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**PRESS STATEMENT**

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**Gambling charities announce new treatment agreement**

The Responsible Gambling Trust has announced that it has reached a new agreement with the Gordon Moody Association to fund residential support and treatment services for problem gamblers until 2017.

The Responsible Gambling Trust has guaranteed funding for Gordon Moody Association totalling £1,591,610. The funding will enable Gordon Moody Association to continue to operate residential and outreach services in the West Midlands and South London, and to pilot a new women's service.

Gordon Moody Association provides residential treatment services for those who suffer severe problems arising from their gambling behaviour. Gordon Moody delivers a 12-week programme of cognitive behavioural therapy based treatment and support for men at two residential centres in Dudley and Beckenham. In addition the charity provides online support to those waiting for a residential treatment space and for those who have completed the 12-week programme. In addition, this new funding agreement will see the provision of ongoing counselling for those who need it after leaving residential treatment, and will provide a service for women which aims to combine residential and home support to those in need.

The funding decision will be formally announced at a reception for the Gordon Moody Association in the House of Commons hosted by Ian Austin MP on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November.

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

"The Responsible Gambling Trust and its predecessors have supported Gordon Moody Association for more than a decade and our vision for RGT was always as a long-term partner of Gordon Moody. The sound footing that the RGT has now achieved enables us to take a longer-term approach to funding treatment providers like Gordon Moody and gives us real confidence that we can continue Great Britain's position as a world leader in treating problem gambling."

**Elaine Smethurst, Managing Director of Gordon Moody Association, said:**

"Gordon Moody Association was the first charity in the UK dedicated to providing help to problem gamblers. As a charity we rely on donations to maintain our services and this agreement with the Responsible Gambling Trust helps to guarantee the future success of our treatment services. RGT's support will enable us to provide residential treatment for many more problem gamblers and develop our ambitious plans for the charity."

**Ian Austin MP, who has a Gordon Moody Association residential centre in his Dudley constituency, said:**

"I am delighted that the Gordon Moody Association has secured this funding to continue their brilliant work and start a new women's service. The charity does a lot to help problem gamblers in Dudley and the rest of the country, and this will be a fantastic opportunity for them to expand their cutting edge work."

**-ENDS-**

**Contact:**

Paul Scaping

Bell Pottinger

Direct line: +44(0)20 7861 2408

Mobile: +44 (0)7795 971022

pscaping@bell-pottinger.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 £5million 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.