

<b>Title of Report:</b>  <b>Draft Amusement Permit Policy</b>	<b>Officer Presenting: Director of Health and Community</b>  <b>Author: Head of Health and Community Wellbeing</b>
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## **1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek Members' approval of the draft Amusement Permit Policy (Appendix 1) following a public consultation exercise (HC50/18).

## **2 Background Information**

- 2.1 In order to operate an amusement arcade an application must be made to Council for an amusement permit under the Betting and Gaming (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 as amended by The Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (NI) Order 1985.
- 2.2 The PSNI enforce amusement permit legislation and inspect amusement arcades to ensure that the permit holder complies with statutory requirements.
- 2.3 Applicants must obtain planning permission for the proposed development before applying for a new amusement permit.
- 2.4 An Internal Audit report of the Council's Licensing service (AAR20/18) highlighted the need for an Amusement Permit Policy to be developed.
- 2.5 A 6 week public consultation ended on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 (Appendix 2) and in excess of 100 organisations were notified of the consultation (Appendix 3).
- 2.6 A total of 7 responses have been received by Council (Appendix 4) and an officer response including recommendations have been provided where appropriate as outlined in Appendix 5.

## **3 Key Issues**

- 3.1 The policy will serve as a guide for Members, Council officers, applicants and the wider public on the decision making process for amusement permit applications in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area.
- 3.2 The proposed amusement policy would enable Council to include in the assessment of an amusement application the following criteria:
  - Impact on retail vitality and viability of Derry City and Strabane
  - Cumulative build-up of amusement arcades in a particular location

- Impact on the image and profile of the Derry City and Strabane District Council area
- Proximity to residential use
- Proximity to schools, youth centres and residential institutions

3.3 The Health and Community Wellbeing department will liaise with the Planning department to establish a consultation mechanism for assessing planning applications for proposed amusement arcades.

#### **4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement and other Implications**

4.1 Any costs associated with implementing the new policy will be met from within existing budgets.

4.2 The relevant equality and good relations implications of the Amusement Permit Policy have been screened (Appendix 6).

4.3 A rural needs impact assessment has been undertaken and no adverse impact has been identified (Appendix 7).

#### **5 Recommendations**

5.1 The Committee is asked to note the submissions received as part of the public consultation exercise and approve the draft Amusement Permit Policy (Appendix 1).

#### **Background Papers**

Appendix 1: Draft Amusement Permit Policy

Appendix 2: Public Notices

Appendix 3: Organisations Consulted on draft Policy

Appendix 4: Responses to public consultation


Appendix 5: Council Officer Observations and comments

Appendix 6: Section 75 Screening

Appendix 7: Rural Proofing Screening

Mins Ref: HC50/18; AAR20/18

# Appendix 2 Copy of Public Notice published in newspapers

Newspapers & Dates	Copy of Public Add
<p><b>Derry Journal / Sentinel</b></p> <p><b>Strabane Chronicle / Ulster Herald</b></p> <p><b>Strabane Weekly / Tyrone Constitution</b></p> <p><b>Publications: Publication Dates:</b></p> <p><b>Derry Journal.....15.05.2018 Londonderry</b></p> <p><b>Sentinel .....16.05.2018 Strabane</b></p> <p><b>Chronicle .....17.05.2018 Strabane</b></p> <p><b>Weekly News.....17.05.2018 Tyrone</b></p> <p><b>Constitution.....17.05.2018 Ulster</b></p> <p><b>Herald.....17.05.2018</b></p>	 <p>DCSDC_Public Notice_Amusement Permit Policy_May_2018 Strabane Chronicle Ulster</p> <p><b>Derry City &amp; Strabane District Council</b>  <small>Council &amp; Chamber of Deputies &amp; Chamber of Strabane Wards</small>  <b>Derry City &amp; Strabane District Council</b></p> <p><b>Public Notice</b></p> <p><b>'Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985'</b>  <b>Consultation on Proposed Amusement Permit Policy</b></p> <p>Derry City and Strabane District Council is directly empowered to grant or refuse amusement permits in the Council jurisdiction under the 'Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985' as amended, ('the 1985 Order').</p> <p>This means that the Council issue amusement permits to premises with planning permission, typically described as amusement arcades, which have 'amusement with prizes machines' normally known as gaming machines.</p> <p>In doing so, we aim to support a vibrant business environment, create opportunities for businesses and provide diversity and consumer choice, while at the same time preventing nuisance and inconvenience, protecting public safety and averting crime and disorder.</p> <p>Currently we are reviewing our policy with respect to amusement arcades.</p> <p><b>We would welcome comments and recommendations on the proposed policy that Council ought to consider.</b></p> <p><b>The proposed Policy can be viewed at <a href="http://www.derrystrabane.com/licensing">www.derrystrabane.com/licensing</a></b></p> <p>Further details and information on how you can contribute to this consultation may be obtained, at:  <a href="http://www.derrystrabane.com/licensing">www.derrystrabane.com/licensing</a>  or, by contacting the Licensing Team:  e-mail <a href="mailto:licensing@derrystrabane.com">licensing@derrystrabane.com</a></p> <p><b>Please Note.</b>  <b>All comments and recommendations must be forwarded before 12 noon on 30th June 2018.</b></p> <p><b><a href="http://www.derrystrabane.com">www.derrystrabane.com</a></b></p> <p><b>John Keple MEng., CEng, MSc, MScE, MSc</b>  <b>Chief Executive</b>  Derry City and Strabane District Council</p> <p><b>Derry</b> C/o Council Offices, 98 Strand Road, Derry BT48 7NN  <b>Strabane</b> C/o Council Offices, 47 Derry Road Strabane BT18 8DY</p>

## Appendix 3 Organisations Consulted on Draft Amusement Policy

COMMUNITY GROUPS			
	Premises	Address 1	Town
1	Acorn Centre @ St Peters	192a Culmore Road	Derry
2	Ann Street Family and Childcare Centre	42a Anne Street	Derry
3	Ballylaw Community Regeneration Group	88 Berryhill Road	Dunnamanagh
4	Caw/Nelson Drive Action Group	205 Sperrin Park	Derry
5	Churchtown Community Association	48 Lurganboy Road	Castledearg
6	Clooney Estate Residents Association	55 Heron Way	Derry
7	Creggan Neighbourhood Partnership	Creggan	Derry
8	Fountain Street Community Centre	41 Fountain Street	Strabane
9	Garvagh & District Community Association	50 Carn Road	Castledearg
10	Hillcrest House	14-17 Jasmine Court	Derry
11	Irish Street Community Association	16 Bann Drive	Derry
12	Killeter Heritage & Enterprise Centre	15 Main Street	Killeter
13	Learmount Community Centre	192 Learmount Road	Derry
14	Lettershandoney District Development Group	32 Lettershendony Avenue	Drumahoe
15	Newtownstewart Centre 2000	17 Moyle Road	Newtownstewart
16	Park Hall Group	Altinure Road	Derry
17	Pat Finucan Centre	Unit B8 Rath Mor Shopping Centre	Derry
18	Pennyburn Youth & Community Club	5 Bunrana Road	Derry
19	Pilots Row Community Centre	3 Rossville Street	Derry
20	Rosemount Resource Centre	Westway	Derry
21	Rosemount Youth Centre	26a Rosemount Avenue	Derry
22	Sheperds View Young Parents Project	200 Good Shepherd Glen	Derry
23	Sion Mills Community Association	2 Garden Road	Sion Mills
24	Spamount Community Centre	9 Mill Avenue	Castledearg
25	Strabane Ethnic Community Association	2-4 Abercorn Square	Strabane
26	Strathfoyle Community Association	31-33Bawnmore Place	Derry
27	Strathfoyle Youth Centre	16 Deramore Drive	Derry
28	Studio Two	Units 2, 3&4 Beraghmore Road	Derry
29	The Foyle Haven	23a John Street	Derry
30	The Gas Yard Centre	128 Lecky Road	Derry
31	Waterside Youth Club	40 Dungiven Road	Derry
32	Samaritans of Derry	16 Clarendon Street	Derry
33	Londonderry Chamber of Commerce	16 Bishop Street	Derry
34	Gamblers Anonymous	2Methodist Church	Derry
35	HURT	14 Clarendon Street	Derry
36	Aware NI	15 Queen Street	Derry
37	Public Health Agency	15 Gransha Park	Derry
38	CCI	1-3 Waterloo Place	Derry

**CHURCHES**

<b>ID</b>	<b>Name of Premises</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Town</b>
1	Castledearg Second Presbyterian Church	William Street	Castledearg
2	Aghyaran Methodist Church	1 Aghyaran Road	Castledearg
3	All Saints Church	34b Clooney Terrace	Londonderry
4	Knockwellan Apostolic Church	87-89 Irish Street	Londonderry
5	Ardstraw Church of Ireland (NTS)	23 Main Street	Newtownstewart
6	Badoney Parish Church	Glenelly Road	Plumbridge
7	Baronscourt Church of Ireland	Byturn Road	Newtownstewart
8	Bready Reformed Presbyterian Church	Victoria Road	Bready
9	Carlisle Road Methodist Church	19 Carlisle Road	Londonderry
10	Carmelite Retreat Centre Termonbacca	5 Brae Head Road	Londonderry
11	Castledearg Baptist Church	10 Upper Strabane Road	Castledearg
12	Castledearg Free Presbyterian Church	2 Castlegore Road	Castledearg
13	Castledearg Methodist Church	The Diamond	Castledearg
14	Cavandarragh Methodist Church	Cavandarragh Road	Castledearg
15	Christ Church	7 Infirmary Road	Londonderry
16	Church Of The Good Shepherd	Melmount Road	Sion Mills
17	Church Of The Immaculate Conception	10 Trench Road	Londonderry
18	Clare Church of Ireland	70 Greenville Road	Castledearg
19	Corrick Presbyterian Church	16 Plumbridge Road	Newtownstewart
20	Cumber Upper Parish Church	91 Cumber Road	Claudy
21	Derg Parish Church, St John's	Main Street	Castledearg
22	Donagheady Presbyterian Church	Altrest Road	Strabane
23	Donemana Baptist Church	207 Berryhill Road	Dunnamanagh
24	Donemana Presbyterian Church	Church View	Dunnamanagh
25	Douglas Bridge Presbyterian Church	15 Urbalreagh Road	Victoria Bridge
26	Drumlegagh Presbyterian Church	Drumlegagh Church Road	Newtownstewart
27	Dunnalong Church of Ireland	1 Lowertown Road	Ballymagorry
28	Ebrington Presbyterian Church	1a Limavady Road	Londonderry
29	Elim Church	3 Upper Strabane Road	Castledearg
30	Faughanvale Presbyterian	Killylane Road	Derry
31	First Presbyterian Church	3 Magazine Street	Londonderry
32	Glenelly Presbyterian Church	Bradkeel Road	Plumbridge
33	Holy Trinity Church	175 Culmore Road	Londonderry
34	Church Of The Immaculate Conception	Barrack Street	Strabane
35	Kilfennan Presbyterian Church	54 Rosstown Road	Londonderry
36	Killaloo Holy Trinity Church	291 Glenshane Road	Londonderry
37	Killeter Presbyterian Church	Carn Road	Castledearg
38	Kilmore Gospel Hall	93 Kirlish Road	Drumquin
39	Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses	21 Chestnut Park	Strabane
40	Leckpatrick Church of Ireland	1 Lowertown Road	Ballymagorry
41	Leckpatrick Presbyterian Church	40 Berryhill Road	Artigarvan
42	Lisleen Methodist Church	28 Shanog Road	Killen
43	Magheramason Presbyterian Church	Victoria Road	Magheramason
44	Mulvin Free Presbyterian Church	Melmount Road	Strabane
45	Newtownstewart Gospel Hall	Dublin Street	Newtownstewart
46	Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church	82 Dublin Street	Newtownstewart
47	N W Baptist Church	15 The Diamond	Londonderry
48	Our Lady of Lourdes	11 Steelstown Road	Londonderry
49	Sacred Heart Chapel	30 Derry Road	Strabane
50	Sacred Heart Chapel (Plumbridge)	20 Dergbrough Road	Plumbridge
51	Sion Mills Baptist Church	Melmount Road	Sion Mills
52	Sion Mills Presbyterian Church	Melmount Road	Sion Mills
53	St Columba's Presbtery	6 Victoria Place	Londonderry
54	St Columbs Cathedral	London Street	Londonderry
55	St Eugene's Chapel (Castledearg)	16 Castlefin Road	Castledearg
56	St Eugene's Chapel (Glenock) NTS	41 Moyle Road	Newtownstewart
57	Church Of St Francis Of Assisi	Drumnabey Road	Spamount
58	Creaghan Glebe Parish Church	35 Longland Road	Dunnamanagh
59	St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church	78 Moorlough Road	Artigarvan
60	St. Josephs Chapel	Fairview Road	Londonderry
61	St Mary's Chapel (Aghabrack)	78 Lisnaragh Road	Dunnamanagh
62	St Mary's Church	Cloughcor Road	Ballymagorry
63	St. Eugene's Church	16 Castlefin Road	Castledearg

**AMUSEMENT PERMITS**

ID	Name of Premises	Address 1	Town
1	ACE	100 Dukes Street	Derry
2	Leisure Arcade Ltd	15 William Street	Derry
3	Hustlers Pool Hall	17 Abercorn Square	Strabane
4	Vale Entertainments Ltd	70c Strand Road	Derry
5	Oasis Gaming Centre	Unit 23 Level 2	Derry
6	Gaming Arcade	1-2 Bank Place	Derry
7	Fortuna Enterprises Ltd	38 William Street	Derry
8	M.H. Amusement Arcade	69c Main Street	Strabane
9	Rainbow Amusements	69a Main Street	Strabane
10	Star Bingo	5 Bank Place	Derry
11	Pennyburn Amusements	Unit 1b Pennyburn Industrial Estate	Derry
12	Commodore Amusement Arcade	16a Castle Street	Strabane
13	Grand Casino	93 Main Street	Strabane
14	Fortuna Enterprise Ltd	Brunswick Movie Bowl Pennyburn	Derry
15	P Gallagher Amusements	4 Mill Street	Newtownstewart

## Appendix 4: Responses to Consultation

### (a) Respondent '1'

#### Consultation on proposed 'Amusement Permit Policy' About you

<b>Name:</b> [REDACTED]	
<b>Address:</b> [REDACTED]	
<b>Tel.</b> [REDACTED]	<b>e-mail:</b>

#### Which of the following best describes you? (insert a tick ✓)

I own an amusement arcade	
I own a business premises	
I am a local resident	
Other	
(please specify)	Representing an amusement arcade owner

#### Comments on proposed policy

In relation to the proposed amusement permit policy is there any comments that you wish to make?	
Policy Paragraph Reference	Comment
3.0	Planning regulations and policy already assess the suitability of a location. Recent grants of planning permission for the change of use of a premises should be given significant weight, as many of these applications include expert assessments carried out such as noise impact and include consultation with Environmental Health officers within the council to determine the suitability of an amusement arcade.
3.03	Does not take into the consideration an applicant may be looking to transfer an amusement permit from one premises to another. There is no facility to do this, yet it is practically the same as a renewal. Part (a) of this also makes references to outdated planning policy (PPS 5) and puts significant weight on DCAN 1, which is simply planning advice and does not carry significant weight in making planning decisions.
3.04	Similarly, this criterion does not take into consideration an instance where an owner wishes to transfer an amusement permit. Currently an owner has to apply for a new permit, so if the premises was on the same street a new permit would not be granted as one already exists at that owner's current premises. Again, in part (a) of this paragraph out dated planning policy has been referred to, which questions the basis of this criteria as part (a) of these paragraphs is the "justification" behind the criteria. We also do not believe that 1 premises should be the maximum allowed on a street, as it is unrealistic to consider two a "cumulative build-up". This will also be site specific in terms of the length of the street and the surrounding area.
3.05	Does not clarify what locations are tourism assets or gateway locations in Derry City & Strabane Town Centre.
3.06	Clarification that commercial units with residential flats located above should not be considered within these criteria. The justification and clarification also relates to DCAN 1, which is an advice note from 1983 which in planning terms has very little weight in making a decision.
3.07	This criteria makes the assumption that "vulnerable people" will be attracted to gambling and the use of amusement arcades. It is also the responsibility of the owner and operator to ensure fair and responsible gambling takes place at the premises. This is currently a requirement in the application process now that the applicant/owner is a suitable character to provide this cover. There also are age restrictions placed on gambling which ensures underage gambling does not take place. The proposal that the council will not permit amusement arcades within 200m of a school, youth centre or residential institution is not a fair restriction, as if people want to visit an amusement arcade they will travel or walk further than that anyway.

### Any other comments

There currently is no opportunity for an arcade owner who already has an amusement permit at current premises to transfer the permit to another premises. Currently an owner of an amusement arcade who, due to reasons out of their control, may wish to relocate their business to an alternative premise will have to apply for a new amusement permit. This draft policy is clearly set out to make obtaining a new amusement permit more difficult. Some of the policies discussed above restrict an amusement arcade owner to transfer an existing permit.

There is no evidence of substantial research or justification behind the policies which are included within this document. We believe the council should have carried out in depth discussions with stakeholders regarding this proposed policy. This should have included business owners, amusement arcade owners, members of the public and community groups across the city. We believe the criteria included should all be challenged as to the reasoning behind each of these and the council should have carried out in-depth studies as to what the trends are within the city and policy should be formed on the back of in-depth research.

This form should be

- sent to The Licensing Team, Derry City and Strabane District Council, 98 Strand Road, Derry, BT48 7NN, or 47 Derry Road, Strabane, BT82 8DY
- e-mailed to: [licensingderrvstrabane.com](mailto:licensingderrvstrabane.com)

**Before 12 noon on 30th June 2018**

**Thank you for taking the time to submit your comments and/or suggestions**



(b) Respondent '2'

Consultation on proposed 'Amusement Permit Policy' About you

Name:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] church, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
e-mail:	[REDACTED]

Which of the following best describes you? (insert a tick ✓)

I own an amusement arcade	<input type="checkbox"/>
I own a business premises	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am a local resident	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
(please specify)	[REDACTED] people of the council area

Comments on proposed policy

In relation to the proposed amusement permit policy is there any comments that you wish to make?	
Policy Paragraph Reference	Comment
1.04	In line with your strategic objectives
2.01	Good that public are consulted as well as the statutory bodies
2.05 (a)	Applicants to place an advert in 2 local papers- but it does not state a closing date for submissions
3.01	Very good idea
3.03	Good, so as not to break up continuous shopping frontage
3.07	Totally agree
4.00	We do not welcome — " this does not prevent the council from departing from this policy where it is appropriate to do so" — no examples were given for this . We are disappointed that this sentence has been included as it appears to be the "opt out clause " . This is a very good policy with out this line This policy has considered many points and we look forward to the council adhering to this policy in a coherent and consistent manner

Any other comments

Thankyou for including us in this Consultation and if we can help you in any way we are willing to do so

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e-mailed to: [licensing@derrystrabane.com](mailto:licensing@derrystrabane.com)

- Before 12 noon on 30th June 2018
- Thank you for taking the time to submit your comments and/or suggestions

(c) Respondent 3

Consultation on proposed 'Amusement Permit Policy'

About you

Name: [REDACTED]	
Address: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	
Tel: [REDACTED]	e-mail: [REDACTED]

Which of the following best describes you? (insert a tick ✓)

I own an amusement arcade	
I own a business premises	
I am a local resident	✓
Other (please specify)	[REDACTED]

Comments on proposed policy

In relation to the proposed amusement permit policy is there any comments that you wish to make?	
Policy Paragraph Reference	Comment
3.03	Clarify what this means for any application to 'extend' an existing permit to include more machines.
3.04	Reference to 'DOE (NI) Planning', should that be 'DfI'? - repeated elsewhere.

Derry City and Strabane District Council

26 JUN 2018

Health & Community Directorate  
HEALTH & COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Any other comments

I agree with much of the draft. Important that we prevent proliferation of Gaming Arcades in City Centre and protect residential areas also. There are already too many machines here.

(d) Respondent '4'

I have read the policy document with interest and welcome it in general. I have been in the business of Amusement Arcades for 30 years. I currently own 6 permits in the Council area and a further 6 permits in other parts of Northern Ireland.

I am very familiar with the needs of the gaming industry and the vulnerability of certain individuals who need protection from addiction.

I operate a very strict code especially in relation to "distressed" gamblers with the necessary safeguards.

The idea of gaming is very much part of the "leisure Industry". The vast majority of Customers enjoy a "flutter" without the issue of addiction. Most gaming as you know now takes place over the "internet".

In general therefore the benefits of gaming Arcades is that they provide a source of enjoyment and also provide employment.

As regards policy guidance – I believe that the Council should have regard (1) to "Need" to avoid "clustering" (2) Suitability of the premises (3) a strict and enforceable code of conduct.

I would like to meet with the Licensing Committee as I believe (from my own wealth of experience) I could assist in defining a policy which should form the basis of Council's Policy going forward.

(e) Respondent '5'

**Consultation on proposed 'Amusement Permit Policy'**

**About you**

Name: [REDACTED]	
Address: [REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]	e-mail: [REDACTED]

**Which of the following best describes you? (Insert a tick )**

I own an amusement arcade	<input type="checkbox"/>
I own a business premises	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am a local resident	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
(please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Comments on proposed policy**

In relation to the proposed amusement permit policy is there any comments that you wish to make?	
Policy Paragraph Reference	Comment
	With reference to amusement permit policy I feel that these permits should be very strictly monitored and very sparingly issued. Gambling is the new smoking /drinking.
	But it is a very hidden addiction - at least if a friend or family member is a drinker - they can be seen to be drunk - but no-one can see the untold damage a gambler is doing to themselves and family. A wife for instance does not realise that she is about to lose her home and perhaps all her possessions because of debts the partner/ husband has incurred. This could also be a wife who is the gambler.
	I object to all the amusement arcades which are springing up in town. I think we have enough.

**Any other comments**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

This form should be

- sent to The Licensing Team, Derry City and Strabane District Council, 9 Grand Road, Derry, BT48 7NN, or 47 Derry Road, Strabane, BT82 8DY
- e-mailed to: [licensing@derrystrabane.com](mailto:licensing@derrystrabane.com)

**Before 12 noon on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

Thank you for taking the time to submit your comments and/or suggestions



**Derry Office**

**03 JUL 2018**

98 Strand Road  
Derry, BT48 7NN

H Health & Community Directorate  
28/06/2018 HEALTH & COMMUNITY WELLBEING

### COMPLAINT

Wish make complaint regarding regarding Newtownabbey-based Oasis Retail Services had lodged an application with Derry City and Strabane District Council for an amusement permit to open a gaming centre at Unit 23 on Level 2 of the Richmond Centre.

i personally go to town lots like walking round looking at all shops bying we thing here there i personally would not like see this based Oasis Retail Services open a

gambling arcade it be worst thing ever its last thing that derry city needs is that sort thing its last thing that derry needs

the application should be refused

<https://www.derrynow.com/news/derrys-council-review-current-policy-grantingpermits-amusement-arcades-city/234235>

OMG

by looks things this Oasis Retail has managed to open one thes gambling arcades OMG thats bazar

However, the decision was then quashed at a hearing of the Court of Appeal in Derry after Judge Elizabeth McCaffrey said she had a number of concerns with council's reasons for refusal and granted the appeal am going be wrighting to Elizabeth McCaffrey as she dont have live there and shop there its outrages that she gave thes

con merchants permission open a gambling arcade its last thing that deny needs its barbaric thes crooks are above the law

Council has also stated that one of its corporate objectives is to 'support people, communities and neighbourhoods' and that this is also a key objective of this policy and therefore will seek to 'prevent amusement arcades opening in predominantly residential areas'.

Commenting, the SDLP Foyle MLA urged local people to have their say in the consultation There has been a lot of local opposition to and anger about recent applications for gaming arcades, thes thugs are not intrested in the impack it will cause there just after profits regardless where the money comes from

Oasis Retail Services LTD

Mallusk Dr, Newtownabbey BT36 4GX

<https://www.derrynow.com/news/derrys-council-reviews-current-policy-granting-permits-to-movement-arcades-dbt/234235>

that's bazar that you be able to Intimidate and abuse they system get profits

that's decoucting its outrages no better than bunch oon merohants youc dontoare

about the Inpack it will cause its last thing derry city needs is bunch oon

merohants opening gambling arcades

## **Appendix 5 Council Officer Observations and Suggestions**

<p>With reference to amusement policy I feel that these permits should be very strictly monitored and very sparingly issued. Gaming is the new smoking/drinking. But it is a very hidden addiction- at least if a friend or family member is a drinker - they can be seen to be drunk but no-one can see the untold damage a gambler is doing to themselves and family. A wife for instance does not realise that she is about to loose her home and perhaps all her possessions because of debts the partner/husband has incurred. This could also be a wife who is the gambler. I object to all the amusement arcades which are springing up in town. I think we have enough.</p>	<p>Respondent 5 Local resident See Appendix '1' ( e )</p>	<p><b>Noted.</b> Members to consider respondents opinion and comments.</p>	
<p>Wish make complaint regarding regarding Newtownabbey-based Oasis Retail. Services had lodged an application with Derry City and Strabane District Council for an amusement permit to open a gaming centre at Unit 23 on Level 2 of the Richmond Centre. I personally go to town lots like walking round looking at all shops bying we thing here there i personally would not like see this based Oasis Retail Services open a gambling arcade it be worst thing ever its last thing that derry city needs is that sort thing its last thing that derry needs the application should be refused. OMG by looks things this Oasis Retail has managed to open one thes gambling arcades OMG thats bazar.</p>	<p>Respondent 6 local resident See Appendix '1' ( f )</p>	<p><b>Noted.</b> Respondent refers to Court Case and local newspaper articles .</p>	



Comment	Respondant Status	Officer response/recommendation
<p>I have read the policy document with interest and welcome it In general. I have been in the business of Amusement Arcades for 30 years. I currently own 6 permits in the Council area and a further 6 permits in other parts of Northern Ireland. I am very familiar with the needs of the gaming industry and the vulnerability of certain individuals who need protection from addiction. I operate a very strict code especially in relation to "distressed" gamblers with the necessary safeguards. The idea of gaming is very much part of the "leisure Industry". The vast majority of Customers enjoy a "flutter" without the issue of addiction. Most gaming as you know now takes place over the "Internet". In general therefore the benefits of gaming Arcades is that they provide a source of enjoyment and also provide employment. As regards policy guidance — I believe that the Council should have regard (1) to "Need" to avoid "clustering"(2) Suitability of the premises (3) a strict and enforceable code of conduct. I would like to meet with the Licensing Committee as I believe (from my own wealth of experience) I could assist in defining a policy which should form the basis of Council's Policy going forward.</p>	<p>Respondent 4 Amusement Arcade Owner See Appendix '1' (d)</p>	<p><b>Noted: No action required</b></p>
<p>With reference to amusement policy I feel that these permits should be very strictly monitored and very sparingly issued. Gaming is the new smoking/drinking. But it is a very hidden addiction- at least if a friend or family member is a drinker - they can be seen to be drunk but no-one can see the untold damage a gambler is doing to themselves and family. A wife for instance does not realise that she is about to loose her home and perhaps all her possessions because of debts the partner/husband has incurred. This could also be a wife who is the gambler. I object to all the amusement arcades which are springing up in town. I think we have enough.</p>	<p>Respondent 5 Local resident See Appendix '1' ( e )</p>	<p><b>Action :- Members to consider draft policy.</b></p>
<p>Wish make complaint regarding regarding Newtownabbey-based Oasis Retail. Services had lodged an application with Derry City and Strabane District Council for an amusement permit to open a gaming centre at Unit 23 on Level 2 of the Richmond Centre. I personally go to town lots like walking round looking at all shops bying we thing here there i personally would not like see this based Oasis Retail Services open a gambling arcade it be worst thing ever its last thing that derry city needs is that sort thing its last thing that derry needs the application should be refused. OMG by looks things this Oasis Retail has managed to open one thes gambling arcades OMG thats bazar.</p>	<p>Respondent 6 local resident See Appendix '1' ( f )</p>	<p><b>Noted.</b> Comments relate to Court Case .</p>

Policy Paragraph Reference	Comment	Respondant Status	Observations
1.04	In line with your strategic objectives	Respondent 2 Church people of the council area See Appendix '1' (b)	<b>Noted.</b> Policy to reflect strategic objectives
2.01	Good that public are consulted as well as the statutory bodies	Respondent 2 Church people of the council area See Appendix '1' (b)	<b>Noted</b>
2.05 (a)	Applicants to place an advert in 2 local papers- but it does not state a closing date for submissions	Respondent 2 Church people of the council area See Appendix '1' (b)	<b>Noted.</b> The Amusement Permit (Additional Grounds for Refusal) Regulation (NI) 1994 Schedule specifies the requirements for advertising the 'public notice' in the newspaper (within 7 days of the application), and Regulation 3 specifies that representations must be made within 28 days of the application.

