

All correspondence to be addressed to the Clerk

# Inverclyde Licensing Board

## ALL MEMBERS OF THE LICENSING BOARD

Direct Line: 01475 712109  
Fax: 01475 712181  
Enquiries To: Ms Denver  
E-mail: [fiona.denver@inverclyde.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.denver@inverclyde.gov.uk)  
Our Ref: FD/LIC  
Your Ref:  
Date: 22 January 2013

Dear Member

Please attend a meeting of the **INVERCLYDE LICENSING BOARD** to be held on **THURSDAY 31 JANUARY 2013** at **10.00 a.m.** within the **MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, GREENOCK.**

Yours faithfully

Depute Clerk

## AGENDA

1. **Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005: Application for Transfer of Premises Licence**  
A list of applications is enclosed.
2. **Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005: Premises Licence Annual Fee Payments 2012 - 2013**  
Report by Depute Clerk.
3. **Gambling Act 2005: Revised Statement of Principles**  
Report by Depute Clerk
4. **Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005: Review of Premises Licence**  
A list of premises is enclosed.

INVERCLYDE LICENSING BOARD

LICENSING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005

(1) APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF PREMISES LICENCE

<u>No</u>	<u>Name and Address of Applicant</u>	<u>Address of Premises</u>	<u>Current Licence Holder</u>	<u>Proposed Licence Holder</u>	<u>Decision</u>
1.	Charon Singh 131 Finnart Street Greenock	<b>15 Birkmyre Avenue</b> Port Glasgow (Off Sales)	Charon Singh 131 Finnart Street Greenock	Raman Kumar Flat 1/2 31 Nursery Street Glasgow	

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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Inverclyde Licensing Board</b>	<b>Date:</b> 31 January 2013
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Depute Clerk to the Board</b>	<b>Report No:</b> LA/959/13
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Fiona Denver</b>	<b>Contact No:</b> 01475 712109
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 Premises Licence Annual Fee Payments 2012 - 2013</b>	

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this Report is to provide Members with the current position as to arrears of 2012 – 2013 Premises Licence Annual Fee Payments which were due to be paid on or before 1 October 2012.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 It is a Mandatory Condition of the Premises Licence that an annual fee must be paid as per the Licensing (Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 2007. The amount payable is determined by the rateable value of the premises, in the case of Club Premises Category 1 applies.
- 2.2 The following table shows the total amount of outstanding fees at the time of preparing this report:-

<b>CATEGORY NO.</b>	<b>AMOUNT PAYABLE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PREMISES</b>	<b>TOTAL OUTSTANDING</b>
1	£180.00	8	£1,440.00
2	£220.00	22	£4,840.00
3	£280.00	13	£3,640.00
4	£500.00	3	£1,500.00
5	£700.00	0	£0.00
6	£900.00	0	£0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>46</b>	<b>£11,420.00</b>

- 2.3 Reminder letters have been issued advising if payment is not made a Review of the Premises Licence will be considered at the March sitting of the Board.

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Board note the current position.

Fiona Denver  
Licensing Paralegal

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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Inverclyde Licensing Board</b>	<b>Date:</b> 31 January 2013
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Depute Clerk to the Board</b>	<b>Report No:</b> LA/960/13
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>James Douglas</b>	<b>Contact No:</b> 01475 712034
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Gambling Act 2005 Revised Statement of Principles</b>	

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this Report is to request that the Board approves a revised Statement of Principles under Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 At its meeting of 17 December 2009, the Board approved a Statement of Principles for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013. The Board now requires to publish a revised Statement of Principles to cover the next three year period to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016. A draft Statement of Principles to cover this period forms Appendix 1 to this report. **Appendix 1**
- 2.2 The draft Statement of Principles contains a number of revisions which are contained in Appendix 1 to the draft Statement of Principles.
- 2.3 Appendix 2 to the draft Statement of Principles contains a list of consultees. The consultation period ended on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2012. There was one response to the consultation. The response by “Your Voice – Inverclyde Community Care Forum Network” forms Appendix 2 to this report. **Appendix 2**

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Board approves the attached draft Statement of Principles as its Statement of Principles for the three year period commencing 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013.

James Douglas  
Depute Clerk

**INVERCLYDE LICENSING BOARD**

**STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES**  
**2013 - 2016**

**GAMBLING ACT 2005**

**SECTION 349**

**INVERCLYDE LICENSING BOARD****GAMBLING ACT 2005****STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES****1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 requires licensing authorities to publish a Statement of Principles to be applied in exercising the authorities' functions under the Act. Inverclyde Licensing Board in fulfilment of its duty under Section 349 approved its first Statement of Principles on 11 January 2007.
- 1.2 The Act provides that a Statement of Principles shall apply for a period of three years and may be reviewed and revised during that period if appropriate. The Licensing Board's first statement of Principles applied for the three years' period commencing on 31 January 2007.
- 1.3 As required in terms of Section 349 the Board has consulted on and reviewed and revised the first Statement of Principles. The following is the Board's Statement of Principles which will apply for the three years' period commencing on 31 January 2013. Appendix 1 identifies the changes made from the original Statement of Principles.
- 1.4 Account has been taken of the Statutory Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission when preparing this Statement.
- 1.5 In exercising its functions under the Gambling Act 2005, Inverclyde Licensing Board will have regard to the Statutory Licensing Objectives set out in Section 1 of the Gambling Act 2005, namely:
- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime.
  - Ensuring that gambling is being conducted in a fair and open way.
  - Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.
- 1.6 In accordance with Section 153 of the Gambling Act 2005, Inverclyde Licensing Board, in making decisions concerning premises licences and temporary use notices, aims to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as we think it is:
- In accordance with any relevant Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission.
  - In accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission.
  - Reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives.
  - In accordance with this Statement of Principles.

- 1.7 This Statement is intended to be a general Statement of Principles and is not to be regarded as a comprehensive guide to the application of the Act by the Board. Applicants and others should always have regard to not only this Statement of Principles but also the Act, any regulations made under the Act and any Guidance or Codes of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission. Guidance and Codes of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission may be accessed on the Commission's web site. ([www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk](http://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk)).
- 1.8 The following is a summary of the matters dealt with in this Statement:
- The principles applied by the Board in designating in writing a Body which is competent to advise the authority about the protection of children from harm.
  - The principles to be applied by the Board in determining whether 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.
  - The principles to be applied by the Board in exercising its functions with respect to the inspection of premises and with regard to its powers under Section 346 of the Act to institute criminal proceedings in respect of the offences specified in that Section.
  - The principles to be applied by the Board with respect to the exchange of information between the Board and the Gambling Commission and the Board's functions under Section 350 of the Act with respect to the exchange of information between it and the other persons listed in Schedule 6 to the Act.
  - The factors which the Board may take into account when considering applications for premises licences, permits and other permissions and matters that it will consider relevant when determining whether to review a licence.
- 1.9 In producing this Statement of Principles, the Board has had regard to the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005, the Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission and any responses from those consulted on this Statement of Principles.
- 1.10 While the Board will have regard to this Statement of Principles in making any decisions under the Act, every application will be treated on its own merits.
- 1.11 It should be noted that the Act provides that expected demand for the facilities proposed to be provided in the premises for which a premises licence is sought is not a criterion of which the Board may take account when considering an application. Also, the Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission indicates that "moral objections to gambling are not a valid reason to reject applications for premises licences". This being the case, the Board will not have regard to demand or moral objections when exercising its functions under the Act.
- 1.12 The Board are committed to avoiding duplication with other legislation and regulatory regimes as far as possible and therefore legal requirements of other legislation (e.g. health and safety and fire precautions) have not been repeated in this Statement of Principles to Inverclyde. However, the Board requires to ensure that it adheres to Equality legislation and accordingly the scope of the Consultation has been widened to take account of the views of relevant bodies..

## **2.0 Inverclyde**

2.1 Inverclyde is one of Scotland's smaller local authority areas. It is situated to the west of Glasgow on the south bank of the estuary of the River Clyde and covers 61 square miles. Its population is largely concentrated in the towns of Greenock, Port Glasgow, Gourock, Kilmacolm, Quarriers Village, Inverkip and Wemyss Bay.

## **3.0 Consultation on the Statement of Principles.**

3.1 The Act requires the following parties to be consulted prior to publication of this Statement of Principles:

- The Chief Officer of Police.
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the Board's area.
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authorities functions under the Gambling Act 2005.

3.2 The parties consulted in relation to the Statement of Principles are listed in Appendix 2 to this Statement of Principles.

3.3 Prior to publishing this Statement of Principles the Board had regard to and gave appropriate weight to the views of those whom it had consulted. In determining what weight to give to particular representations, the following factors were taken into account:

- Who is making the representations (what is their expertise or interest)?
- What their motivation may be for their view.
- How many other people have expressed the same or similar views?
- How far the representations relate to matters which the Board should be including in its Statements of Principles.
- The Act, any regulations made under the Act and any relevant Guidance or Codes of Practice.

3.4 In considering the views of consultees, the Board considered whether those views should be taken into account and the extent to which the Board are able to deal with the issues raised. For example, the views may relate to a matter which is dealt with under other legislation such as planning.

## **4.0 Licensed Activities Covered**

4.1 This Statement of Principles covers the following licensing activities:

- Licensing premises for gambling activities.
- Considering notices given for the temporary or occasional use of premises for gambling.



- Granting permits for gaming and gaming machines in clubs and miner's welfare institutes.
- Regulating gaming and gaming machines in alcohol licensed premises.
- Granting permits to family entertainment centres for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines.
- Granting permits for prize gaming.
- Considering occasional use notices for betting at tracks.
- Registering small societies lotteries.

**5.0 Child Protection**

- 5.1 In terms of Section 157 of the Act the Board is required to designate in writing a body which is competent to advise the Board about the protection of children from harm.
- 5.2 The Board designates Inverclyde Child Protection Committee. This is an inter-agency body representing the statutory private and voluntary sectors with a wide knowledge and experience of child protection matters: it has the specialist knowledge and expertise to advise the Board about the protection of children from harm.

**6.0 Responsible Authorities**

- 6.1 Responsible authorities are public bodies that must be notified of applications and which are entitled to make representations to the Board in relation to premises licences and applications for premises licences.
- 6.2 The responsible authorities in the Board's area are:
- The Board.
  - The Gambling Commission.
  - The Chief Constable, Strathclyde Police.
  - The Chief Fire Officer, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service.
  - Head of Planning Services, Inverclyde Council.
  - Head of Environmental and Consumer Services, Inverclyde Council.
  - Inverclyde Child Protection Committee.
  - HM Revenue and Customs
  - Any other person prescribed in regulations by the Secretary of State or Scottish Ministers.

**7.0 Interested Parties**

7.1 Interested parties can make representations about licence applications or apply for a review of an existing licence. A person is an interested party if that person, in the opinion of the Board:

- Lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities.
- Has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities.
- Represents persons in either of these two groups.

7.2 In determining whether a person is an interested party, the Board will judge each case on its own merits.

7.3 In determining whether a person is a “person living close to the premises”, the Board may take account of the following factors:

- The size of the premises.
- The nature of the premises.
- The distance of the premises from the location of the party making the representation.
- The potential impact of the premises.
- The circumstances of the party e.g. is the party a private individual or a school or a church?

7.4 In determining whether a party is a person with business interests that could be affected, factors that may be taken into account include:

- The size of the premises, the location of the premises.
- The proximity of the premises to any premises of the party making representations.

7.5 In deciding whether a person represents a party in either of the above categories, the Board will make decisions on a case by case basis; in appropriate cases, the Board may require written evidence such as a letter confirming that the person does indeed represent the party.

**8.0 Compliance and Enforcement**

8.1 The Board has powers in terms of Part 15 of the Act to inspect premises, to monitor compliance with the provisions of the Act and with licence conditions and to investigate suspected offences.

8.2 The Board will seek to ensure that its approach to compliance and enforcement is:

- Proportionate: regulators should only intervene when necessary; remedies should be proportionate to the risk posed, and costs identified and minimised;
- Accountable: regulators must be able to justify decision and be subject to public scrutiny;
- Consistent: rules and standards will be applied fairly and equally to all parties;
- Transparent: regulators should be open and keep regulations simple and user friendly; and
- Targeted: regulation should be focused on the problem and minimise side effects.

8.3 The Board will seek to ensure that any inspection programme is risk based.

8.4 The Authority recognises that certain bookmakers have a number of premises within its area. In order to ensure that any compliance issues are recognised and resolved at the earliest stage, operators are requested to provide the authority with a single named point of contact and contact details, who should be a senior individual, and whom the authority will contact first should any compliance queries or issues arise.

8.5 The Board, to monitor compliance with its functions under the Act, shall authorise the Licensing Standards Officers to carry out a programme of inspections and to work actively with the Gambling Commission's Compliance Officer and other partner agencies to enforce the licensing legislation. The Responsible Authorities shall also monitor the Inverclyde Area for any unlicensed premises or gambling activity and ensure, where this is identified, it is reported to the Gambling Commission or other appropriate agency.

## **9.0 Exchange of Information**

9.1 In exercising its functions under the Act, the Board will exchange relevant information with other regulatory bodies. The Board at all times will act in accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act, Data Protection and Freedom of Information Legislation and any Guidance or Codes of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission.

## **10.0 General Principles**

The Board will apply the following general principles in considering applications for premises licences, permits and other permissions and generally in exercising its duties under the Gambling Act 2005:

- As indicated in paragraph 1.9, the Board will not have regard to expected demand or moral objections when exercising its functions under the Act.
- The Licensing Authority will seek to avoid any duplication with other statutory or regulatory systems such as the statutory planning regime.
- The Board recognises the importance of protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling and the

Board will pay particular attention to any issues which it considers may be relevant to such protection.

- The Board will have regard in every case to the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 and any regulations made under the Act and any Codes of Practice or Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission.
- The Board will have regard to this Statement of Principles in carrying out its functions under the Act but will always consider every case on its own merits.

10.2 The following paragraphs provide a statement of the principles which will be applied by the Board in specific cases.

#### **11.0 Premises Licences**

11.1 Premises licences will always be subject to the restrictions set out in the Act and regulations as well as to any mandatory conditions specified in regulations made under the Gambling Act 2005.

11.2 Premises licences will be subject to any default conditions specified in regulations made under the Gambling Act 2005, except in those cases where the Board considers it appropriate to exclude a default condition.

11.3 In cases where it considers it appropriate to do so, the Board will apply additional conditions to a premises licence to address specific issues relating to a particular premises.

11.4 In making decisions about premises licences, the Board will aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as the Board thinks it is:

- In accordance with any relevant Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission.
- In accordance with any relevant Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission.
- Reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives.
- In accordance with the Statement of Principles.

11.5 The Act defines premises as being “any place”. A single premises can not have more than one premises licence. However, it is possible that a single building could have more than one premises licence, provided that the licences apply to different parts of the building and it is reasonable to regard those different parts of the building as being separate premises. It is a question of fact and circumstances as to whether different parts of a building can properly be regarded as separate premises and the Board will consider each case on its own merits. However, Guidance from the Gambling Commission states that “the Commission does not consider that areas of a building that are artificially or temporarily separated can properly be regarded as different premises”. Therefore, the Board will expect there to be a sufficient degree of separation between different parts of a building before being satisfied that these different parts constitute separate premises.

- 11.6 In accordance with the Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, the Board will pay particular attention to premises which are accessed through other premises, whether licensed or unlicensed. The Board will look particularly at the compatibility of the two premises, particularly having regard to the persons who may resort to each of the premises. The Board will look at such things as the entrances and exits to different parts of the building and the segregation of gambling from non gambling areas.
- 11.7 Paragraph 1.3 of this Statement of Principles specified the statutory licensing objectives to which the Board would have regard in exercising its functions under the Gambling Act 2005. Detailed below are the principles which the Board will apply in relation to each of the licensing objectives.
- 11.8 The first licensing objective is “preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime”. The Gambling Commission will take the leading role in relation to this objective and the Board will have regard to any Guidance or Advice issued by the Gambling Commission.
- 11.9 The Board will consider whether there is any likelihood of violence or of public order or policing problems if a licence were to be granted. The Board will look at the location of the premises and whether there is any history of violence or disorder or any connection with crime.
- 11.10 The Board will take into account the following:
- The design and layout of the premises.
  - Any physically security features within the premises, such as CCTV and any systems for controlling entry to the premises (e.g. door stewards).
  - Any training given to staff relating to prevention of crime or disorder.
  - The likelihood of any violence, public order or policing problems of the licence granted.
- 11.11 There is no evidence that the operation of betting offices has required CCTV or door supervisors for the protection of the public. The authority will only impose the requirement for any of the above in circumstances where there is clear evidence, from the history of trading at specific premises, that such premises cannot be adequately supervised from the counter and that any one of more of such requirements are both necessary and proportionate.
- 11.12 The second licensing objective is “ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way”. The Gambling Commission has primary responsibility for ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way. This is really a matter relevant to operating and personal licences and therefore the Board do not state any principles in regard to this objective.
- 11.13 The third licensing objective is “protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling”;
- 11.14 The general intention of the Gambling Act 2005 is that children and young persons should not be permitted to gamble and that they should be protected from harm or

exploitation by gambling. This means both preventing them taking part in gambling and also restricting advertising so that gambling products are not aimed at children or advertised in a way that makes them particularly attractive to children.

- 11.15 The Board will consider whether specific measures will be needed to protect children in relation to particular premises. The Board will look at measures such as supervision of entrances and segregation between gambling and non gambling areas.
- 11.16 The Act does not define “vulnerable persons” but the Guidance from the Gambling Commission suggests that this group will include people who gamble more than they want to or gamble beyond their means and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.
- 11.17 The Board will consider in relation to particular premises whether any special circumstances apply which are relevant to the protection of vulnerable persons.
- 11.18 In appropriate cases the Board will apply conditions to any premises licence. Any such conditions will be:
- Proportionate.
  - Relevant to the need to make the proposed building suitable as a gambling facility.
  - Directly related to the premises and the type of licence applied for.
  - Fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises.
  - Reasonable in all other respects.

## **12.0 Temporary Use Notices and Occasional Use Notices**

The general principles specified in this Statement of Principles and the specific principles relating to premises licences will be applied by the Board in relation to temporary use notices and occasional use notices. However, the Board will bear in mind the temporary/occasional nature of the use when making decisions with regard to these.

## **13.0 Reviews**

- 13.1 A premises licence may be reviewed by the Board either of its own volition or following receipt of an application for review from a responsible authority or an interested party.
- 13.2 In carrying out reviews, the Board will act:
- Expeditiously.
  - Fairly.
  - In accordance with the Gambling Act 2005 and any regulations issued under the Act.

- In accordance with any Guidance or Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission.

**14.0 Gaming Centre and Gaming Machine Permits**

14.1 The Board can grant or refuse a permit but can not attach conditions to a permit.

14.1 The Board will expect applicants to demonstrate:

- A full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible.
- That the applicant has no relevant convictions (as set out in Schedule 7 of the Gambling Act 2005).
- That staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes.
- That the applicant has in place suitable policies and procedures for the protection of children and vulnerable persons.

**15.0 Provisional Statements**

15.1 Section 204 of the Act provides that a person may make an application to the licensing authority for a Provisional Statement in respect of premises that he or she expects to be constructed, expects to be altered or expects to acquire a right to occupy.

15.2 The Gambling Commission's Guidance states that "it is a question of fact and degree whether the premises are finished to a degree that they can be considered for a premises licence" and that "requiring the building to be complete ensures that the authority could, if necessary, inspect it fully".

15.3 In terms of representations about premises licence applications following the grant of a provisional statement, no further representations from relevant authorities or interested parties will be taken into account unless they concern matters which could not have been addressed at the provisional statement stage, or they reflect a change in the applicant's circumstances.

15.4 The Board may refuse the premises licence or grant it on terms different to those attached to the provisional statement only by reference to matters:-

- which could not have been raised at the provisional licence stage; or
- which, in the Board's opinion, reflects a change in the operator's circumstances.

15.5 The Gambling Commission's Guidance states that licensing authorities must not have regard to whether or not a proposal by an applicant is likely to be permitted in accordance with planning or building law.

**APPENDIX 1**

Changes from original Statement of Principles:

1. Section 1.0 has been amended in light of this being a revised Statement of Principles.
2. In section 1.12 the Board's need to consult with relevant bodies to comply with Equality legislation has been referred to.



**APPENDIX 2**

**LIST OF CONSULTEES**

1. All members of Inverclyde Licensing Board.
2. The Gambling Commission, Victoria Square House, Victoria Square, Birmingham.
3. All premises licence holders in Inverclyde.
4. The Chief Constable, Strathclyde Police, 173 Pitt Street, Glasgow G2 4JS
5. The Chief Fire Officer, Strathclyde Fire & Rescue, 5 Thornhill, Johnstone PA5 8JH
6. HM Revenue & Customs, National Registration Unit, Portcullis House, 21 India Street, Glasgow G2 4PZ
7. Church of Scotland, 121 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4YN
8. Diocese of Paisley, Diocese Office, Incle Street, Paisley PA1 1HR
9. Inverclyde Council on Disability, 10 Clyde Square, Greenock PA15 1NB
10. Elderly Persons Forum, Your Voice, 12 Clyde Square, Greenock PA15 1NB
11. Inverclyde Licensing Forum, c/o Andrina Hunter, Kirn house, Ravenscraig hospital, Greenock PA16 9HA

**Who is being consulted?**

Members of Your Voice – Inverclyde Community Care Forum Network  
Community Interest Groups

- The Debaters Peer Support Group- 11 Males, 4 Females
- Positive Health for Young and Old Group – 4Males, 6 Females

**What their motivation may be for their view?**

Concerned about the negative effect of gambling on Inverclyde People / Community

**How many people expressed the same or similar views?**

There was no conflicting debates regarding the responses, members had a general agreement on responses

**1. Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime**

- Access to mobile apps / online gambling that make gambling easier – more so for young people - how can companies be sure that the person gambling is over eighteen - not sure if this type of gambling is open and fair
- Mobile phones allow young people to gamble illegally
- Mobile apps / online gambling – Individuals who have no regular income may resort to theft to fund their habit using other peoples cards/id to do this (theft), parents have had to pay debt incurred by their children
- Stealing from house to fund gambling habits
- Loan sharks and money laundering
- Advertising makes it more appealing, companies often offer “free” games to encourage people to take part in online gaming
- Arcades should be visited by mystery shoppers to ensure that they are following the proper guidelines.

**2. Ensuring that gambling is being conducted in a fair and open way**

- Access to mobile apps / online gambling that make gambling easier – more so for young people - not sure if this type of gambling is open and fair – this allows young people to gamble (secretive gambling)
- Young people accessing gambling online – no age checks?
- Unlicensed underground gambling/ Dogs/Fighting/Poker

**3. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons being harmed or exploited by gambling (harm to children, individuals, families and communities due to problem gambling)**

- Increase in gambling / betting establishments in Inverclyde (disproportionate number per population) – often next door to / across street from one another
- Exploitation of young people / underage gambling– online gambling and mobile apps, too easy for young people to access these without their parents knowing
- Parents with gambling problems spending their money on gambling and thus neglecting children, paying bills etc – kids standing outside gambling establishments whilst parents are inside
- Exploitation of people with mental health problems – see each morning when going to work, waiting outside gambling establishments waiting for them to open
- Social aspect, Teas, Coffees – encourages people to stay longer in bookies
- Bingo halls – Women (and men) spending hours (on a daily basis) in bingo halls and no one addressing their problem
- Increase in women gambling - boredom, economy, deprivation (win way out of troubles)
- Exploiting children in amusements, gambling games aimed at young people i.e. 2p slot machines, grabber machine to win a toy.
- Parents who gamble money that should be used for children, food, rent, heating etc

***‘Everyone is exploited by gambling establishments’***

**Licensing Premises for Gambling Activities – What should the criteria be?**

- Controlling the distance between Gambling Premises – there are too many and they are often too close together in Inverclyde
- Stricter Age Restrictions – Up the limit to 21, 25 years
- Limit on peoples spend or time spent on any given day
- Advertising help in Gambling establishments for gambling addiction
- Opening arcade’s in the Greenock shopping mall not a good idea as the noise and bright lights attract attention of young children
- Inverclyde already has enough gambling establishments bingo and bookmakers everywhere, and machines in pubs
- With the level of high unemployment in the area, gambling establishment’s only encourage already vulnerable people who are struggling financially to spend money they don’t have

**Considering notices given for the temporary or occasional use of premises for gambling – what should they looked at?**

- Temporary or occasional use of premises for gambling is ok, as long as it continues to be monitored

**Granting permits for gaming and gaming machines in clubs etc**

- There should be a limit on the number of machines in establishments
- Should not have these machines in clubs, pubs, social clubs
- Should not have machines in places that children access

**Regulating gaming and gaming machines in alcohol licensed premises**

- Time limits should be introduced (limit amount of time people spend on them)
- Limit number of machines to one per premise

**Granting permits to family entertainment centres for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines**

- There should be no gambling in children's areas e.g. no puggy machines, no cuddly toy grabber machines, no lower stake games etc

**Granting permits for prize gaming**

- No answers given

**How can we regulate gambling?**

By making, Bingo Hall proprietors, Bookmakers and arcade proprietors pay for a permit every 6 months and review this carefully.

**Further feedback**

All members of the group and indeed many local people are concerned by the increase in venues and opportunities for people to gamble and feel that problem gambling is significant and will continue to be an issue in Inverclyde. Thus, this will have a negative impact on our community as the consequences can be far reaching:

**Impact on Individual:**

- Poor health including stress, depression and anxiety
- Financial hardship / debt / exposure to loan sharks
- Resort to theft / imprisonment

**Impact on Others:**

- Neglect of family
- Relationship breakdown
- Domestic / emotional abuse
- Charities will miss out
- Public purse – costs incurred by gambling activities e.g. time of work, sickness, criminal activities etc

**Suggestions**

Members of the focus groups indicated that the Gambling Act 2005 is complicated and thus difficult to understand. On looking for further research they found it difficult to get up to date statistics of the impact of gambling in Scotland – local people are concerned about the social impact of gambling in the community and were unable to find any research to gauge local gambling habits here in Inverclyde, thus members suggested the following:

- Conduct a mapping exercise of gambling establishments in Inverclyde
- Survey local people re gambling habits (adults)
- Survey local young people re gambling habits

If the above is carried out and evidence suggests that gambling is harmful to the Inverclyde community we would like Inverclyde Licensing Board will look to challenge the Bill to withdraw or move back from the liberalisation if there is evidence of harm

INVERCLYDE LICENSING BOARDLICENSING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005

## (4) REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCE

<u>No</u>	<u>Name and Address of Licenceholder</u>	<u>Address of Premises</u>	<u>Decision</u>
1.	Ahmed Trading (Glasgow) Ltd Address to be confirmed	<b>Wemyss Bay Hotel</b> Greenock Road Wemyss Bay	