
PRESS STATEMENT

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Images available	Responsible Gambling Trust logo

Responsible Gambling Trust announces over £500,000 funding for Gambling-Related Harm Minimisation Projects

The Responsible Gambling Trust (RGT) has agreed to provide £580,000 of grant funding to deliver five advice and education projects that aim to reduce demonstrably the impact of gambling-related harm, particularly on vulnerable populations such as young people and the homeless. The programme will provide funding over a period of two years and will form an important element of RGT's ambitions for an effective and integrated response to gambling-related harm delivered by public and third sector service providers.

RGT's independent Treatment Expert Panel reviewed proposals received through an open tender process. Each of the five projects to be funded has the potential to be delivered nationally and offers strong local partnerships with public bodies, charitable organisations and other services.

- Two projects will develop curriculum-based materials and interventions to be used in secondary schools; Fast Forward will deliver a programme in Scotland, and Demos, in partnership with Mentor, the PSHE Association, and CNWL Foundation NHS Trust will deliver a programme in England and Wales.
- A project exploring how best to screen for gambling problems and provide brief advice within homelessness services will be delivered by the University of Lincoln in partnership with NatCen Social Research.
- Newport Citizens Advice will lead on the delivery of a programme to raise awareness of gambling-related harm, equipping other professionals and the wider CAB network to effectively identify those presenting for debt advice for gambling problems, and provide early intervention and signposting for those in need of additional support.
- The Professional Player's Federation will lead a programme of education for sports men and women to raise awareness of gambling-related harm, with its member associations partially funding this work.

This latest round of funding will build on a pilot of harm minimisation programmes run by organisations in England, Scotland and Wales which concluded in March 2015. RGT is also planning to deliver projects which address gambling-related harm within both the military and the criminal justice system, and will be announcing further Invitations to Tender for such projects in 2016.

Marc Etches, Chief Executive of the Responsible Gambling Trust, said:

“RGT is keen to promote an integrated and holistic prevention and treatment landscape for those suffering gambling-related harm in Great Britain. Underpinned by the National Gambling Helpline, an effective and integrated response to gambling-related harm includes awareness-raising and early harm prevention work, particularly among young people and other vulnerable populations, alongside the various counselling and treatment services RGT already funds. We are committed to funding effective harm minimisation programmes and are delighted to be funding these innovative and practical proposals which have the potential for sustainable national impact.”

-ENDS-

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NOTES TO EDITORS

- The tender was published online at www.responsiblegamblingtrust.org.uk/research.
- The Responsible Gambling Trust is the leading charity in the UK committed to minimising gambling-related harm. As an independent national charity funded by donations from the gambling industry, the Responsible Gambling Trust funds education, prevention and treatment services and commissions research to broaden public understanding of gambling-related harm. The aim is to stop people getting into problems with their gambling, and ensure that those that do develop problems receive fast and effective treatment and support.
- The Responsible Gambling Trust raises over £6 million each year from the gambling industry operating in Britain within a voluntary (donation based) system and funds research, education, prevention and treatment services. Funding priorities are guided by the national strategy advised by the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (RGSB) and endorsed by the Gambling Commission. The latest strategy was published in December 2012.