EXTRACT FROM LICENSING COMMITTEE - 1 NOVEMBER 2006

LC34 GAMBLING ACT POLICY

The Committee considered a report on the licensing policy which the Council was required by the Gambling Act 2005 to propose, consult on and adopt.

Broad consultation on the proposed policy had taken place and a detailed account of consultation and response was given to the meeting by Mrs C Nicholson solicitor. She explained the reasons in each case for adopting or not adopting amendments requested by consultees.

The Essex Licensing Officer's Forum, which included representatives of the Police and Child Protection section of the Social Services Department, had suggested the addition and amendment to the draft policy in paragraphs 26.2 and 28.2. This introduced a requirement for the applicant and/ or person in day to day control of the premises to undergo a basic CRB check or equivalent and a requirement that training should also cover dealing with suspected truant children as this type of premises would attract children and young people.

In addition, in paragraph 28 (prize gaming permits) a suggestion had been incorporated requiring that an applicant could demonstrate their understanding of the law on the gaming permitted by the permit and the relevant stake/prize limits.

Mrs Nicholson also set out the options concerning any casino resolution and it was noted that no consultation response had been received on this subject.

The Executive Manager (Corporate Governance) added that major departures from the draft would create a need to consult again, and that cogent reasons should be given for any resolution relating to casinos as judicial review was possible.

RESOLVED that the Committee recommends the policy as annexed to the report for adoption by the Council.