

Open for Business

Rewiring licensing

Rewiring Licensing



Licensing reform is a key plank of the LGA's Open for Business vision for local regulation

Engaged with stakeholders including ACS, FSB, ALMR, as well as councils

- Launched at annual licensing conference in February.
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Why do we need licensing reform?

- Myriad legislation, some of which is outdated
 - Inconsistent principles and processes
 - This leads to unnecessary bureaucracy
 - Concern among councils and residents at lack of powers to address issues such as clustering of betting shops
 - Desire by some authorities to license specific activities, eg sunbed use
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There are two objectives for reform

1. Simplifying licensing administration
 2. Ensuring councils and communities have the right powers to take licensing decisions
- Some interesting philosophical questions
 - What does licensing exist to do
 - What is an individual's responsibility versus the state's responsibility?
 - How do you future proof licensing
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Licensing or Planning?

- Use classes reflect the impact of economic activity
 - Licences reflect the social impact of activity
 - Which impact does betting have?
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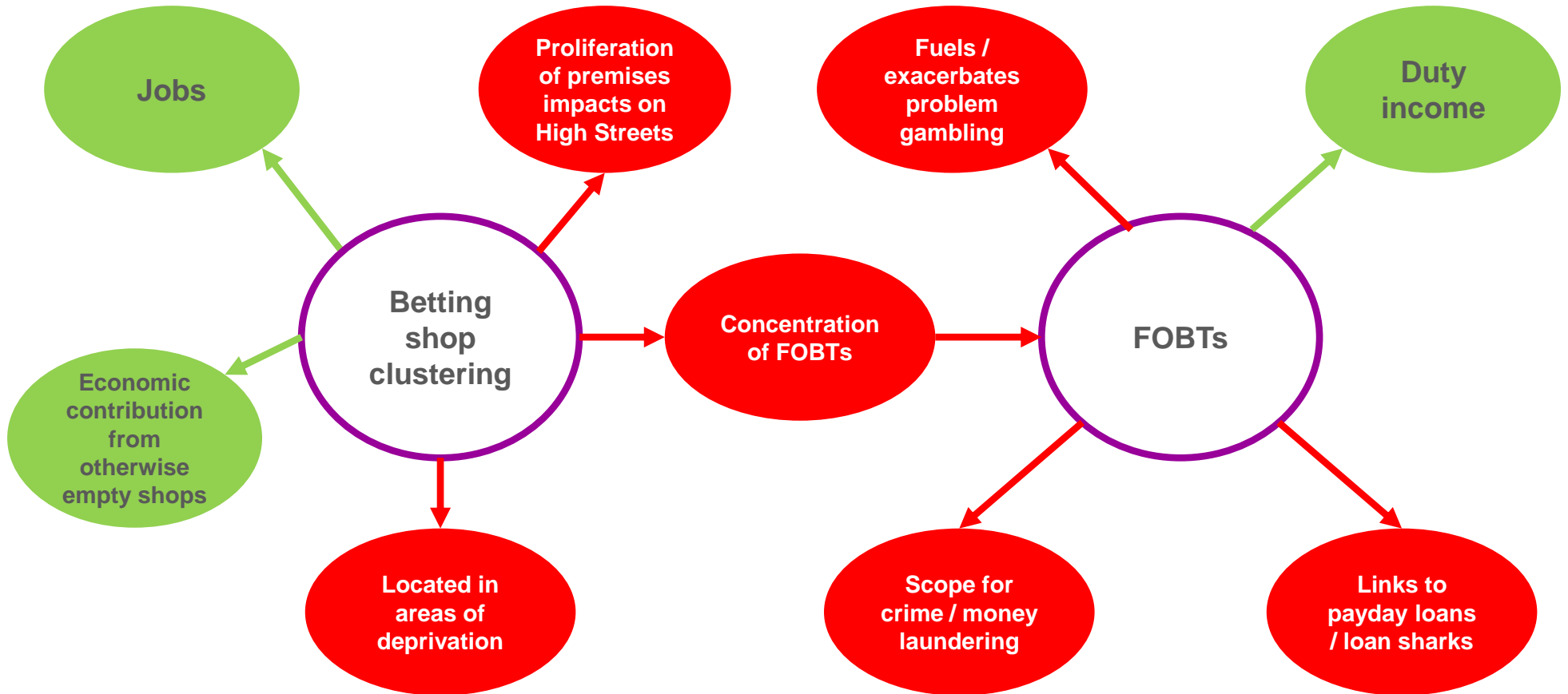
What's happening with business?

- LGA Betting Commission
 - BetFred, William Hill, Paddy Power, Ladbrokes, Coral
 - Westminster, City of York, Waltham Forest, Newcastle, Reading, Camden
 - DCMS, DCLG, Gambling Commission
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Betting Shop Commission

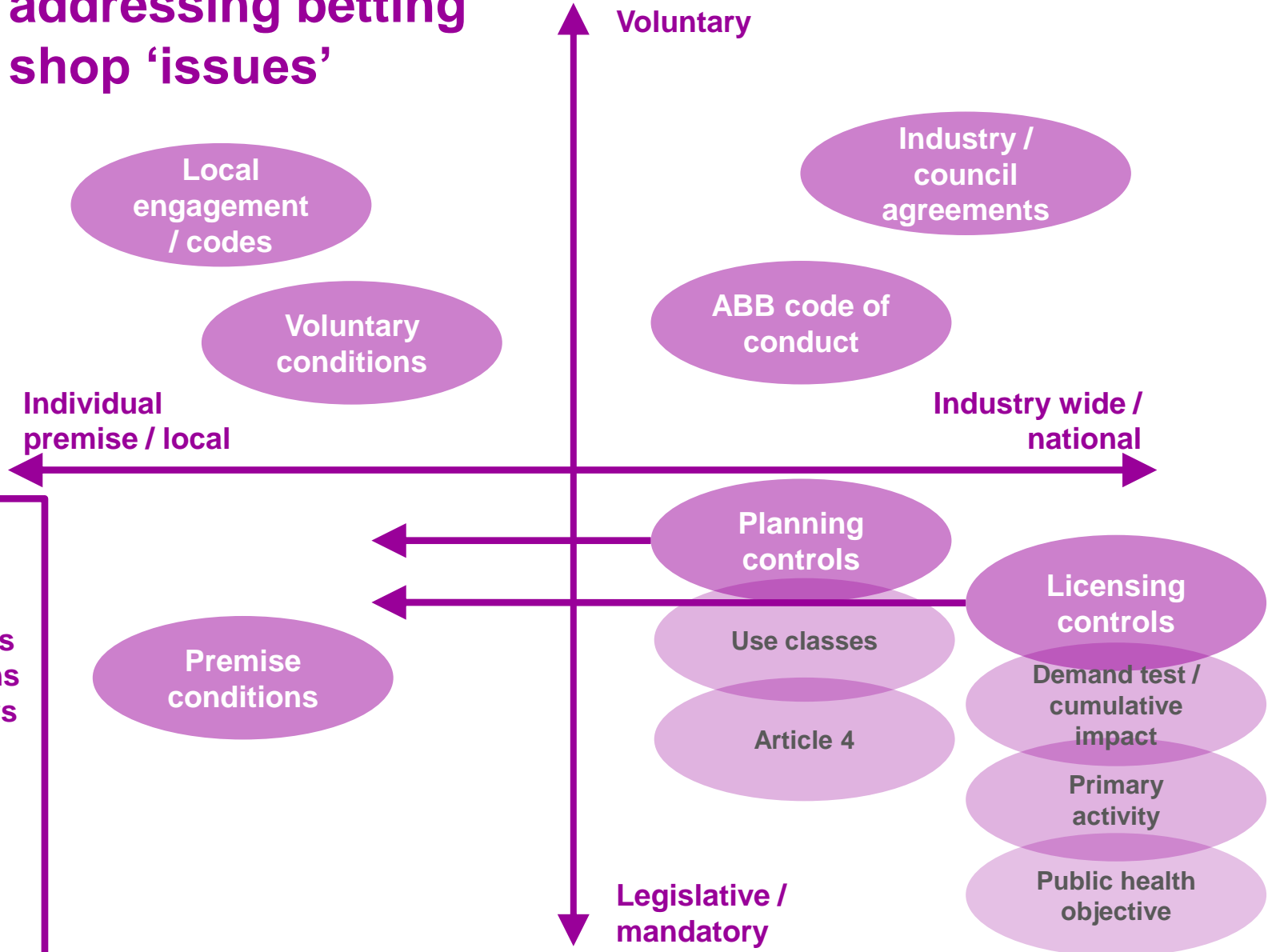
- To establish consensus on the nature and extent of issues to be addressed (if any), specifically:
 - Betting shop clustering
 - Fixed Odds Betting Terminals
 - To identify the range of options for addressing these issues and level of support for them, including the scope for voluntary agreements / codes and / or options for legislative change
 - To consider the pros and cons of each option
 - To reach consensus on proposals for addressing the issues identified
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Summary of betting shop / FOBT issues and impacts



Note: this slide seeks to provide a high level summary of the concerns raised about betting shops / FOBTs, as well as the positive impact they can have, but does not suggest that they have been substantiated.

Options for addressing betting shop 'issues'



Relevant issues

Clustering

- Shop numbers
- Shop locations
- Opening hours

FOBTs

- B2 numbers
- B2 stakes
- Play breaks / limits

Questions?

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