

Report to:	Licensing Panel
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services
Date of Meeting :	1 August 2016

APPLICATION FOR A LICENSED PREMISES GAMING MACHINE PERMIT – Lawton Hotel

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider an application for a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit in respect of the Lawton Hotel, 58-68 Charnley Road.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 The panel is requested to consider the application and determine whether the granting of this permit would adversely impact on the licensing objectives.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 The application represents a significant number of machines and the Licensing Panel's views are requested as to the suitability of the premises in respect of the Local Policy outlined in paragraph 4.3.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

4.0 Background Information

- 4.1 On 5 July 2016 the Licensing Service received an application from Darren Wilkinson and Malcolm Daley for a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit at the Lawton Hotel. This permit is to authorise 12 Category D gaming machines.

4.2 Although licensing officers have delegated powers to grant such a permit, officers felt that the due to the number of machines requested the matter should be considered by the Licensing Panel.

4.3 **Local policy considerations**

The Council's policy indicates that where an applicant can demonstrate compliance with the Gambling Commissions Code of Practice on gaming machines, granting of the application will be the normal course as long as the number of machines requested can be shown to be reasonable in relation to the size of the premises.

4.4 **National policy considerations**

Holders of permits must comply with the Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission. This code of practice states that "all gaming machines situated on the premises must be located in a place within the premises so that their use can be supervised either by staff whose duties include such supervision (including bar or floor staff) or by other means. Permit holders must have in place arrangements for such supervision."

4.5 **Observations**

There are no age restrictions on who can play Category D gaming machines. The applicant has been requested to provide a plan to show the proposed location of the machines to demonstrate compliance with the Gambling Commission Code of Practice. The plan is attached at Appendix 5a showing the locations as an x.

4.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

4.7 **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 5a: Plan showing location of machines

5.0 **Legal considerations:**

5.1 Please see local and national policy in the background information.

6.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

6.1 None

7.0 **Equalities considerations:**

7.1 None

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 None