

# **ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL**

## **Statement of Licensing Policy 2010 – 2013**

**GAMBLING ACT 2005  
SECTION 349**

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## Introduction

This document sets out the Isle of Wight Council's policy, for the next three years, commencing on 31 January 2010, in respect of its licensing functions under the Gambling Act 2005. Hereafter, the Isle of Wight Council shall be referred to as the 'Licensing Authority'. During this three year period the Policy will be kept under review and may be revised by the Licensing Authority at any time.

This Statement of Licensing Policy has been prepared having regard to the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 and the Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission under Section 25 of the Act. Appropriate weight has been to the views of all consultees. A list of consultees is reproduced at Appendix B. In determining what weight to give a particular representation, the factors taken into account by the Licensing Authority included:

- Who made the representation (including their expertise or interest)
- What that persons motivation may have been for their views
- How many other people expressed the same or similar views
- How far the representations relate to matters that the Licensing Authority should include in its policy statement.

Where any amendments are considered necessary, these will only be made after consultation has taken place in accordance with Section 349(3) of the Act. Proper weight shall be given to the views of all those consulted. The Licensing Authority will only publish and consult on the revision and not the whole policy. Further licensing statements will be published every three years thereafter.

The requirement in relation to children is explicitly to protect them from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

## Advertising

Before publishing a statement or revision, the Licensing Authority will publish a notice of their intention to do so, no less than two weeks before the statement or revision is to be published. The notice will:

- a) Specify the date on which the statement or revision is to be published;
- b) Specify the date on which the statement or revision will come into effect;
- c) Specify the internet address where the statement or revision will be published and the address of the premises at which it may be inspected; and
- d) Be published on the authority's website and in/on one or more of the following places:
  - A local newspaper circulating in the area covered by the statement
  - A local newsletter, circular, or similar document circulating in the area covered by the statement;
  - A public notice board on or near the principle office of the authority;

- A public notice board on the premises of public libraries in the area covered by the statement.

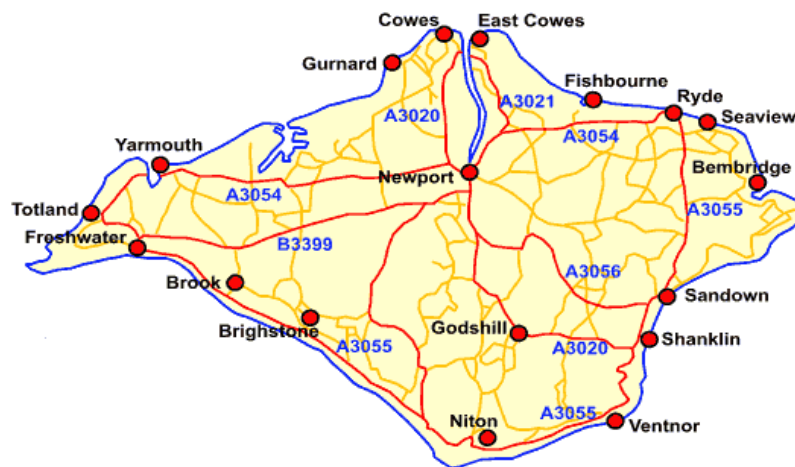
## Publication

The statement or any subsequent revision of the statement will be published on the Isle of Wight Council website:

[http://www.iwight.com/living\\_here/environment/environmental\\_health/Licensing/default.asp](http://www.iwight.com/living_here/environment/environmental_health/Licensing/default.asp).

The statement or any subsequent revision of the statement is also available for inspection at Jubilee Stores, The Quay, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2EH.

The Isle of Wight Council area covers the whole of the Isle of Wight which is 22.5 miles from east to west and 13.5 miles from north to south and is 147 square miles in area. There are 7 major towns which are Newport, Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin, Ventnor and Yarmouth, with Newport being the capital and centrally situated. The remaining areas are rural comprising of a number of small villages. The population of the Isle of Wight is approximately 133,000.



## **1. Licensing Objectives**

- 1.1 When dealing with licensing matters the Licensing Authority will promote and have regard to the three licensing objectives set out in the Act. These are:
- 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; and
  - Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

## **2 Fundamental Principles**

- 2.1 The Licensing Authority recognises that the best means of promoting the licensing objectives is through the co-operation and partnership of local authorities, the police, local business, local people and those involved in child protection.
- 2.2 The Licensing Authority recognises that in regulating activities under this legislation, a balance must be struck between the legitimate objectives of applicants and the desires of the population as a whole, and in particular those members of the public living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned. A balance must be struck between these, often conflicting positions, and all views will be taken into account when making licensing decisions or determining a course of action.
- 2.3 Licensing is about the appropriate control of betting premises, adult gaming centres, family entertainment centres, gaming and machine permits, temporary use notices, occasional use notices, and the people who manage them under an operating licence or who hold personal licences within the terms of the 2005 Act. The Licensing Authority shall aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks fit and will regulate gambling in the public interest.
- 2.4 This policy does not comment on the need for gambling premises. Unmet demand is not a criterion in considering an application for a premises licence, and each application will be considered on its merits without regard for demand.
- 2.5 The location of premises will only be commented on in so far as the location relates to the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority will consider very carefully applications for premises licences in respect of certain gambling premises that are located close to:
- Schools and young persons establishments
  - Establishments used or inhabited by vulnerable persons

- Centres established for assisting persons with a gambling addiction

- 2.6 Each application will however, be considered on its merits, and will depend to a large extent on the type of gambling that is proposed will be offered on the premises. If an applicant for a premises licence can show how licensing objective concerns can be overcome, that will be taken into account.
- 2.7 Where valid representations are made, the Licensing Authority will make objective judgements as to whether conditions need to be attached to a licence to secure achievement of the licensing objectives. Accordingly, any decision taken by the Licensing Authority or any conditions attached to the licence will centre on promoting the licensing objectives at the premises being used for licensable activities and within the vicinity of those premises. Whether or not an incident can be regarded as being in the vicinity of licensed premises will depend on the particular circumstances of the case.

### **Integration of strategies and other legislation**

- 2.8 The Licensing Authority recognises that there should be a clear separation of the planning and licensing systems and licensing applications will be viewed independently of planning applications. To achieve this, close liaison will be maintained between the Licensing Committee (LC) and the Development Control Committee (DCC). Licensing applications will not be a re-run of the planning application.
- 2.9 Prior to submitting an application to the Licensing Authority, the applicant should note that whilst the Licensing Authority may grant an extension to operating hours the responsibility lies with the applicant to ensure that any necessary planning consents are subsequently obtained for the hours and activities for which the application is being made.
- 2.10 The Licensing Authority will seek to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes as far as possible. However, if other legislation does not cover the unique situations that may arise then additional controls such as conditions, may be imposed to secure the licensing objectives.
- 2.11 Premises must also comply with all other relevant legislation such as the examples given below, but it should be noted that the list is not exhaustive:
- Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
  - Food Safety Act 1990
  - Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974
  - Disability Discrimination Act 1995
  - Environmental Protection Act 1990
  - Town and Country Planning Act 1990
  - Building Act 1984 and current accompanying regulations

### **3 Consultation**

3.1 In accordance with Section 349(3), the Licensing Authority has consulted the following on this policy:

- The Chief Officer of Police for the Isle of Wight
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the Isle of Wight area, namely (insert details)
- 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 authority's functions under the Act, namely those people listed in Appendix B.

3.2 The Licensing Authority will also consult the above for any subsequent revision of the policy.

3.3 In determining its policy the Licensing Authority will always:

- Have regard to the Gambling Commission Guidance to Licensing Authorities
- Give appropriate weight to the views of those it has consulted.

3.4 In determining what weight to give a particular representation on its policy, the factors to be taken into account will always include:

- Who is making the representation in terms of their expertise or interest;
- What their motivation may be for their views;
- How many other people have expressed the same or similar views;
- How far the representations relate to matters that the Licensing Authority should be including in its policy statement.

3.5 It will be for the Licensing Authority to ensure that it looks at the views of consultees and considers carefully whether they should be taken into account, and if so having regard to the above factors, to what extent.

3.6 The Licensing Authority will always give reasons for the decisions it has made following consultation, details of which can be viewed on the Isle of Wight Council Website [www.iwight.com](http://www.iwight.com) or by contacting the Licensing Section at Jubilee Stores, The Quay, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2EH.

### **4 Protection Of Children From Harm – Designated Authority**

4.1 In respect of licensing matters the Licensing Authority recognises the Isle of Wight Council's Children's Services Directorate together with the Safer Communities Team as the Responsible Authority in relation to the protection of Children from harm.

- 4.2 The Licensing Authority considers this body to be the most representational of all concerns relating to children in the authority's area from a cross section of organisations.

## **5. Responsible Authorities and Interested Parties**

- 5.1 When dealing with applications for premises licences and reviews of premises licences, the Licensing Authority will only consider representations from two categories of persons referred to as 'Responsible Authorities' and 'Interested Parties'.
- 5.2 Responsible Authorities in relation to premises are public bodies as defined by Section 157 of the Act.
- 5.3 The Licensing Authority will consider whether a person is an '*interested party*' with regard to particular premise on a case by case basis and will have regard to a number of factors. The following list is not exhaustive but an 'Interested Party' must be a person who
- 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, or
  - Represents either of the above persons.
- 5.4 In determining what is '*sufficiently close to the premises*' the Licensing Authority will take the following factors into account:
- The size of the premises;
  - The nature of the activities taking place at the premises;
  - The distance of the premises from the location of the person making the representation;
  - The potential impact of the premise from such factors as the number of customers and routes likely to be taken by those visiting the establishment.
  - The interests of the person making the representation which may be relevant to the distance from the premises.
- 5.5 In determining who are '*persons with business interests that could be affected*' the Licensing Authority will take the following factors into account:
- The size of the premises
  - The broader geographical area from the premises
  - The nature of the business interest
  - The distance of the premises from the business interest
- 5.6 In determining who is '*a person representing those*' in the above categories, the Licensing Authority shall consider each representation on its own merits and shall recognise persons from the following group:

- Residents and tenants associations
- Trade Associations
- Trade Unions
- Look at LA03 guidance

5.7 The Licensing Authority will only consider representations that are relevant to the licensing objectives or that raise issues under this policy statement.

5.8 Representations will be examined closely to ensure that they are not frivolous or vexatious. In determining this the Licensing Authority will consider the following:

- Who is making the representation, and whether there is a history of making representations that are not relevant.
- Whether it raises a relevant issue
- Whether it raises issues specifically to do with the premises that are subject of the application.

## **6 Compliance And Enforcement**

6.1 The Licensing Authority will establish protocols with the local Police and Gambling Commission on enforcement issues. This should enable more efficient deployment of Local Authority staff and Police officers. The aim of the protocol will be to target higher risk and problem premises while providing a lighter touch in respect of premises, which are well run. Inspections of licensed premises will not be undertaken routinely but when and if they are judged necessary.

6.2 In determining the level of risk in respect of premises the Licensing Authority shall be guided by complaints from the Gambling Commission; Responsible Authorities and Interested Parties.

The above criteria are subject to any further guidance, which the authority may be recommended to follow by any person or body authorised to issue guidance in respect of the authority's powers under the Gambling Act 2005.

6.3 Any enforcement action instigated by the Licensing Authority will be in accordance with Regulatory Compliance Code (previously called the Enforcement Concordat) and the Environmental Health Enforcement Policy.

6.4 In relation to its responsibilities, the Licensing Authority will follow the best practice as promulgated by the Better Regulation Executive and the Hampton review of regulatory inspections and enforcement.

6.5 Inspections and enforcement will be

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- Proportionate: regulators should only intervene when necessary; remedies should be appropriate to the risk posed, and costs identified and minimised;
  - Accountable: regulators must be able to justify decisions, and be subject to public scrutiny;
  - Consistent: rules and standards must be joined up and implemented fairly
  - 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.

6.6 The Licensing Authority may institute criminal proceedings for offences listed under section 346 of the Act.

## **7 Consideration Of Applications**

7.1 In determining a licence application the overriding principle will be that each application will be determined on its individual merits.

7.2 When considering applications, the Licensing Authority will have regard:

- To the Licensing Objectives;
- To this policy;
- To any code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission under section 34 of the Act;
- To any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission under section 25 of the Act;

7.3 Nothing in the Licensing Policy will:

- Undermine the rights of any person to apply under the Act for a variety of permissions and have the application considered on its individual merits.
- Override the right of any person to make representations on any application or seek a review of a licence where they are permitted to do so under the Act.

7.4 The Licensing Authority will take the following factors and any other relevant matters into account when considering applications for premises licences, permits and other permissions. Relevance will be objectively decided.

- The proximity of gambling premises to schools/vulnerable adult centres
- Proximity to residential areas with concentration of families with children

7.5 The Licensing Authority will take the following factors and any other relevant matters into account when determining whether to review a licence. Relevance will be objectively decided.

- Relevance
- Not vexatious or frivolous
- Addresses the licensing objectives

7.6 Conditions will be tailored to the individual characteristics of the premises and licensable activities concerned. Disproportionate and over burdensome conditions on premises will not be imposed. Individual conditions will be avoided where possible. However, the Licensing Authority may attach additional conditions that are necessary and proportionate, where specific risk or problems are associated with a particular locality or premises or on a case by case basis.

7.7 The Licensing Authority will not limit the use of premises for gambling except where it has necessary due to a requirement to act in accordance with the Gambling Commission guidance or code of practice or if it is reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives.

## **8 Statement Regarding Casino Resolution**

8.1 Isle of Wight Council has not made a resolution in respect of casino premises within the authority area.

## **9 Exchange Of Information**

9.1 Isle of Wight Council will act in accordance with the provisions Sections 29, 30 and 350 of the Act with regard to the exchange of information.

9.2 The Isle of Wight Council (“the Council”) is the Data Controller of all personal information recorded for the purposes of this policy. The Council will process and hold that information in accordance with principles of the Data Protection Act 1998.

9.3 The information supplied and held may be disclosable in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Any person that believes their information should not be disclosed should notify the Council of the reasons for such belief.

9.4 The Licensing Authority will establish a protocol with local Police and other regulatory bodies in this regard.

9.5 Consider Regulations issued by SOS

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## 10 Statement Of Principles

- 10.1 At present the licensing authority do not have a statement of principles in place in respect of applicants for FEC or Prize Gaming Permits. The authority intends to have regard to the licensing objectives in considering such applications in addition to any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission.

## 11 Registers

- 11.1 The Licensing Authority shall maintain a register of the premises licences that it has issued.
- 11.2 The register shall be available for inspection at its offices situated at Jubilee Stores, The Quay, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2EH between 8.30am and 5.00pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am and 4.30pm Friday.
- 11.3 The register shall also be available for public inspection on its website at the following link:

[Isle of Wight County Council - Licensing Online](#)

- 11.4 The cost of obtaining copies of the register shall be available on request.

## 12 Fees

- 12.1 The Licensing Authority shall ensure that information regarding the fees to be charged for premises licences and other permissions under the Act shall be available to the public.

## 13 Applications

- 13.1 The Licensing Authority shall produce guidance that provides information on how to make applications for licences and other permissions under the Act. The guidance shall be available from the Licensing Authority at:

[http://www.iwight.com/living\\_here/environment/environmental\\_health/Licensing/default.asp](http://www.iwight.com/living_here/environment/environmental_health/Licensing/default.asp)

and from its offices situated at Jubilee Stores, The Quay, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2EH between 8.30am and 5.00pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am and 4.30pm Friday.

- 13.2 The guidance shall also include information on how to make representations and how to apply for a review of a premises licence.

13.3 Where appropriate, application forms and a full list of responsible authorities and their respective contact details shall be available on request as above.

<b>14</b>	<b>Delegation</b>
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14.1 Information as to how functions are delegated under the Act is set out in Appendix A of this Licensing Policy.

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**Appendix A: Schedule of Delegations**

<b>Matter to be dealt with</b>	<b>Full Council</b>	<b>Sub Committee of Licensing Committee</b>	<b>Officers</b>
Three Year Licensing Policy	✓		
Policy not to permit casinos	✓		
Fee Setting (when appropriate)			✓
Application for premises licence		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations have been received/ representations have been withdrawn
Application for a variation to a licence		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations have been received/ representations have been withdrawn
Application for a transfer of a licence		Where representations have been received from the Commission	Where no representations received from the Commission
Application for a provisional statement		Where representations have been received and not withdrawn	Where no representations have been received/ representations have been withdrawn
Review of a premises licence		✓	
Application for club gaming / club machine permits			✓
Cancellation of club gaming / club machine permits			✓
Applications for other permits			✓
Cancellation of licensed premises gaming machine permits			✓
Consideration of temporary use notice			✓
Decision to give a counter notice to a temporary use notice		✓	

## **Appendix B: Consultees**

### **Council Officers**

#### **Isle of Wight Council Licensing and General Purposes Committee**

#### **All Isle of Wight Town and Parish Councils**

### **Licence Holders**

Coastal Leisure (UK) Ltd

Arcadia (Ryde) Ltd

Breakout Operations Ltd

Bembridge Coast Hotel

Betfred

Commodore Bingo Club

Cowes Amusement Arcade

Gaiety Amusements

Games Centre

Ladbrokes Betting Shops

Lower Hyde Holiday Park

Newport Automatics

Nodes Point Holiday Park

Norton Grange Classic Resort

Playfair Amusement Arcade

Ryde Leisure

Scoops

Summer Arcade

Thorness Bay Holiday Park

Tote Betting

Tote Sport

Treasure Island

Wight City Leisure plc

**Solicitors**

Gosschalk Solicitors

Roach Pittis

Matthews Henshaw Verrinder

Glanvilles

Robinson Jarvis Rolfe

Walter Gray & Co

Merry & Co

Careless & Kemp

Wilks,Price,Hounslow

Poppleston Allen

**Other**

Gambling Commission

The Bingo Association

British Beer & Pub Association

Association of British Bookmakers (ABB)

Business In Sport & Leisure

Casino Operators' Association of the UK (COA (UK))

Racecourse Association Limited

BACTA

British Casino Association (BCA)

British Holiday & Home Parks Association

RAL Limited

British Greyhound Racing Board

Responsibility in Gambling Trust

GamCare

Gamblers Anonymous (UK)

**Responsible Authorities**

Hampshire Constabulary

Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service

Isle of Wight Council Environmental Health Department

Children's Services

HM Revenue & Customs

If you would like this document translated please contact us on 01983 821000

**Arabic**

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01983 821000

**Bengali**

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**Chinese**

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**German**

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**Hindi**

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01983 821000 पर सम्पर्क कीजिए।

**Italian**

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**Punjabi**

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ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਨੰਬਰ 01983 821000 ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

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**Urdu**

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01983 821000 کریں

This information is available on request as an audiotape,  
in large print, in Braille and in other languages.  
For further details please contact Environmental Health on (01983)  
821000