



Resident Impact Assessment

Gambling Policy

Service Area: Public Protection

1. What are the intended outcomes of this policy, function etc.?

Under the Gambling Act 2005, the Council is required to publish a gambling policy setting out how it will regulate gambling premises in the borough every three years.

The purpose of the Gambling Policy is to explain to businesses and residents how the Licensing Authority intends to regulate premises using for gambling and its approach to dealing with applications for new gambling premises licences.

2. Resident Profile

The Policy has a direct implication for businesses that wish to apply for a new gambling premises licence. The majority of premises providing licensable gambling activities in the UK are operated by one of the four large national companies. The service user profile is not relevant in this situation

The policy has an indirect implication for residents however it is not possible to predict the location of any potential new application for a gambling premises therefore the resident profile reflects the borough profile.

		Borough profile
		Total: 206,285
Gender	Female	51%
	Male	49%
Age	Under 16	32,825
	16-24	29,418
	25-44	87,177
	45-64	38,669
	65+	18,036
Disability	Disabled	16%

	Non-disabled	84%
Sexual orientatio	LGBT	No data
	Heterosexual/straig	No data
Race	BME	52%
	White	48%
Religion or belief	Christian	40%
	Muslim	10%
	Other	4.5%
	No religion	30%
	Religion not stated	17%

3. Equality impacts

Whilst gambling is a leisure activity enjoyed harmlessly by many, some individuals experience significant harm as a result of their gambling. Problem gambling is defined as gambling that disrupts or damages personal, family or recreational pursuits. About 9 people in every 1,000 experience problem gambling, however, a further 70 people out of every 1,000 gamble at risky levels that can become a problem in the future. Certain people are more vulnerable to gambling-related harm, including those with substance misuse problems, poor mental health, those living in deprived areas, and children and young people.

The risk of harm from gambling varies across Islington. The proposed 2019 -2022 Gambling Policy uses the Gambling Risk Index, which is a model developed by Geofuture, to map local data on evidence-based risk factors for problem gambling. The model includes the numbers of young people, those from minority ethnic groups, the unemployed, residents with certain mental health diagnoses, the location of substance misuse treatment centres, food banks, homelessness shelters, educational establishments and payday loan shops.

When making decisions about applications for new premises licence applications the Licensing Committee is able to take account the gambling risk index for the local area. This approach should enable the Licensing Committee to make decision that are consist with the objective of reducing inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage.

4. Safeguarding and Human Rights impacts

- a. There are no safeguarding risks for vulnerable adults and children arising from the policy on licensing premises used for gambling. Regulating gambling premises through licensing allows controls to be put in place of minimise safeguarding risks and for these controls to be monitored and enforced.

- b. There are no human rights breaches associated with the proposal. The Policy requires every application to be consider on its own merits and decisions are made at a public hearing of the Licensing Committee having considered all the information provided by the applicants and the views of anyone objecting to the new premises licence.

5. Action

No further action is required to identify the impacts identified in sections 3 & 4 above.


This Resident Impact Assessment has been completed in accordance with the guidance and using appropriate evidence.

Staff member completing this form:

Signed: 

Date: 08/11/2018

Head of Service or higher:

Signed: 

Date: 08/11/2018