

**Leicester City Council**  
**Scrutiny Review**

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**'THE IMPACT OF BETTING SHOPS ON  
LOCAL COMMUNITIES WITHIN LEICESTER'**

17<sup>th</sup> November 2015

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**To be completed by the Member proposing the review**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Title of the proposed scrutiny review</b>	The impact of betting shops and associated businesses on communities within Leicester
<b>2.</b>	<b>Proposed by</b>	Cllr Mohammed Dawood
<b>3.</b>	<b>Rationale</b> Why do you want to undertake this review?	<p>State what prompted the review e.g. media interest /public feedback / new legislation / performance information.</p> <p>The commission is aware of growing concern about the impact of betting (and associated alcohol) outlets on local communities in the city. The recent review of licensing policy within the city, and the work on toolkits which are being developed to measure and assess the impact of gambling and alcohol on communities, particularly vulnerable ones has also given reason to investigate the impact of these outlets in Leicester.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Purpose and aims of the review</b> What question(s) do you want to answer and what do you want to achieve? (Outcomes?)	<p>Defining clearly the key questions that the review is seeking to answer is critical to setting a clear scope and approach. E.g. it could be that the commission wants assurances that the service is delivering to a specific community or wants to assess the impact of a change in service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish the relationship between gambling and alcohol establishments and their location within communities, particularly vulnerable communities, within the city</li> <li>• To assess the impact of such establishments with communities across the city in terms of health, family stability, local economy and antisocial behaviour.</li> <li>• To prepare a framework which can assess the above impacts and allow members, officers and other agencies to make decisions and recommendations which protect and improve potentially vulnerable communities, homes and individuals</li> <li>• Make recommendations based on the conclusions drawn from the review to the Executive.</li> </ul>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Links with corporate aims / priorities</b> How does the review link to corporate aims and priorities?  <a href="http://citymayor.leicester.gov.uk/delivery-plan-2013-14/">http://citymayor.leicester.gov.uk/delivery-plan-2013-14/</a>	<p>A healthy and active city Providing care and support Our children and young people</p>

6.	<p><b>Scope</b> Set out what is included in the scope of the review and what is not. For example which services it does and does not cover.</p>	<p>It is hoped that the review will achieve the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify locations of venues which have gambling licences both within the city centre and communities away from the centre.</li> <li>• Identify locations of fixed odds betting terminals, both within premises licensed for gambling and other locations (for example premises licensed for alcohol)</li> <li>• Consult with local and city agencies about the impact of gambling on individuals and within communities.</li> <li>• The council's licensing policy for gambling is outside of the scope but the policy which is designed to protect vulnerable individuals will be assessed for its effectiveness and the way in which it is policed by licence-holders.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Develop a draft Project Plan to incorporate sections seven to twelve of this form</b></p>		
7.	<p><b>Methodology</b> Describe the methods you will use to undertake the review.</p> <p>How will you undertake the review, what evidence will need to be gathered from members, officers and key stakeholders, including partners and external organisations and experts?</p>	<p>A task group will be set up to take evidence from witnesses and oral and written evidence will be taken.</p> <p>Witnesses will include police, probation and council community safety officers to assess whether gambling and alcohol abuse may be related and reinforcing issues</p> <p>Evidence to assess the economic and social impact of gambling will be taken from housing estate management staff, where appropriate, internal debt management staff and external agencies such as Citizens' Advice. Church and other community organisations will also be asked to provide evidence.</p> <p>National specialist evidence relating the issue of gambling licensing and the impact of gambling on communities will be taken from: Specialist advisors (Heather Wardle of GeoFutures, who is working with Manchester and Westminster Councils) Waltham Forest Council (interested in the issue) and the Local Government Association</p>
	<p><b>Witnesses</b> Set out who you want to gather evidence from and how you will plan to do this</p>	<p>See the attached project plan and above.</p>
8.	<p><b>Timescales</b> How long is the review expected to take to complete?</p>	<p>Review is anticipated to be ready for the March 2016 Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission</p>
	<p>Proposed start date</p>	<p>November 2015</p>
	<p>Proposed completion date</p>	<p>February 2016</p>

9.	<p><b>Resources / staffing requirements</b></p> <p>Scrutiny reviews are facilitated by Scrutiny Officers and it is important to estimate the amount of their time, in weeks, that will be required in order to manage the review Project Plan effectively.</p>	<p>It is anticipated that the review can be incorporated within the existing resources of the Scrutiny Policy team. Around 15 days' of officer time is estimated to be required.</p>
	<p>Do you anticipate any further resources will be required e.g. site visits or independent technical advice? If so, please provide details.</p>	<p>Visits within the city may be undertaken as part of this review</p>
10.	<p><b>Review recommendations and findings</b></p> <p>To whom will the recommendations be addressed? E.g. Executive / External Partner?</p>	<p>Recommendations will be made to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The executive</li> <li>Council partners</li> <li>Licence holders</li> <li>The Local Government Association</li> </ul>
11.	<p><b>Likely publicity arising from the review</b> - Is this topic likely to be of high interest to the media? Please explain.</p>	<p>This topic is unlikely to have a high media profile. This could change depending on the nature of evidence arising during the course of the task group's work.</p>
12.	<p><b>Publicising the review and its findings and recommendations</b></p> <p>How will these be published / advertised?</p>	<p>To be included in the Project Plan</p>
13.	<p><b>How will this review add value to policy development or service improvement?</b></p>	<p>The review will explore the relationship between commercial activities and the health, welfare and community safety of residents in both the city centre and other communities.</p>
<p><b>To be completed by the Executive Lead</b></p>		

14.	<p><b>Executive Lead's Comments</b></p> <p>The Executive Lead is responsible for the portfolio so it is important to seek and understand their views and ensure they are engaged in the process so that Scrutiny's recommendations can be taken on board where appropriate.</p>	To come
<b>To be completed by the Divisional Lead Director</b>		
15.	<p><b>Divisional Comments</b></p> <p>Scrutiny's role is to influence others to take action and it is important that Scrutiny Commissions seek and understand the views of the Divisional Director.</p>	<p>The extent and effectiveness of gambling policy in Leicester is limited by the national legislative framework.</p> <p>However, we wish to assist the inquiry, including ensuring that any results can be used to good effect, within the legal constraints that we must operate under.</p>
16.	<p><b>Are there any potential risks to undertaking this scrutiny review?</b></p> <p>E.g. are there any similar reviews being undertaken, on-going work or changes in policy which would supersede the need for this review?</p>	
17.	<p><b>Are you able to assist with the proposed review? If not please explain why.</b></p> <p>In terms of agreement / supporting documentation / resource availability?</p>	We are able to assist with the proposed review.
	<b>Name</b>	John Leach
	<b>Role</b>	Divisional Director
	<b>Date</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> November 2015
<b>To be completed by the Scrutiny Support Manager</b>		
18.	<p><b>Will the proposed scrutiny review / timescales negatively impact on other work within the Scrutiny Team?</b> (Conflicts with other work commitments)</p>	The review will be supported by an SPO and will draw on support from other members of the team, therefore there won't be a negative impact on the work of the team.

<b>Do you have available staffing resources to facilitate this scrutiny review? If not, please provide details.</b>	Yes, the SPO should be able to adequately support this review.
<b>Name</b>	Kalvaran Sandhu
<b>Date</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> October 2015

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