

Eastbourne Borough Council
Licensing
1 Grove Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex BN21 4TW

18th September 2015

Dear Sir,

Consultation on Eastbourne Borough Council's Statement of Principles – Gambling Act 2005

Coral Racing Limited is most grateful to be given the opportunity to respond to this consultation exercise. Coral was one of the first national bookmakers to be licensed under the Betting and Gaming Act of 1960, and so has been operating the length and breadth of the UK for over 50 years. Its premises comprise locations in the inner city, on the high street, in suburbs and in rural areas, and in areas of both high and low deprivation. It now operates 1850 betting offices across Great Britain, which comprise about 20% of all licensed betting offices. It is, therefore, a highly experienced operator.

Coral Racing Limited are supportive of the document. It again notes that the Board when considering applications are still required to 'aim to permit gambling' where this is 'reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives', additionally noting that it should not take into account of any moral objections to gambling.

Coral Racing Limited recognise the requirement to supply risk assessments with future applications & variations following the consultation completion (requirement is from 6th April 2016) and whilst this detail is not currently included within the Statement, we would be pleased to contribute to a consultation when it is.

Coral's experience is that through all it does, it achieves an exemplary degree of compliance already, and attracts negligible evidence of regulatory harm. Through the additional local risk assessment to be introduced, Coral believe that these should be a) to assess specific risks to the licensing objectives in the local area, and b) to assess whether control measures going beyond standard control measures are needed.

We would additionally caution against the council providing a long list of locations which must be risk assessed and instructions / templates for completion which are not proportionate to the styles of businesses we operate.

If we can provide any further information, we would be pleased to do so.

Yours faithfully,



John Liddle
Director of Development – Coral Retail



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