

Minutes of the Meeting of the LICENSING AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Held: TUESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2015 at 5:30 pm

# <u>PRESENT:</u>

Councillor Cank (Vice-Chair in the Chair)

Councillor Dr Barton Councillor Sangster Councillor Fonseca Councillor Singh Johal

Councillor Westley

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### **19. CHAIR FOR THE MEETING**

In accordance with Rule 41a of Part 4A of the Council Procedure Rules Councillor Cank took the Chair in Councillor Thomas' absence.

## 20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Byrne, Hunter and Thomas.

## 21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they might have in the business on the agenda. No such declarations were received.

## 26. REVIEW OF THE GAMBLING ACT POLICY

The Director of Local Services and Enforcement submitted a report seeking the Committee's views on the Gambling Policy for 2016 – 2019 prior to its approval by Council.

It was noted that the new Gambling Policy for 2016-19 was required to be

published by 3 January 2016.

It was also suggested that the Policy should have a Foreword which would provide an opportunity to set out the Council's views on issues that would not normally be included in the policy, such as a vision, aspirations or a desired direction of travel for gambling premises in the City and the Council's views on Fixed Odds Betting Terminals. The foreword would need to contain a clear statement that it did not form part of the licensing policy in order to prevent it being used as the basis for a potential challenge to a decision which had been taken in accordance with the gambling policy. The Committee also supported the development and publication of a local area profile.

RESOLVED:

- That the Council be informed that the Committee supports the draft Statement of Gambling Policy and recommends it be adopted.
- 2) That the Committee supports the inclusion of a Foreword to set the vision, aspirations or a desired direction of travel for gambling premises in the City provided it contains a clear statement that it does not form part of the gambling policy to prevent it being used as the basis for a potential challenge.
- That the Foreword should contain a specific reference to the Council's views on stakes for Fixed Odds Betting Terminals.