

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This should be carried out during the development stage of a new project, strategy, policy or service or when you are reviewing an existing project, strategy, policy or service.

By understanding and meeting people's differing needs we can provide more effective services.

Name and brief description of project, strategy, policy or service being assessed

The Council has a statutory duty to prepare, publish and review its licensing Policy under the Gambling Act 2005 every three years. The Council is in the process of undertaking this review which will be completed in April 2013.

A key aim of the act is to promote the three licensing objectives, which are:

- * Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder, being associated with crime and 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.

The purpose of the policy is:

To inform licence applicants of the way in which the Licensing Authority will make licensing decisions and how licensed premises are likely to be permitted to operate.

To ensure all gambling applications are treated fairly and in a consistent manner.

To inform stakeholders such as residents and businesses of the way in which the Licensing Authority will make licensing decisions and how their needs and concerns will be dealt with.

Information used to analyse the impact on people affected by the project, strategy, policy or service

State who will be affected, the relevant information you are using to assess how it will affect them, note any relevant consultation, surveys, etc.,

Who will be affected by the policy?

- * A full list of stakeholders and consultees can be found at section 6 on page 7 and appendix 3 of the Gambling Licensing Policy statement.
- * Residents, businesses in the vicinity of licensed premises and their representatives eg residents groups, businesses groups and other interested parties.
- * Existing and future licensees
- * Responsible Authorities Essex Police, Essex County Fire & Rescue, Environmental Health, Ward Councillors, Trading Standards, Planning, Safeguarding Children, Customs and Excise, Gambling Commission
- * Licensing Authority – members of the Licensing Committee, Licensing Officers

Information used to assess how the policy will affect stakeholders:

- * The draft policy was prepared and sent to key stakeholders as part of a three month public consultation process. The policy has also been advertised on the Council's website. The information received from the consultation will be considered and, if appropriate, included in the final document. The draft policy received committee approval before consultation. It will be considered at the next Licensing Committee in March 2013 and then will be submitted for final approval at Full Council in April 2013.

Other information used:

- * Code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission
- * Code of practice issued by the Department of Culture Media & Sport
- * Braintree District Council's gambling policy statement
- * Any complaints received in connection with licensed premises.

Use the information above to assess the impact of your project, policy, strategy or service on people from the following protected groups: (these are defined by the Equality Act 2010)

Protected Group		Positive Impact/ Benefit	Negative Impact/ Disadvantage	Explanation – State how
Age	Children 0-16	√		Policy contains several references to the protection of minors
	Young People 17-25	√		Protection of minors has, in some sections of the policy, been extended to apply to protection of vulnerable adults
	Ages 26-59	√		
	Older People 60+	√		
Disability Include disabled people and/or carers	Blind/Partially Sighted	√		Any sectioning of a premise to prevent children entering an area will be considered alongside access requirements.
	Deaf/Hearing Impaired	√		
	Wheelchair user/mobility difficulties	√		
	Learning Difficulties	√		
	Mental Health Difficulties	√		
Gender	Men			Neutral impact
	Women			
	Transgender			
	Pregnancy & Maternity impact			
	Marriage & Civil Partnership			
Race	White			Neutral impact
	Asian			
	Black			
	Mixed Dual Heritage			

Religion/Belief	Buddhist	√		Any objections and concerns made by religious groups will be assessed on their merits in conjunction with criteria laid down by the gambling Act 2005 and statutory guidance on the interpretation of the legislation.
	Christian	√		
	Hindu	√		
	Jewish	√		
	Muslim	√		
	Sikh	√		
	Other – please specify	√		
Sexual Orientation	Lesbian Gay men Heterosexual Bi-sexual			Neutral impact
Other (optional)	Use to define Impact on any groups specific to this Strategy, Policy or Function not listed above.	N/A	N/A	N/A

If you identified any negative impacts above then either:

(a) Your proposal, policy or service is treating people from a protected group above less favourably because of their age, disability, gender, race, religion, or sexual orientation

or

(b) Your proposal, policy or service is intended to treat everyone equally but, unintentionally, people from a protected group above can be particularly disadvantaged or treated less favourably than other others

PLEASE TICK WHICHEVER APPLIES

If you ticked (a) this is direct discrimination, which is illegal and you cannot proceed N/A

If you ticked (b):

1. Can any negative impacts be minimized or removed? If so state what changes you will make.
2. If you cannot minimize or remove negative impacts they must be justified and you must state your justification

N/A

If you identified any positive impacts is there anything further you can do to increase or extend the positive benefits? If so state what changes you will make

The policy is designed to protect children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

The policy will be reviewed as and when significant changes occur to new guidance or legislation and/or every three years in line with statutory obligations.

The Council will continue to scrutinise all licensing applications that require a decision from the Councils Licensing Sub Committee.

Completed By: D Mellini

Service: Licensing

Approved By

Date :

Lee Crabb

14th March 2013



Each service should retain the signed copy of the Assessment.

An electronic copy should be sent to angve@braintree.gov.uk for publication on the Council's website – this is a requirement to ensure that we meet our statutory duties under the Equality Act 2010.