

Minutes of the meeting of the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board held on 21st May 2010

Present:

Chris Bell

Paul Bellringer

Neil Goulden

Richard Ives

Alan Jamieson

David Miers

Julia Neuberger (Chair)

Gerda Reith

Eleanor Roaf

In attendance:

Jim Fearnley

Priscilla Padroni

Natalie Simpson (minutes)

Carol Stone

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Henrietta Bowden-Jones.

2 Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting on 15th March 2010 were approved as a true record.

Matters arising

The Board noted that Jane Glastonbury's secondment to RGSB/Gambling Commission had ended.

It was noted that Gamblers Anonymous (GA) are keen to engage with RGSB and agreed that a meeting would be arranged.

There was discussion about engaging with LACORS (the Local Authorities Coordinators of Regulatory Services) regarding venue clustering.

It was agreed that NS will organise a machines session for RGSB with NG, once data collection for machines research is completed (discussed under item 3 below).

It was agreed that any Board members visits to funded organisations should be coordinated and any invitations received by Board members in their official capacity should go through the RGF office.

It was noted that meetings with the ABB and BACTA have been arranged.

3 Minutes of expert Panel meetings

It was agreed that JN will attend a meeting of each Panel in the next few months.

The latest Research Panel meeting was on 14 May and the following update was provided:

- A scoping exercise on machines data will be conducted before any machines research is commissioned. Panel members are working with CB on access to industry data.
- A critical review of the evidence base will be commissioned, to inform the Board, Panels and Gambling Commission.
- The longitudinal scoping study has been awarded to NatCen and is due to be completed in August.
- The 2010 PhD call will be advertised shortly. The themes fit with RGSB research priorities and are not too specific as the aim is to broaden capacity.

There was discussion about the opportunity to conduct baseline research in some of the new small/large casino areas. The work would link with all three Panels. Discussion with the Local Authority Casinos Network is underway.

The Prevention Panel minutes and Treatment Panel minutes were introduced and discussed.

4 Strategy development / progress on projects

It was noted that the anticipated publication of the Strategy 2010 in October fits with the Gambling Commission's engagement timetable.

It was suggested that an internal event could be held in October to mark the publication of the Strategy, and provide an opportunity for the external Panel members to meet the Board and RGF Trustees.

5 RGF feedback on strategic funding framework 2010/11

The feedback paper was introduced and noted.

6 Joint-executive update

RGF staff

The new appointments were noted.

Communications strategy

Following a three-person tender, a communications consultant has been appointed to write a communications strategy and implementation plan.

7 Gambleaware website update

Following a recent meeting with GREaT, progress on the redevelopment work on the website was discussed. AJ attended the recent gambleaware editorial panel meeting.

8 RGSB Board vacancy

It was noted that discussions with the Research Councils about a possible Board member had not yet been productive.

9 A.O.B.

GR is developing a Glasgow University Research Centre with NatCen. It will have quite a broad remit and will consider recreational and problem gambling.

RGF/GREaT Funding update

The Board noted that GREaT had raised £5m in 2009/10 and this figure was guaranteed for the next two years. GREaT are committed to attempting to raise £6m and £7m in the next two years.