
Report To:	Inverclyde Council	Date:	3 December 2015
Report By:	Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	Report No:	SL/LP/166/15
Contact Officer:	Sharon Lang	Contact No:	01475 712112
Subject:	Fixed Odds Betting Terminals – Notice of Motion by Councillor Campbell-Sturgess		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Council of the receipt of a Notice of Motion by Councillor Campbell-Sturgess, countersigned by Councillor Brooks, submitted in terms of Standing Order 22.
- 1.2 The Notice of Motion is attached at Appendix 1.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion.

Sharon Lang
Legal & Property Services

The Council notes with concern the growing number of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in betting shops, allowing gamblers to bet, by debit card, sums of up to £100 a time.

Council also notes estimates by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling that £58.8 million a year is gambled in FOBTs in Inverclyde, resulting in losses of £2.7 million. Further that based on the number of betting shop licences, there are in the region of 70 of these machines in operation in the area and almost 3,000 players, of whom some 651 are estimated to be "at risk" by the Gambling Commission.

Council believes that the increase in FOBTs is causing significant problems and believes that the UK Government should devolve control of FOBT machines entirely to the Scottish Government, in order to further devolve the powers to allow local authorities in Scotland to regulate how these machines are used.

Council therefore requests:

1. That the Chief Executive writes to Tracey Crouch MP, the Minister responsible for gambling, requesting that the UK Government commit to fully devolving all aspects of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals to the Scottish Government.

Proposer: Cllr Math Campbell-Sturgess

Seconded by: Cllr Keith Brooks