

GambleAware

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ANNOUNCEMENT

RSPH launches free access e-learning - Understanding and Responding to Gambling-Related Harm: A Brief Guide for Professionals

London, 14 November: RSPH has launched a new free access e-learning programme, commissioned by GambleAware, as a resource to assist workers to provide brief intervention to address risks and harms related to problematic gambling. It offers practical tips on identifying a problem, how to talk to someone about their gambling, offering immediate brief support and when to signpost to specialist services.

It also contains an optional topic for organisational leaders wishing to set up and implement the processes necessary to support workers to provide intervention. The programme covers:

- What is a brief intervention?
- How to provide a brief intervention
- Important considerations and responding to affected others
- Requirements at an organisational level (optional topic)
- Resources to aid brief intervention.

The programme is aimed at professionals who do not specialise in the treatment of gambling problems, but who work with potentially vulnerable groups. It is particularly useful to those working in social and criminal justice settings including, but not limited to; social workers, employment advisers, GPs, psychologists, and probation officers.

Shirley Cramer CBE, Chief Executive, Royal Society for Public Health, said:

“Gambling has been a prominent public health issue for some time and it is clear that more needs to be done to broaden the public’s understanding of gambling-related harms, and support those with gambling problems to get the help they need. As highlighted in our recent Health on the High Street report, there are currently 8,532 betting shops across the U.K. and young people face an unprecedented level of exposure to gambling, with over 400,000 11-16 year olds spending their own money gambling each week. We are thrilled to be working with GambleAware to launch this new e-

learning programme which we are confident will upskill the wider public health workforce and provide them with the understanding and confidence necessary to have conversations regarding gambling-related harms."

Marc Etches, Chief Executive of GambleAware, said:

"With 430,000 adults and 25,000 children aged between 11 and 16 suffering with a gambling addiction, and over 2 million more at risk of developing a problem, gambling is a significant public health issue. Problem gambling deserves the full attention of all those working to protect the nation's health, as it can affect thousands of families and individuals each day. GambleAware is pleased to be collaborating with the Royal Society for Public Health in the development and launch of this new e-learning package, which we hope will make a significant impact in reducing gambling-related harms across Great Britain."

The programme can be completed in two hours, and is accessible via the RSPH [e-learning pages](#) and through [GambleAware's website](#).

-ENDS-

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NOTES

- GambleAware is an independent charity tasked to fund research, education and treatment services to help to reduce gambling-related harms in Great Britain. GambleAware is a commissioning and grant-making body, not a provider of services.
- GambleAware published a [5-year strategy](#) in November 2016, and in July 2018 published a [Strategic Delivery Plan](#) that sets out how the charity proposes to broaden the range of services and activities it funds, supports and works with between 2018 and 2020.
- Guided by the [National Responsible Gambling Strategy](#), the charity's strategic aims are to: broaden public understanding of gambling-related harms, in particular as a public health issue; advance the cause of harm-prevention so as to help build resilience, in particular in relation to the young and those most vulnerable to gambling-related harms; and help those who do develop gambling-related harms get the support that they need quickly and effectively. For more information, please go to: <http://about.gambleaware.org/>

- The current National Responsible Gambling Strategy was published in April 2016 by the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (RGSB) and endorsed by the Gambling Commission. GambleAware develops its commissioning plans in collaboration with the RGSB and the Gambling Commission. These arrangements are underpinned by an 'assurance and governance framework' 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 between the RGSB, the Gambling Commission and GambleAware: <https://about.gambleaware.org/media/1332/research-commissioning-and-governance-procedure-september-2016-final.pdf>. A revised [RGSB and Gambling Commission research programme](#) was published in September 2018 and sets out priorities for research to be commissioned from 2018 to 2022.
- GambleAware requires a minimum of £10 million annually to deliver its current responsibilities, and looks to all those that profit from commercial gambling to support the charity. This donation-based system was proposed after the Gambling Act 2005 and is prescribed by the Gambling Commission's Social Responsibility Code Provision 3.1.1.(2). 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**.