

**ANNE BRERETON
DIRECTOR FOR PLACES**

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Email: gamblingpolicy@solihull.gov.uk
www.solihull.gov.uk

Please ask for: Gavin Morrice

Date: 28 January 2009

Dear Sir or Madam:

Gambling Act 2005

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, as the Licensing Authority for this district, has been granted the right to issue a Large Casino Licence.

In this regard no specific site has been identified as the preferred location for a new Casino premises and the Council will expect those who wish to operate the facility, to nominate their own preferred location and support their nomination with evidence of how best such a development would meet the regeneration needs of the borough.

The Gambling Act 2005 sets out three objectives, which underpin the functions of the Gambling Commission and the Licensing Authority. These will be taken into account when any application for a Casino Premises Licence is considered.

The objectives are:

- To prevent gambling from being a source of Crime and Disorder, being associated with Crime and Disorder, or being used to support crime.
- To ensure that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way
- To protect children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

Regulations made under the Gambling Act set out the process Licensing Authorities must follow in awarding a casino licence. Before considering an application, a licensing authority must publish an invitation calling for applications and make arrangements to provide information relating to the application (the application pack) available free of charge.

The Council is now seeking views on its draft Application Pack.

The draft Application Pack documents are available at the following Internet address www.solihull.gov.uk/consultation. Hard copies will also be available on request from Solihull Council House or Solihull Connect, Library Square, Solihull, during normal office hours.

If you wish to comment on the draft Application Pack, your written responses should be addressed to:

Mr Gavin Morrice
Public Protection Manager
PO Box 1833
Council House
Solihull
B91 9DZ

Comments may also be made by email to gamblingpolicy@solihull.gov.uk marked for the attention of Mr Gavin Morrice.

This consultation period will close on Thursday 25 February 2010

The Council recognises that potential applicants and operators may wish to enter into discussions with the Council to understand what Solihull can offer as an investment location or to discuss licensing or planning issues. The Council has therefore identified three points of contact for applicants wishing to communicate with the Authority. These are:-

- For all queries relating to the licensing process - Gavin Morrice, Public Protection Manager, PO Box 1833, Council House Solihull, B91 9DZ (Email gmorrice@solihull.gov.uk / Tel 0121 704 6811).
- For all queries relating to planning and land use – Gary Palmer, Head of Design & Development, Solihull Central Library, Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3RG (Email gpalmer@solihull.gov.uk / Tel 0121 704 6372)
- For all queries relating to investment and regeneration – Rachel Egan, Employment, Learning & Engagement Manager, , PO Box 18, Council House, Solihull, B91 9QS (Email. regan@solihull.gov.uk / Tel. 0121 704 8219).

All communications from potential applicants should be channelled through these points of contact.

The Council is also inviting potential applicants and operators to an Open Day where they can learn more about Solihull as a place to invest and do business, together with the Council's economic development and regeneration priorities.

The Open Day is being held on **12 February** from **10 am to 4 pm** at the Holiday Inn, Homer Road, Solihull. To register your attendance or request more information, please contact Rachel Westwood or Clare Rudge (rwestwood@solihull.gov.uk / 0121 704 6047 or crudge@solihull.gov.uk / 0121 704 6151) by Monday 8th February 2010.

Yours sincerely



Gavin Morrice
Public Protection Manager
Places Directorate