

Argyll and Bute Council: Equality and Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

Section 1: About the proposal

Title of Proposal
Review of Gambling Policy Statement

Intended outcome of proposal
To further the licensing objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 conducted in a fair and open way.• Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling by regulating premises and facilities for Gambling in terms of the Gambling Act 2005.

Description of proposal
The purpose of an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is to improve the work of Argyll and Bute Licensing Board by making sure it promotes equality and does not discriminate. This assessment records the likely impact of any changes to a function, policy or plan by anticipating the consequences, and making sure that any negative impacts are eliminated or minimised and positive impacts are maximised.

Business Outcome(s) / Corporate Outcome(s) to which the proposal contributes

Lead officer details:	
Name of lead officer	Sheila MacFadyen
Job title	Senior Solicitor
Department	Customer Services
Appropriate officer details:	
Name of appropriate officer	David Logan
Job title	Head of Legal and Regulatory Support
Department	Customer Services
Sign off of EqSEIA	David Logan
Date of sign off	2-11-2022

Who will deliver the proposal?
Legal Services licensing team

Section 2: Evidence used in the course of carrying out EqSEIA

Consultation / engagement
The Board will be consulted widely on the draft Policy, contacting each of the consultees as detailed in Appendix 1 Comments received will be considered in preparation of final policy statement

Data
Comments were taken on board in the preparation of the final document.

Other information

Gaps in evidence

Section 3: Impact of proposal

Impact on service users:

	Negative	No impact	Positive	Don't know
Protected characteristics:				
			X	
Disability		X	X	
Ethnicity		X		
Sex		X		
Gender reassignment		X		
Marriage and Civil Partnership		X		
Pregnancy and Maternity		X		
Religion		X		
Sexual Orientation		X		
Fairer Scotland Duty:				
Mainland rural population		X		
Island populations		X		
Low income			X	
Low wealth			X	
Material deprivation			X	
Area deprivation			X	
Socio-economic background			X	
Communities of place		X		
Communities of interest		X		

If you have identified any impacts on service users, explain what these will be.

Licence holders, by being subject to and going through the regulatory process and their customers, by obtaining the benefit/protection of the regulatory process. General public also by obtaining the benefit/protection of the regulatory process. Vulnerable Persons/ Children– The

policy sets out provisions in relation to how the Board will meet the Licensing objective of protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

If any 'don't know's have been identified, at what point will impacts on these groups become identifiable?

Impact on service deliverers (including employees, volunteers etc):

	Negative	No impact	Positive	Don't know
Protected characteristics:				
Age		X		
Disability		X		
Ethnicity		X		
Sex		X		
Gender reassignment		X		
Marriage and Civil Partnership		X		
Pregnancy and Maternity		X		
Religion		X		
Sexual Orientation		X		
Fairer Scotland Duty:				
Mainland rural population		X		
Island populations		X		
Low income			X	
Low wealth			X	
Material deprivation			X	
Area deprivation		X		
Socio-economic background			X	
Communities of place			X	
Communities of interest			X	

If you have identified any impacts on service deliverers, explain what these will be.

It is widely acknowledged that gambling can have social and economic impacts for some groups of people and research indicates that the highest prevalence of problem gambling is found among those who were unemployed. Socio-economic disadvantage arises from a complex range of factors which includes low/no wealth and low income.

We consider that local risk assessments provided by applicants or licensees should seek to address the following areas of concern as possible risks to the licensing objectives posed by the provision of gambling facilities at their premises and indicate the policies, procedures and control measures they would have in place to mitigate those risks:

- public health;
- mental health;
- addiction;
- homelessness;
- debt;
- education;
- location in relation to services for children, such as schools, playgrounds, leisure/community centres and other areas where children may gather;
- location in relation to alcohol licensed premises;

- location in relation to emergency accommodation;
- location in relation to places of worship, including all religious or faith denominations;
- location in relation to gambling or addiction support or treatment centres where children or vulnerable groups may be present;
- interaction with community welfare groups and safety partnerships;
- interaction with organisations such as Gamcare or equivalent local organisations;
- interaction with Betwatch scheme or equivalent organisations;
- supervision of operation of premises by management;
- supervision of operation of gaming machines;
- identification of vulnerable persons;
- identification of under-age persons;
- identification of problem gamblers;
- staffing levels information;
- staff training on intervention with vulnerable persons;
- staff training on intervention with under-age persons;
- staff training on intervention with problem gamblers;
- self-exclusion policy;
- self-exclusion records;
- crime incidents;
- anti-social behaviour incidents.

A considerable number of these areas are identified as factors relating to socio-economic disadvantage.

If any 'don't know's have been identified, at what point will impacts on these groups become identifiable?

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How has 'due regard' been given to any negative impacts that have been identified?

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Section 4: Interdependencies

Is this proposal likely to have any knock-on effects for any other activities carried out by or on behalf of the council?

no

Details of knock-on effects identified

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Section 5: Monitoring and review

How will you monitor and evaluate the equality impacts of your proposal?

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The revised Statement of Gambling Policy will be applied for the 3-year period from December 2022 to December 2025. The Policy will be kept under review and revised, if appropriate. Any such revision will be subject to consultation and publication before it takes effect.

APPENDIX 1

Schedule of Consultees to this Policy Statement

1. Members of Argyll and Bute Licensing Board
2. Elected Members of Argyll and Bute Council
3. The Gambling Commission, Victoria Square House, Victoria Square, Birmingham, B2 4BP
4. The Chief Constable, Police Scotland, 2 Clyde Gateway, French Street, Glasgow, G40 4EH
5. Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Bothwell Road, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, ML3 0EA
6. Head of Development & Economic Growth, Department of Development and Infrastructure Services, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT
7. Head of Children & Families, Community Services, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT
8. Argyll and Bute Child Protection Committee, Children & Families Section, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT
9. H M Revenue and Customs, Excise Processing Teams, BX9 1GL, United Kingdom
10. Associated Secretary, The Church of Scotland, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN
11. The National Casino Forum, Carlyle House, 235-237 Vauxhall Bridge Road, Victoria, London, SW1 1EJ
12. Association of British Bookmakers Limited, Regency House, 1-4 Warwick Street, London, W1B 5LT