

Richmond Gambling Policy Review 2018

There were 34 responses to this consultation

Question 1

Please tell us your name or the name of your organisation:

This open response (free text) question was answered by 33 respondents.

Responses removed due to data protection.

Question 2

If responding on behalf of an organisation, please indicate that you have the authority to respond on their behalf by clicking the box below.

This single response question was answered by 3 respondents.

Response	Number of respondents to	Percentage of respondents to
Yes	3	8.8%

Question 3

Please tell us your address:

This open response (free text) question was answered by 34 respondents.

Responses removed due to data protection.

Question 4

Do you feel the draft statement is clearly written?

This single response question was answered by 33 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	29	87.9%
No	4	12.1%

If no, how can it be improved?

This open response (free text) question was answered by 5 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents
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<p>I think it expresses two conflicting statements: i) that the objective is to ensure that the gambling policy does not endanger young children, among others ii) that moral objections will not be considered. Why are issues of the morality or otherwise of gambling excluded from consideration. Gambling inflicts untold misery and poverty on families, especially children, and this is both a practical and moral issue. Gambling should not be encouraged since the addictions it leads to are neither controlled nor properly managed by society/government and the harm it causes to children and families is inadequately recognised or addressed.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Generally but feel that more emphasis should be placed on vulnerable adults in 13.7, 13.8 and 17.2 to reflect the need for this group to be protected. Include houses specifically for vulnerable adults in supported living in areas not acceptable.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>The draft statement includes all the procedure for defining the statement and the legislative information and hence is absurdly overlong. Keep them separate. People want to know what policy is, not how it was achieved</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Delegation to officers. Cancellation of licensed premises gaming machine permits. This is not clear, does this means officers can just cancel them? or does it mean the original applicant can request cancellation?, therefore office involvement is incidental. If it is the former then surely this should be for the licensing committee as is done with a review, the latter is acceptable, but this should be made clearer.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>There doesn't seem to be any mention of advertising - maybe I missed it - but I would like the advertising of betting banned in the borough.</p>	<p>1</p>

Question 5

Do you feel the draft statement is easy to understand?

This single response question was answered by 33 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	31	93.9%
No	2	6.1%

If no, how can it be improved?

This open response (free text) question was answered by 3 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents
see above	1
Maybe there should be simplified guidance at the start of the document - and then the detailed guidance. Most people are not going to plow through the whole document - some infographics could also make it more engaging too and bring the document into the modern age.	1
Shorten it and break the single document into seperate parts so that the legfislative information and the procedure for achieving the policy are kept apart. People want to know what policy is, not how it was achieved	1

Question 6

Are there any specific locations you feel would be unsuitable for gambling premises?

This single response question was answered by 32 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	23	71.9%
No	9	28.1%

Please state your reasons for this conclusion.

This open response (Free text) question was answered by 22 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents
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In the High Streets, where it would encourage people to feel that gambling is both a safe part of community life and countenanced by our elected leaders.	1
As above where there are vulnerable adults in supported living and also, thinking ahead, where there is a children's home. Additionally, any area where children play and close to nurseries.	1
I agree with the revised wording in section 17.2 of the draft statement.	1
Central Twickenham and Richmond as there are many bars and some people who are intoxicated are not in full control of their decision making and might gamble away more than they can afford. These days people don't need to go to a premises if they wish to gamble as it can be done on phones or the internet. Libraries will hopefully restrict the use of certain websites including gambling ones.	1
Areas close to schools or youth centres	1
Because some places would expose vulnerable people	1
Anywhere too 'close' to where children go. e.g. parkers, shopping centres.	1
Richmond is a largely family residential borough.	1
Kew Village and St Margarets "village" are community centres that also have special events e.g Christmas Fayres, Fish Market, Crown Street Party	1
Near schools & parks	1
Church road Twickenham The betting shops do not match the character of the street and degrade the look of the street especially in such a prominent position	1
Too close to schools or where very young people go, e.g. shopping areas.	1
Not nearby schools	1

<p>As in the policy, close proximity to places where people vulnerable to exploitation are likely to be found. Sec. 17.2 should include further education colleges as well as schools, as many FE students are aged under 18.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Given the nature of the borough's villages any 'high street' location is likely to be 'proximate' to schools, churches, hostels and residential areas that are included in section 17. There are very few areas of this borough that do not fall within this scope of special consideration.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Location in areas where a school is co-located, by definition this also means planning should be aware before granting permission for a school premises in the same area, the school plan should be refused under the guidelines and not the existing premises being subject to a review.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Any where near a local school, playground/Park. Located close to pubs as drinkers may be attracted to gambling after a few drinks and would be less in control of knowing when to stop. Having a gambling premises replacing a local shop.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>No space in Twickenham for casinos. There is already a gambling shop on high street which I think is sufficient.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Residential areas. Keep them on the high street or where existing shops are located. Minimise disruption to residents.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Anywhere other than high streets or other public shopping areas.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Near Pubs and clubs, Schools, Church Halls, Hospitals, Fast food outlets, Sports Centres - basically anywhere vulnerable people and children meet/congregate.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>1. Residential Areas 2. Mixed use areas such as Richmond Town centre except in moderation</p>	<p>1</p>

Question 7

Do you want a casino in the borough?

This single response question was answered by 33 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	2	6.1%
No	31	93.9%

Question 8

Should the Council pass another resolution not to have any casinos in the borough as the previous policy at paragraph 24.2?

This single response question was answered by 32 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	26	81.3%
No	6	18.8%

Please state your reasons for this conclusion.

This open response (free text) question was answered by 26 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents
They encourage gambling, they "normalise" it, whereas it should be discouraged.	1
The area is unsuitable and there are casinos in central London which can be easily reached if required.	1
A need to ensure the message is current and conflicting views measured	1
1. The town centres in the borough all include a lot of residential property, schools and family venues. It would be inappropriate to have a casino nearby which may make gambling appear attractive to young people and the vulnerable. 2. Potentially inebriated customers leaving casino premises late at night /in the early hours will cause disturbance to others.	1

We should not encourage people to throw their money away on a 'mug's game' when the high streets need more consumer spending to keep alive. Less money thrown away means more disposable income for the other shops.	1
Too many problems with money laundering. Also pressure to open late into the night.	1
Ni need unless it is legally required	1
If the right situation arose, the Council should not tie the hands of the future Councillors.	1
Not appropriate to the main demographic of this borough which is largely family residential.	1
This prevents an application for a casino being awarded by default, also underlines the Borough's regular and positive consideration of this policy and its concerns for maintaining Richmond as a primarily residential area.	1
I support this approach	1
A casino would find it difficult to be successful	1
Can't see any benefit but many drawbacks such as attracting further poor behaviour and noise nuisance late st night for residents	1
Casinos: - increase the risk of gambling addiction. - may lead to disturbance from late-night traffic. - may lead to drink-related disorder.	1
The borough's two main night time centres Twickenham and Richmond town centres are not suited to the enhancement of the night time economy that a casino would attract, including inward travel from other boroughs .	1
Unless the legislation is amended to permit further casino licences there would be no reason to pass another resolution, as it will remain in effect until rescinded.	1

There is no need for a casino in the borough as there are plenty of casinos within easy traveling distance in central London.	1
No - any change should go to a vote. Shouldn't vote on retaining a policy - unless it is time limited.	1
Borough is an inappropriate place for casino. There is easy access to London for this. Possibly there are casinos in neighbouring boroughs. There are plenty of other entertainment facilities. I don't think the Borough has any responsibility to provide all forms of entertainment for its residents. I don't see how a casino would be of general economic use to the borough.	1
Will lead to criminal activity and destruct lives.	1
Continuation of the status quo	1
It is bad enough that there are a number of gambling outlets in our high streets (Whitton has at least 3 or 4 in it's small High St) but letting in Casinos will have a further detrimental effect on residents who cannot afford to gamble but still do so. It will only encourage more gambling addictions due to the nature of casinos (serving alcohol, entertainments and other 'inducements' which casino's offer, such as free drinks, 'free' bets, in some cases free accommodation - especially for those who spend enough - and even the sexual allure of scantily-clad, attractive 'hostesses'. Please keep our borough 'casino-free'!	1
It sends a good message for the borough. Central London has plenty of accessible casinos.	1
Would attract late night traffic and possibly criminal activities	1

Casinos are one of the causes of the public health emergency which gambling must be treated as - the residents of Richmond do not want casinos, don't want to expose vulnerable people to them. They do want however to hold gambling companies to account with a levy placed on their profits to mitigate/treat people harmed by gambling.	1
The Borough does not need a casino for regeneration, and entertainment benefits to residents are outweighed by the risks to the Gambling Act's Objectives. There is no suitable location.	1

Question 9

Are you aware of any problems in your area that are directly related to gambling premises?

This single response question was answered by 34 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	6	17.6%
No	28	82.4%

If yes, please state:

This open response (Free text) question was answered by 7 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents
However, there is a recognition of the ease with which an addiction can take hold and so no further licences should be given at any level so as to prevent further gambling and its possible associated problems.	1
Rubbish caused by old betting slips and cigarette ends in Teddington High Street. Unattractive window display compared to other shops in Teddington High Street.	1

In Whitton High Street we have drug addicts that beg in the high street (outside the supermarkets) then go into the bookmakers to place bets. This has been discussed several times at the police liaison meetings. Places like Whitton are very close to very poor parts of Hounslow and the council's statement in 3.4 that the area is affluent is very far from the truth for large parts of the borough.	1
There is a hostel for ex-offenders where their crimes could have been gambling related	1
Seeing increased people seeking help at addiction groups run within my local community.	1
Drunks and homeless people hanging around and obstructing the pavement outside the betting shop next to Tesco at The Quadrant, Richmond.	1
Addicted gamblers whose families suffer. One can see the same people, some of whom are out of work, on the premises of betting shops daily.	1

Question 10

What, if any, additional measures should be considered in order to protect children from harm or being

This open response (free text) question was answered by 23 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents
Don't licence gambling shops or casinos - that's the most direct and positive way of protecting children from the harm of gambling poverty in the family	1
Ensure the continued monitoring of all existing licences to check that all conditions are being enforced.	1
Locations should not be close to areas used by children, especially true if slot machine arcades on the way to/from school and not properly policed	1

<p>No betting advertising to be permitted on any publications issued by the Council.</p> <p>Is it possible to ban the use of phone gambling apps on Council premises?</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Keep casinos and arcades to a minimum or ideally none in the borough. Do not glamourise it.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>If the gambling shop is near schools - then maybe the windows should be obscured up to 1.3 meters so young children cannot see inside and greater control of the content of adverts in the windows - which tend to be bright colours and eye-catching.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>EDUCATION. Gambling is taught in very few schools. It is a bit like Sex Education in the past.</p> <p>As a retired professional poker player, I am greatly in favour of teaching children about gambling. The best age is unclear to me. My 4 basic rules, plus a definition are very clear to me.</p> <p>I would be willing to talk on the subject to perhaps 14, 16, 18 year olds. My guess is that, perhaps 30% fewer youngsters who attended such a course, would become 'problem' gamblers.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Every effort should be made to educate children of the addictive nature of gambling and how other addictive behaviours can follow</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Possibly resisted age 21 years & over. CCTV to make sure clientele appropriate age . Not to be situated near schools & playgrounds .</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>No advertising boards be allowed for gambling premises as it is impossible to prevent children seeing them</p>	<p>1</p>

<p>Education. I would be happy to conduct a short course for people aged perhaps 15-18. I am a retired professional poker player and author of 7 books on the subject. This would apply whether or not a casino was erected in our borough. I feel I could have a great deal to contribute, such that people who attended such a course, would become perhaps 20-30% less likely to become degenerate gamblers.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>More regulation of advertising of gambling. Help to enable parents, teachers, youth workers, etc, to better recognise signs of and deal with children becoming involved in gambling.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>School education for children concerning protection from on line exploitation. I personally know of young children being targeted by the gambling industry who have become addicted to illicit on line gambling. Stricter controls for under age access are needed.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Co-location of licensed premises and school premises, the new one should not be given permission if the other is already located in the area.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Spot checks by Council officers on gambling premises to ensure that age limits are enforced.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Reduce the availability of scratchcard etc in newsagents</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>The existing measures seem appropriate.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Outlaw gambling on mobile phones</p>	<p>1</p>

<p>I don't have any easy answers to this. Maybe that most benefits should be paid 'in kind' - to landlords etc and ensuring that some benefits are paid in food stamps and children's clothing grants, for school uniform etc, if this is not already the case.</p> <p>I also strongly believe that, like cigarettes, both alcohol and gambling sites should be banned from advertising on TV - however this is a national issue rather than a local one.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Proper checking of IDs for access and gambling.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>No gambling premises near schools. Restriction of the number of betting shops in the borough.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Ban advertising. Ensure there is close monitoring of gambling premises including slot machines, and increase rates on existing premises. Refuse permission to new proposals for gambling premises.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Richmond town does attract large numbers of children and young people who come to the town to meet and socialise in the open spaces and coffee and food led premises. While we are not making a specific recommendation for Policy amendment we provide this comment as evidence of the need for the Policy and Regulation of gambling.</p>	<p>1</p>

Question 11

If you have any additional comments you would like to make about the Statement of Principles under the Gaming Act 2005, please use the space below. Please refer to specific paragraphs.

This open response (free text) question was answered by 6 respondents.

Response	Number of Respondents
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<p>Gambling ruins lives every day. It is a very profitable business and the companies involved have the resources to lobby Councils to reduce restrictions on gambling. Please stand up for those who cannot help themselves . Please do not reduce those restrictions.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>3.3 There are references to villages - the new administration has defined the area as a group of towns - see the intro to the new Local Plan</p> <p>3.4 The Council is again shooting itself in the foot by making out the main character of the borough is that of affluence- you may have to be affluent to buy a house in the borough today as a first-time buyer- but most residents bought their houses when prices were considerably lower. The council should instead refer to national statistics on household income - may be also presented as a heat map of incomes per ward - as this will help the council greatly if a refusal is challenged in a court of law - as this will highlight some areas are unsuitable for extra betting shops.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Everybody gambles. Whether it is 'investing' on the stock market; betting on a horse race; or crossing the road. Failure to educate properly is the key.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Section 4.2 gives a list of bodies consulted. I would like to know specifically who has been consulted under the faith group sector.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Ban credit betting.</p>	<p>1</p>

1. Richmond Town is frequented on the streets and open spaces, as in other towns, by homeless and vulnerable people and has two centres providing support and care for such people. It is important to recognise these situations when considering gambling facilities in the town. While we are not making a specific recommendation for Policy amendment we provide this comment as evidence of the need for the Policy and Regulation of gambling.

2. The Policy does deal specifically with vessels. Richmond is unique in the length of river, the Thames, in the borough. Occasionally there have been issues under the Alcohol Licensing Act where residents have had difficulty making representations in respect of vessels that pass their homes but which are registered in another borough (e.g. Kingston). We are not aware of any issue of this nature regarding gambling but we suggest the Licensing Authority ensure this issue of representation is forestalled either through provisions in the Gambling Policy or other means.