

GambleAware

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PRESS RELEASE

GambleAware secures record breaking £8 million in funding but urges the industry to contribute more

London, 16 May: GambleAware has today confirmed that it raised a record-breaking £8 million in the 12 months ending 31st March 2017. However, despite a 10% increase on the previous year, this still falls 20% short of the target set by the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board. GambleAware is responsible for delivering many of the priority actions set out in the National Responsible Gambling Strategy 2016-19, published by the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board and endorsed by the Gambling Commission.

Under the terms of an agreement reached between GambleAware, the regulator and ministers in 2012, the charity was granted the primary responsibility of raising the funds required to deliver this strategy. As such, the charity acts as the commissioner of research, education and treatment services from a wide range of organisations across Great Britain, ensuring funds are allocated and spent efficiently and effectively.

Marc Etches, Chief Executive of GambleAware said:

“GambleAware is committed to minimising gambling-related harm in Great Britain. Our aim is to stop people getting into problems with their gambling, and to ensure those that do develop problems receive fast and effective treatment and support.

In Great Britain, it is estimated that 250,000 people have a gambling problem, and another 470,000 are at risk of developing one. However, only 3% of those who need help are currently getting the support they need. We all need to do more to raise awareness of the services available and to ensure sufficient capacity to meet increased demand.

This requires all businesses that profit from gambling to step up to the plate in the next twelve months to help us achieve our objectives. Whilst we continue to see the merits for maintaining the voluntary system of funding for research, education and treatment, our first priority has to be providing sufficient help for all those who seek it, so we would not hesitate in supporting the commencement of a statutory levy if the voluntary system fails to deliver.”

Responsible Gambling Trust operating as GambleAware © • Registered in England No 4384279 • Charity No 1093910

Chair: Kate Lampard CBE

Trustees • Henry Birch • Annette Dale-Perera • Professor Sian Griffiths • Nick Harding • Clive Hawkswood • Alan Jamieson
• Professor Anthony Kessel • Jim Mullen • Chris Pond • Brigid Simmonds • Professor Patrick Sturgis • Professor Jonathan Wolff

Chief Executive: Marc Etches

-ENDS-

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NOTES

- GambleAware 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, GambleAware 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. For more information, please go to: <http://about.gambleaware.org/>
- GambleAware aims to raise a minimum of £10 million each year in voluntary contributions from the gambling industry operating in Great Britain. This donation-based system was proposed under the Gambling Act 2005 and is prescribed by the Gambling Commission in its Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice.
- GambleAware's programme of treatment, education, harm prevention and research is guided by the National Responsible Gambling Strategy, which is defined by the independent Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (RGSB) and endorsed by the Gambling Commission. The RGSB, the Gambling Commission and GambleAware work together under the terms of an agreement in place since 2012: <http://about.gambleaware.org/media/1216/statementofintent.pdf>. Research is conducted under the terms of a 'Research Commissioning and Governance Procedure' agreed in 2016 by the RGSB, the Gambling Commission and GambleAware: <http://about.gambleaware.org/media/1270/research-commissioning-and-governance-procedure-may-2016-final.pdf>.
- The RGSB endorsed GambleAware's £10m funding goal in January 2017: <http://www.rgsb.org.uk/press-releases/responsible-gambling-strategy-board-publishes-assessment-of-the-quantum-of-funding-required-to-deliver-the-national-responsible-gambling-strategy.html>
- GambleAware funds the *Gordon Moody Association*, the *NHS National Problem Gambling Clinic*, *GamCare* and a network of charities across Great Britain to provide a full range of free treatment for problem gamblers and support for those affected by them. GambleAware also runs the website **BeGambleAware.org** which helps 2.7 million visitors a year, and supports the **National Gambling Helpline – 0808 8020 133**.