

Feedback from the Gambling Act 2005 “Revised Statement of Licensing Principles for the Gambling Policy”

Local Authority: Sevenoaks District Council

Contact and name	Comment	Comment from Officers	Include in final version for full Council	Amendments made and date	Decision / accept changes Y/N
Mark Fittock	<p>1. I have not been made aware of any major problems with the implementation of the existing licensing policy therefore have no particular issues with the revised policy.</p> <p>2. Note that it is going to SDC full council on 21 September and by way of background it would be informative to know what committee process it has been through before the final ratification is agreed.</p> <p>3. I cannot find any mention of training for elected members who have certain deliberations to make as mentioned in page 24 Appendix4. Is this appropriate or necessary ?</p> <p>4. On page 5 you list the consulted in 2009. Will this section be updated to show the 2012</p>	<p>Full council on the 27th November 2012. Committee report will show background and inform all of the committee process.</p> <p>We are putting together a training schedule for members throughout the year. Existing members have already received training.</p> <p>This has been updated.</p>			

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	<p>consultees?</p> <p>5. Page 8 identifies interested parties but gives no explanation as to why residents and tenants associations should be excluded from this list. It would seem that such organisations could provide a very useful contribution when considering the councils stated objectives in protecting vulnerable children and adults. West Kent Housing have some very active tenants associations who have a great deal of local knowledge as do other local groups such as the New Ash Green residents group and other active local organisations. To consult with these groups would also follow the localism agenda for the District Council. Has consultation with local PACT's also been considered as much good work goes on in those groups in two way exchanges between SDC and community groups. It</p>	<p>Copies of the document for consultation were published on our website as well as being available in local libraries and at the Council Office reception and notice board. Community Development were also consulted. We will look to include West Kent Housing and other local organisations in future consultations.</p>		<p>Corrected 25/09/12</p>	

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	<p>is worth remembering that SDC is a very diverse District and it is beneficial to keep as many local groups on board as is possible.</p> <p>6. Page 17 (iii) Includes “this statement will be updated” without any further explanation of how or when this is likely to occur. This refers to the Gambling Commissions Guidance for Local Authorities. It is not clear if the SDC will need to revise the local plan once the new guidance is issued and if so when this is likely to happen.</p> <p>I hope you find the attached comments useful. Which are a individual first reactions to the policy.</p>	<p>This is dependent on what changes in the revised guidance. If a new consultation is required the same process will be followed as has taken place on this occasion. If it is a small amendment this will be unnecessary.</p>			
<p>Mr Loney Probus Club of Sevenoaks Sevenoaks Community Centre Otford Road Sevenoaks</p>	<p>The Club is a Members’ Club and holds a licence to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises at Sevenoaks</p>				

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Kent TN14 5DN	Community Centre. The Club does not at present have any gaming machines on the premises. It notes that there is a provision in the Gambling Act 2005 for the club to automatically have 2 gaming machines of categories C and/or D. It welcomes this provision and accepts the reasonableness of the four grounds which the Licensing Authority can use to remove the automatic authorisation in respect of any particular premises.				
Tony Hickmott	We don't have any form of gambling at the Fox and Hounds. I will not have while we are Landlords here.	N/A			
Cllr John Scholey	A typographic error, page 5 line 15 Appendix 5 NOT 4. Otherwise seems ok but I am not an expert.	Now corrected.		Corrected 20/09/12	
Cllr Avril Hunter	P 5 list of persons contacted should be appendix 5 not 4. P 12 grammar ii last paragraph 2configures” should be “configured”	Now corrected. Will correct.		Corrected 20/09/12	

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	A very good document.				
Westerham Town Council	Westerham Town Council seeks a more robust definition of those “living Close” to an application and who might be affected by it.	Under the Gambling Act 2005 an interested party is ‘For the purposes of this Part a person is an interested party in relation to a premises licence or in relation to an application for or in respect of a premises licence if, in the opinion of the licensing authority which issues the licence or to which the application is made, the person— (a) lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities, (b) has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities, or (c) represents			

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		<p>persons who satisfy paragraph (a) or (b). There is not a more robust definition than this. It is really just in the opinion of the licensing authority which issues the licence or to which the application is made.</p>			

Eynsford Parish Council, Edenbridge Town Council, Andrew Stronghill, Penshurst Place and Cllr Gary Williamson have sent either no comments or favourable comments regarding the contents of the Policy.