



**NORTHAMPTON**  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Council**

**27 November 2006**

Item No.

Report of Francis Fernandes  
Solicitor to the Council

Directorate: **Governance, Resources  
& Citizens**

Author/Contact Officer:  
**Jim Inch 01604 837335**

**Gambling Act 2006**

**Licensing Policy Statement**

**Recommendation**

That the Statement of Licensing Policy attached to this report be approved for publication as the Council's Licensing Authority Policy Statement under Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 for the 3 year period commencing on 31 January 2006.

**Background**

The Gambling Act 2005 transfers to local authorities' responsibility for the licensing of premises used for gambling and also the granting of permits for gaming machines in various other premises. These aspects of the Act come into force in stages during 2007. One of the requirements of the Act is that local licensing authorities publish 3 yearly statements of their licensing policy. The first 3 year period commences on 31 January 2007; and authorities must publish their statements at least 4 weeks before they come into effect.

The draft Policy Statement was considered by Licensing Committee on 7 November 2006 and is referred to Council for formal approval. The report to Licensing Committee is also attached, and this contains information on the process by which

the statement was prepared.

It should be noted that although the policy statement is for 3 years it is the duty of the Council as licensing authority to review it from time to time, and if they think necessary to revise it.

Some discussion took place at Licensing Committee regarding the power of the Authority to pass a resolution to have no more casinos in their area. No recommendation is made in that regard at present, but it is a subject that could be reviewed in future.

### **Background Papers**

Draft Licensing Policy Statement

Report to Licensing Committee 7 November 2006

Gambling Act 2005

Regulations SI 2006/36

Order SI 2006/637

Gambling Commission Guidance