators must undertake a review of the local risk assessment and update it if necessary when preparing an

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application to vary the premises licence. Operators submitting a variation application to the Council may consider submitting a copy of the reviewed local risk assessment when submitting the application. This will then negate the need for the Council requesting to see a copy of this risk assessment and could potentially reduce the likelihood of a representation being made to the application.

If an operator wishes to vary a converted casino premises licence from one premises to another then the gambling operator should consider producing a new risk assessment for that premises. It is advisable that a copy of that assessment is submitted to the Council with the application form.

3.5 Regular review of risk assessment

As a matter of best practice the Council recommends that operators establish a regular review regime in respect of their local risk assessments. This review programme can be carried out alongside other reviews on Health and Safety risk assessments for the premises. This review programme would ensure that, regardless of whether or not any of the trigger events set out above have occurred, these risk assessments are considered at regular intervals and updated if necessary.

It will be up to the gambling operator as to the frequency of these reviews but it is recommended that no more than three years should pass before these assessments are reviewed. Operators may wish to synchronise their reviews of the local risk assessments with the publication of the Council's Statement of Licensing Principles for Gambling. This would enable gambling operators to consider the Local Area Profile, which has been published in the Council's Statement of Licensing Principles for Gambling.

4. Undertaking a local risk assessment

A local risk assessment of gambling premises should be carried out through a step-by-step approach. Gambling operators may first assess the local area and identify the relevant risk factors, then assess the gambling operation, and finally assess the premises design, both internal and external. Once the risk factors have been identified, the control measures to mitigate the risks should be considered. These control measures will either already be in place or will need to be implemented.

Who should undertake the assessment

It will be the responsibility of the gambling operator to assign the assessor for assessing the local risks for their premises. The person assigned as the assessor must be competent to undertake this role as failure properly to carry out this function could result in a breach of the provisions of the LCCP. The Gambling Commission has not produced any guidance on the competencies of assessors, however the Council would expect that the assessor must understand how the premises operate or will operate, its design, and where it is located. The assessor will need to understand the local area and can use staff or area managers to assist in gaining an understanding of that local area. The assessor should also be suitably experienced in assessing gambling related risk and identification of appropriate controls.

Step 1: The local area

Operators should start by identify the local risk factors surrounding the premises. The risk factors will differ from location to location so an understanding of the specific characteristics of the local area and the people who live, work or visit that area is important.

The Guildford Local Area Profile (section 2) will set out the demographic profile of areas of the Borough, and the specific concerns and risks that the Licensing Authority has identified in relation to gambling in those areas.

Step 2: Gambling operation and physical design

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In assessing the risk factors associated with a gambling operation the assessor should take into account the local risks which are commonly accepted by broader stakeholders and how that gambling operation may affect that risk.

The physical design of the premises is a key consideration as this could have a significant impact on the risk to the licensing objectives. In assessing the risk factors associated with the premises design and layout reference is needed to the local area risks factors already identified to ensure the design doesn't add to that risk. The design, both internal and external should be considered and specific risk factors identified and noted.

Step 3: Control measures

Once the risk factors have been identified, the assessor should seek to identify control measures that would mitigate the identified risks. Such control measures will relate to one of the three categories of control measures mentioned above (systems, design and physical). Some risk factors may require a combination of control measures to adequately mitigate the risk.

Step 4: Action Plan

Once the assessment has been carried out an action plan should be completed so that any identified actions are documented and a deadline for completing the required piece of work is set and agreed.

Completed assessment

The control measures must be implemented on the premises and, if applicable, staff on the premises should be trained in their use or trained on the new policy or procedure. The assessment must be retained and should be reviewed whenever a trigger occurs or as part of a regular review regime (see part 3 above).

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