

APPENDIX 'A' TO LICENSING COMMITTEE MINUTES –
4 NOVEMBER 2009 – MINUTE 347 REFERS

No prejudice or advantage to any existing operator

There are no casinos in the District at present, and there have been no applications to operate casinos in the District in the first three years of operation of the Gambling Act 2005.

A decision to pass a “no casinos” resolution could be reversed by resolution of the full Council, but it would place the applicant in a position of having to justify why a Casino Licence should be issued.

Sufficient existing facilities

Online gambling is available through the Internet, and there are sufficient alternative venues within the District which provide a social setting for meals, refreshments, drinking and entertainment.

Promotion of the Council's corporate objectives

A “no casinos” resolution will help to restrict the amount of gambling that takes place in the East Herts area.

Gambling affects physical, social and mental well being, and creates debt. Some people in vulnerable groups are especially prone to becoming problem gamblers.

East Herts Council therefore considers that granting licences to operate casinos within East Herts would be contrary to, and that not granting licences would not undermine the Council objective of:

Promoting prosperity and well-being; providing access and opportunities

Enhance the quality of life, health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities, particularly those who are vulnerable.