

REPORT OF GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE
(Meeting held on 13 November 2015)

1. GAMBLING ACT 2005 – REVIEW OF THE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES
(MINUTE NO. 29)

Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 requires Licensing Authorities to produce a three-year Statement of Principles (Gambling Policy). The current statement came into force on 31 January 2013 and is due to expire on 31 January 2016.

A draft revised policy was circulated to interested parties and views were invited. Two representations were received. These included some suggested changes relating to location restrictions, clarification on what might be regarded as disorder, and the distinction between controls on betting and gaming machines. The Committee has taken these into account and made changes to the draft, which are included in the policy recommended for approval. The Committee has, however, not made any changes to the draft policy to reflect expressed concerns regarding the imposition of conditions on betting premises in addition to mandatory and default conditions.

The Committee recommends the adoption of the policy.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Statement of Principles (Gambling Policy) for 2016 - 2019 attached as appendix 1, be adopted for implementation on 31 January 2016.

2. RELOCATION OF HYTHE MARKET AND TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF HYTHE MARKET TO HYTHE AND DIBDEN PARISH COUNCIL
(MINUTE NO. 26)

The Committee has considered a request from Hythe & Dibden Parish Council to relocate the weekly market from part of New Forest District Council's car park at St Johns Street to parts of the High Street, St Johns Street and The Marsh and to transfer management control of the market from the District Council to the Parish Council.

The Parish Council is of the view that relocating the market will increase trade for the market as well as the local shops. The Parish Council hopes to develop Hythe as a visitor destination and the relocation of the market is part of the long term vision to keep Hythe a vibrant and flourishing town. The Parish Council has undertaken consultations with residents and the relocation of the market has received public support.

The report before the Committee was the first formal stage in the process to relocate the market. A public notice relating to the proposed designation of parts of the streets concerned, 'consent streets' is being published, and further consultations undertaken. A further report will be brought to the next meeting of the Committee in January 2016.

Once the streets are designated as consent streets, the Council will have powers to issue consents to traders to trade in those streets. It is intended to delegate these powers to the Parish Council which would give the Parish Council responsibility for the operation of a market.

A further report will be made to the Council once the necessary statutory processes have been completed.

CLLR S J CLARKE
CHAIRMAN