

Meeting of the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board: 20 July 2017

- Venue:** Thistle Euston Hotel, 43 Cardington Street, London, NW1 2LP
- Time:** 10.15 – 14.00
- Attendees:** David Forrest (DF), Ian Gilmore (IG), Hermine Graham (HG), Richard Ives (RI), Chris Kelly (CK) (Chair), Rachel Lampard (RL), Simon Tanner (ST), Heather Wardle (HW)
- In attendance:** Iain Corby (IC), Marc Etches (ME),
[Staff names of those other than the Leadership team have been redacted]
- Apologies:** Russell Hoyle, Paul Hope

Ref	Action	Status	Minute number / Page
64	Draft an accompanying letter to the Commission to address any developments arising since the Board finalised its advice on the gambling review (Secretariat/CK).	Complete	1.3/p.2
65	[Redacted]	In progress	3.2/p.2
66	Secretariat to produce another draft of the remote advice to the Commission to reflect the Board's comments.	In progress	3.3/p.2
67	Secretariat to draft a summary of the Board's discussion on the lottery in the form of informal advice to the Commission.	In progress	5.3/p.3
68	Board to send any comments on the work underway on children and young people to the secretariat before the next meeting.	In progress	9.1/p.4
69	Secretariat to investigate alternative venues for Board meetings and confirm Board meeting dates for 2018.	In progress	10.1/p.4

1. Apologies and declarations of interest

- 1.1 Apologies were recorded for Russell Hoyle and Paul Hope. There were no declarations of interest.
- 1.2 CK noted that press reports suggested that the consultation on the government's gambling review was likely to be launched in the autumn.
- 1.3 Although the Board finalised its advice in January, the Gambling Commission decided that it should not be published until the consultation paper was issued. There have been

some minor developments since the advice was drafted, but nothing of major significance sufficient to cause the advice to be changed. RGSB will provide an update on any relevant matters by way of an accompanying letter to the Commission.

Action: Draft an accompanying letter to the Commission to address any developments arising since the Board finalised its advice on the gambling review (Secretariat/CK).

1.4 [] represented the Commission at the meeting. CK also welcomed [] (Commission) and [] (GambleAware) to the meeting, who attended for items 4 and 5 respectively.

2. Minutes and matters arising from 24 May 2017: RGSB 17 04 (01)

2.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. There were no matters arising.

2.2 All actions are in progress or complete.

3. Remote Gambling: RGSB 17 04 (02)

3.1 The Board discussed the programme of visits its members undertook with remote operators, and what its subsequent advice to the Commission should be.

3.3 [Redacted – information intended for future publication].

Action: Secretariat to produce another draft of the remote advice paper to the Commission to reflect the Board's comments.

4. Gambling-related harm – next steps: RGSB 17 03 (03)

4.1 The Board supported the approach proposed by the paper for phase two of the research on defining and measuring gambling-related harm.

4.2 HW is to chair the expert steering group to oversee the work.

4.3 The Board agreed that there needs to be a different framework around defining and measuring harm for young people. This will be addressed by the steering group.

5. Reviewing the RET arrangements: the role of the National Lottery: RGSB 17 04 (04)

5.1 [Redacted – information intended for future publication]

Action: Secretariat to draft a summary of the Board's discussion on the lottery in the form of informal advice to the Commission.

6. RGSB input to social responsibility policy development: RGSB 17 04 (05)

6.1 The Board considered two policy issues:

i) Cashless payments for non-remote gambling

6.2 The Commission is considering the use of cashless payments within the gambling industry.

6.3 The Board recognised that the Commission will eventually need to adapt its regulations to new payment technology. However, for the time being, its advice would be that the Commission should continue with its current approach. This is that there needs to be a break in play before a player accesses funds to continue gambling, to enable regular decisions about whether to continue gambling. There could, however, be some advantage in permitting non-cash forms of payment in terms of player identification, tracking and protection.

6.4 In line with the precautionary principle, the onus is on the industry to demonstrate that the introduction of cashless payments would not cause additional harm to consumers.

ii) Self-exclusion – disallowing winnings

6.5 There is no consistent policy on what happens to the stake and winnings from those who have breached their self-exclusion agreement. The Commission requested a steer from Board. The Board ran out of time to discuss the issues in full. The key principle was to consider what is most likely to reduce gambling-related harm. Neither players nor operators should be incentivised to breach self-exclusion agreements.

7. RGSB secretariat – update report: RGSB 17 04 (06)

7.1 This paper, which provided the Board with an update on the work of the secretariat since the previous meeting, was provided for information only.

8. GambleAware update report: RGSB 17 04 (07)

8.1 CK thanked GambleAware for the report.

9. Children and young people: workstream update: RGSB 17 04 (08)

9.1 The paper was provided for information only, to remind Board of the work done in this area so far. This is ahead of the next meeting of the Board which will give Board members an opportunity to discuss the topic in detail.

Action: Board to send any comments on the work underway on children and young people to the secretariat before the next meeting.

9.2 CK envisages that the Board produce a short paper on children and young people which would be in the same style of the Board's position paper on public health.

10. Any other business

10.1 There were no further matters for discussion.

Next meeting: 10.15-14.00, Wednesday 27 September 2017, Salisbury Meeting Room, Thistle Euston Hotel, 43 Cardington Street, London, NW1 2LP. This will be the last meeting held at this venue.

Action: Secretariat to investigate suitable alternative venues for Board meetings and confirm Board meeting dates for 2018.