

Response to the Draft Gambling Bill

1. **PART 8** **PREMISES LICENSES**

Page 54 - 128 (a) and Page 55 - 130 (2)

The term "or partly situated" requires exact definition. It is the view of this Council that licensing authorities may be in conflict when dealing with an application for premises situated in more than one authority. In particular, the income from fees may be a contributory factor in such conflicts.

An exact description of the term "partly" would counteract such possible conflicts. The suggestion of this Council is that the test should be: - whether all or more than half the ground floor area of premises situated in a local authority area.

Page 62 - 149 (1)

The Council would welcome the addition of the interpretation of the "licensing Authority" as defined on Page 73 - 172 (f) in each sub-section of the section. This will make it absolutely clear to the applicant that the licensing authority first granting licence is the authority to which further applications for variation or transfer must be made.

Page 66 - 156 (1)

The Council enquire as to how a licensing authority can possibly deem a licensee incapable by reason of mental or physical incapacity.

This is seen as an unattainable and possibly restrictive practice.

2. MISCELLANEOUS FEES

- 2.1 In principle, fees should be set by the local authority to ensure it can cover the costs required. If that is not achieved, then the Council consider it imperative that any fees prescribed by the Secretary of State are done so with full licensing authority

consultation taking into account the expenditure required to deliver effectively the proposed service.

CASINOS

Clarification of the definition of “large” and “small” casino is required, including the minimum size for a licensed casino.

COMPANY

The Bill should clearly state whether a company can apply for a personal licence.

TRANSPORTABLE?

Will licences be transportable, or confined to the area of the issuing authority?