

GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE 25 April 2007

Report of the Director of Environmental Services

GAMBLING ACT 2005 – LICENCE FEES

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To approve the proposed licence fees set out the report.
- 1.2 To note the information provided about the annual review of licence fees.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 Under the Gambling Act 2005, regulations have been introduced that set out the fees payable to licensing authorities. Each authority will be able to determine their own fees for each category of gambling premises licences, but these will be subject to maximum levels prescribed by the Secretary of State. All permit fees will be determined by the Secretary of State.
- 2.2 All licensing authorities must set their fees upon a cost recovery basis only and will be required to review their fee levels on an annual basis to ensure this.
- 2.3 It is recognised that for the first fees setting exercise, costs will be estimates only, based upon the information available at the time and so actual costs may vary to some extent.
- 2.4 To assist licensing authorities calculate appropriate fees for premises licensing under the Gambling Act 2005, the Local Authority Co-ordinating body on Regulatory Services (LACORS) have developed a toolkit. This is designed to assist licensing authorities both at the start of the new regime and for each annual review.
- 2.5 The proposed licence fees set out at Appendix 2 have been produced using the toolkit.

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Background papers: None

List of appendices: Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 2 – Gambling Act 2005, Proposed Licence Fees

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1.1 Fees must be set on a cost recovery basis only and there should be no subsidisation by general tax payers. All direct and indirect costs should be included.

Legal

- 2.1 The Gambling (Premises Licence Fees) (England and Wales) Regulations 2007 set out the requirements on licensing authorities in terms of setting their fees.
- 2.2 Fees will need to be determined and published before 21 May 2007, the date when applications can start being submitted.

Personnel

3.1 None directly arising from this report.

Equalities impact

4.1 The proposed fees have been produced using the LACORS toolkit, promoting the principles of openness, fairness and equality throughout.

Corporate priorities

5.1 The way in which the proposed fees have been calculated further the Council's priorities of **delivering excellent services**, **performance and value for money**.