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**PRESS STATEMENT**

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**New trustees join the Responsible Gambling Trust**

The Responsible Gambling Trust (RGT) has announced the appointment of three new trustees.

The Chief Executive of the British Beer and Pub Association Brigid Simmonds and the Rank Group plc Chief Executive Henry Birch have joined the RGT Board replacing Chairman of Hook Norton Brewery Jonathan Paveley and Genting Chairman & COO Peter Brooks. Annette Dale-Perera, a former strategic director of addiction and offender care in the NHS and a member of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, has also joined RGT as an independent trustee.

The appointments mean that RGT will continue to maintain a balance between industry and independent trustees on its Board, with a full suite of 11 trustees including a non-voting chairman.

**Neil Goulden, Chairman of the Responsible Gambling Trust, said:**

"Both Jonathan and Peter were committed trustees and important industry advocates for our work to minimise gambling-related harm. With the appointments of Brigid and Henry, RGT will continue to benefit from knowledge and experience gained in all major sectors of the British gambling industry. We are also thrilled that Annette has joined our Board, as she has extensive experience in working in gambling treatment as well as bringing 'insider knowledge' of positioning addiction within mainstream policy in the NHS."

**-ENDS-**

**Contact:**

Paul Scaping  
Bell Pottinger  
Direct line: +44 (0)20 3772 2626  
Mobile: +44 (0)7795 971022  
pscaping@bellpottinger.com

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

- 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 a minimum of £5 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.