



**Extract from the minutes of the Joint Audit & Governance Committee - 26
September 2024**

JAGC/033/24-25 Amendments to the Constitution

The Committee had a report before it attached as item 13, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members and is attached to a signed copy of these minutes.

Members asked about the definition of 'substantial' within the context and who the adjudicator of council specific issues would be. Members were advised that the meaning of 'substantial' was set out in the amendment, usually decided by which council's budget it came from and that the adjudicator would be the proper officer.

Members went on to discuss how one council should not be able to impose its will on another, the robustness of the amendment, the likelihood of such a disagreement occurring and that it would be impossible to legislate for every situation.

Resolved:

The Joint Audit and Governance Committee:

- Noted the use of the Monitoring Officer's delegation to make minor and inconsequential amendments.
- **Endorsed the amendment to the Constitutions proposed by the Monitoring Officer at Paragraph 5 and recommended the proposed amendment to both Full Councils for their approval.**

(Link to the [report](#) on the website - Joint Audit & Governance Committee on 26 September 2024)



Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 12 November 2024

JSC/50/23-24 Proposal to continue the Council Tax Support Scheme for Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council in respect of 2025/26

Council Tax Support is a scheme to help some people pay their Council Tax. This depended on their income and personal circumstances and only available to some people in the UK who were living on a low income.

The Council Tax Support scheme had to be considered each year as part of the Local Government Finance Act 2012 (which introduced the framework for localism of Council Tax Support), with Members confirming revisions, continuing the scheme as is or replacing this with another scheme.

The Scheme formed an important part of the Councils' ambition to become the fairest coastal towns by supporting people who are living on the lowest incomes. It should be noted that whilst the Councils were both experiencing budgetary pressures, the scheme is one way in which the Councils are responding to the enduring impacts of poverty. The Proactive programme had been one response to this, focusing early help and support for residents experiencing vulnerabilities.

Given the importance of this scheme, the report asked Members of both Councils to continue this scheme with no changes and to recommend this to the Full Councils in respect of 2025/26.

Decision:

1. That the report be noted
2. That it be recommended to Adur District Council that the Council Tax Support scheme in respect of working age customers for 2025/26 should:
 - a. Be based upon the current Council Tax Support scheme for 2024/25 with no restrictions; and
 - b. Not be further altered with any other changes beyond necessary technical amendments required to keep the scheme consistent with the national rules in respect of Housing Benefit.
3. **Recommend to Worthing Borough Council that the Council Tax Support scheme in respect of working age customers for 2025/26 should:**

- a. Be based upon the current Council Tax Support scheme for 2024/25 with no restrictions; and**
- b. Not be further altered with any other changes beyond necessary technical amendments required to keep the scheme consistent with the national rules in respect of Housing Benefit.**

(Link to the [report](#) on the website - Joint Strategic Committee on 12 November 2024)

**Extract from the minutes of the Licensing & Control Committee - 25th
November 2024**

**WBC - LC/12/24-25 Gambling Act 2005 - Review of Statement of Gambling
Licensing Policy**

The Licensing Officer presented the report and clarified for Members that there was an error on page 7 of the report. At 7.1 where it reads '189 permits & registrations' it should read '121 permits & registrations'.

In response to Members' questions the Officer confirmed that the policy did include gambling machines in pubs. He also explained that if the pub had more than two machines they would require a gaming permit which entailed a fee. Members expressed concern regarding harm that gambling addiction could cause and enquired what the policy does to address this. The Officer explained that there were links within the policy to profiles and signposted the Committee to Part E of the policy which dealt with Health and Wellbeing.

Members concurred that the introduction of Challenge 25 within the policy was a welcome addition. Members discussed various aspects of the policies approach to problem gambling and what a public health stratagem could look like.

The Licensing Officer explained the resource constraints of the Council and clarified for Members that we no longer have a high density of gambling premises in Worthing as online gambling had largely taken over from these. He confirmed that online Gambling is the sole responsibility of the Gambling Commission.

The Officers recommendations were that the Committee reviewed the draft Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy in relation to the Gambling Act 2005 and invited the Council to endorse its recommendations and adopt an updated policy to come into force on 31 January 2025.

A proposal was made to accept these recommendations which was seconded and voted in favour of unanimously.

Resolved,

That the Licensing & Control Committee:

1. Reviewed the draft Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy in relation to the Gambling Act 2005; and
2. **Recommended that Worthing Borough Council adopt the updated policy to come into force on 31 January 2025.**

(Link to the [report](#) on the website - Licensing & Control Committee on 25 November 2024)



WORTHING BOROUGH
COUNCIL

Council
17 December 2024
Item 7D

**Extract from the minutes of the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 3rd
December 2024**

**JOSC/xx/24-25 Review of Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work
Programme for 2024/25**

The Committee had a report before it attached as item 10, which had been circulated to all Members and is attached to a signed copy of these minutes.

Resolved: That Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council in December 2024 be recommended to note the changes made to the JOSC Work Programme since it was agreed by both Councils in July 2024.

(Link to the [report](#) and the [work programme \(Appendix A\)](#) on the website - Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 3 December 2024)



WORTHING BOROUGH
COUNCIL

Council
17 December 2024
Item 7E

Extract from the minutes of the Joint Strategic Committee - 10th December 2024

JSC/xx/24-25

Resolved:

(Link to the [report](#) on the website - Joint Strategic Committee on 10 December 2024)