

Minutes of the meeting of the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board held on 19 October 2010

Present:

Chris Bell

Paul Bellringer

Henrietta Bowden-Jones

Neil Goulden

Richard Ives

Alan Jamieson

David Miers

Julia Neuberger (Chair)

Gerda Reith

Eleanor Roaf

In attendance:

Jim Fearnley

Natalie Simpson (minutes)

Carol Stone

1 Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting on 19th July 2010 were approved as a true record.

Strategy 2010

The Board discussed the Strategy 2010 launch event and media plan.

Gambling Commission / National Lottery Commission merger

The Board noted the news of the Gambling Commission / National Lottery Commission merger and the impact this could have on the Board's activity.

Action points from 19th July RGSB meeting

It was noted that the Gambleaware Editorial Panel has not confirmed the likely cost of updating the website and there has been no recent action by the Editorial Panel beyond specifying the successful tender for updating the website.

2 Minutes of expert Panel meetings

Treatment Panel

The Panel minutes were noted and the Board was informed that the workstreams were advancing as planned in partnership with current treatment providers.

Research Panel

The Board noted that applications had been received for both the machines research project tender and the *Map the Gap* project tender.

The Board discussed the Gambling Commission's 2010 Prevalence Survey (BGPS) and agreed with the Research Panel's decision to consider scenario planning for all of the possible outcomes of problem gambling prevalence before the BGPS is published.

There was discussion about various issues regarding machines that the Board should be considering ahead of the machines demonstration session on 21st October. A briefing paper will be distributed before the session.

Prevention and Education Panel

The Panel minutes were noted. It was suggested that as the Gambleaware Editorial Panel were not yet clear about how the website would deal with the issue of under-18's accessing the site, the Prevention Panel may consider their own strategy for providing information online to under-18's within its intended future discussions on young people and prevention.

3 RGF update on strategic funding framework 2010/11

The Board agreed that in 2011 it would be logical for RGF to publish its Annual Report on the same day as the next Strategy, with evaluation and outcomes data that feeding back into the Strategy to highlight how RGF's work informs the thinking of the Strategy Board.

The Board noted that the first Gambling Risk and Harm Minimisation (GRaHM) Pilot was under way and the second GRaHM Pilot would be in association with Addiction Recovery Agency (ARA) in South Wales. The second Pilot will, intentionally, have a longer lead-in time than the first Pilot as it will take time for ARA to build relationships and identify organisations to partner with. The third Pilot will go to tender at the end of November with an open competitive process. All Pilots are three-year projects with built-in evaluation.

The Board noted that the GP training initiative was a national model of screening training that complements the GRaHM Pilots, and seeks to address why so few people with gambling-related problems seek treatment.

It was suggested that in order for RGF's work to inform the next Strategy, outcomes from current workstreams would be needed by spring 2011.

4 Joint-executive update: communications strategy

The Board discussed the RGSB/RGF communications strategy and noted that the executive team is prioritising communications matters.

5 Prevalence survey methodology review

The Board noted that the Research Panel are considering the Gambling Commission's consultation on options for reviewing the methodology for the British Gambling Prevalence Survey.

6 Gambling Commission consultation responses

The Board discussed under which circumstances it would be appropriate to publish advice to the Commission, considering that, while it provides independent advice, the Board is not an independently constituted body.

7 Gambling Commission research briefings

The Board noted the quarterly research briefing.

8 A.O.B.

The Board agreed that it appropriate and helpful to RGSB for NG to join the GREaT Board.

Freedom of information (FOI) request

The Board was informed that a FOI request regarding details of JN's meeting with John Penrose had been received from David Lammy MP.

Meetings dates and frequency in 2011

It is planned that the Board and each of the expert Panels will now meet four times per year, rather than up to six times. This does not exclude the opportunity for additional meetings if essential.

The Board noted the 2011 meeting dates.