

Minutes of the meeting of the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board held on 16 July 2013

Venue: Government Art Collection, Queens Yard, 179a Tottenham Court Road, London, W1T
7PA

Time: 10.15

Present:

Kate Anthony	KA
Chris Bell	CB
Paul Bellringer	PB
Henrietta Bowden-Jones	HBJ
Sanju George	SG
Russell Hoyle	RH
Richard Ives	RI
Chris Kelly (Chair)	CK
David Miers	DM
Gerda Reith	GR
Simon Tanner	ST

In attendance:

Ruth Callaghan	RC
Marc Etches	ME
Jonathan Watkin	JW

Apologies:

None

Ref	Action:	Status	Minute number/ Page
168	RC to circulate an updated register of interests for each Board Member to approve. The register will be published on the RGSB website.		2.1/ p2
169	Secretariat to draft a three year plan for the Board for discussion at the September Board meeting. This plan should include proposals for a lead Board Member for each of the KPs.		4.2/ p3
170	Secretariat to draft statement for each of the Working Groups and Panels in conjunction with each of the Group Chairs		4.5/ p4
171	YPEG to discuss the merits of separate task and finish Working Groups for social gaming and advertising.		4.6/ p4
172	RC and ME to meet to discuss a work programme for the Treatment Task and Finish Group.		4.7/ p4
173	RC to provide SG with dates for Treatment Panel meetings.		5.7/ p4
174	CK to provide SG, KA and ST with dates of remaining induction meetings.		5.1/ p4
175	KA to meet with JW to discuss social gaming work programme and stakeholder contacts.		5.1/ p4
176	ME to follow up with RI on points raised about the Gamble Aware website.		7.1/ p5
177	RC to continue talks with the Trust regarding potential research on advertising and availability of industry data on advertising		7.3/ p5
178	RC to draft up outline for document and share with Board at the September Meeting.		8.1/ p6
179	RC to explore what press summaries can be shared with Board Members on a regular basis.		9.2/ p6

1. Apologies

1.1 The Chair welcomed SG and ST to their first meeting.

2. Declaration of interest:

2.1 KA declared that her two PHD students (funded by Gambling Therapy UK which is linked to Gordon Moody Association) had graduated. RH declared that he is now Chair of OpenBet.

Action: RC to circulate an updated register of interests for each Board member to approve. The register will be published on the RGSB website.

3. Minutes and matters arising

3.1 The minutes from the meeting held on 23 May 2013 were approved.

3.2 The actions were updated as followed:

- Action reference 154 – The revised Trust Commissioning Plan had been re-circulated to the Board.
- Action reference 155 – The issue of Category D machines has been referred to the Young Persons Expert Group and will be covered under the issue of age restrictions and young people's access to gambling.
- Action reference 156 – The updating of the forward plan document is ongoing and was to be discussed under agenda item 4.
- Action reference 157 – A discussion on the merits of a longitudinal study has been added to the agenda for the REP meeting on 2 September 2013.
- Action reference 158 – Two papers setting out more details about the use of the Health Surveys to capture Prevalence data had been circulated with the Board papers.
- Action reference 159 – RC updated that DCMS and the Commission were working with Ofcom and BARB to obtain data on the volume and placement of gambling advertising.
- Action reference 160 – YPEG were to discuss how it would take forward the issue of young people and advertising at its next meeting on 24 July 2013.

4. Planning: RGSB 13 04 (02a), RGSB 13 04 (02b)

4.1 CK introduced this item and explained that the 3 year strategy was ambitious and that the Board should ask the Secretariat to produce a three year plan to ensure that it is clear how the Board is working to advance knowledge and strengthen the Strategy. This includes being clear about what we would like to achieve in each year.

4.2 It was noted that the Key Priorities in the Strategy did not always clearly read across to the main issues and where effort is currently concentrated. It was therefore agreed that it would helpful to have a Board member lead on each of the Key Priorities. This Board member would then be responsible for monitoring progress and reporting back to the Board.

Action: Secretariat to draft a three year plan for the Board for discussion at the September Board meeting. This plan should include proposals for a lead Board member for each of the KPs.

4.3 The Board discussed the need for the plan and each of the panels and working groups to be clear what the end point is for a piece of RGSB work. These outcomes and outputs include:

- Published position papers which demonstrate our collective knowledge and positions on particular topics. These can include statements about evidence gaps and how the work of the Trust will help meet these gaps and how planned programmes will help address the issues the Board raises.
- Advice to the Commission where this is requested or where the Board wishes to make a policy recommendation.
- Recommendations to the Trust on where further research or prevention and Treatment projects will help address the issues identified.

4.4 The Board discussed the need to ensure that the groups' work was not fragmented and that the relationship between the groups was clear. For

example, the Research Expert Panel could have a role in bringing together and discussing all the research suggested by the different groups.

- 4.5 It was agreed that the work done to date by Panel and Group chairs be expanded to provide a clear statement on the purpose, and proposed outcomes for each group. This should also be discussed at the Board meeting in September 2013.

Action: Secretariat to draft statement for each of the working groups and panels in conjunction with each of the group Chairs.

- 4.6 The Board discussed whether there should be separate working groups for social gaming and advertising given that these were priority areas. YPEG should be asked to consider whether these issues could be covered by this group or required separate working groups.

Action: YPEG to discuss the merits of separate task and finish working groups for social gaming and advertising.

- 4.7 The continuation of Treatment Expert Panel and Research Expert Panel as standing panels was also discussed. It was agreed that the Treatment Expert Panel should become a task and finish group. It was agreed that RC should meet with ME to discuss what current work programmes would require input from the Treatment Experts available through the group. It was also agreed that Sanju would join the Panel.

Action: RC and ME to meet to discuss a work programme for the Treatment task and finish group.

Action: RC to provide SG with dates for Treatment Panel meeting.

- 4.8 The Board discussed the value in retaining the Research Expert Panel and discussed whether the methodological advice provided by Panel members could be harnessed in a different way. It was agreed that it was worth retaining the REP, but reviewing its purpose and fit with the Trust's Research Committee and oversight panels for specific pieces of Trust research.

5. Stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 CK noted that he had met with a range of stakeholders as part of his induction including the main industry Trade Bodies. He noted that there had been a low level of awareness of the Strategy, its aims and priorities. It was agreed that CK would share with the details of his remaining meetings with SG, KA and ST in case they are able to join him. It was agreed that KA would meet with JW to be briefed on the current state of play with the Commission's work on social gaming and emerging relationships with stakeholders in this area.

Action: CK to provide SG, KA and ST with dates of remaining induction meetings.

Action: KA to meet with JW to discuss social gaming work programme and stakeholder contacts.

6. International conference on gambling and risk taking: RGSB 13 04 (04)

- 6.1 RC provided feedback from her attendance at this conference. RC had attended sessions around the key themes of interest to the Board including: player tracking, messages and warnings, young people and social gaming. It was noted that there were a number of pieces of work of interest which could be readily replicated in the British context.

7. Responsible Gambling Trust update: RGSB 13 03 (05)

- 7.1 ME provided an update from the Trust which included:
- High levels of fundraising due to extra companies now making donations as well as the existing donor base committing more in funds.
 - There was increased co-operation with the Trade Bodies who were working to encourage donations from their membership bases.
 - The Trust's corporate website will be refreshed and up and running soon.
 - The Trust is planning a seminar in November to disseminate the findings from a review of evidence around industry harm prevention approaches being undertaken by Alex Blaszczyński.
 - The Trust were considering how it could engage with the industry to improve the availability of quality training for staff around social responsibility.
 - Considering how the Trust makes funds available to encourage creative and innovative bids for research and projects.
 - Plans to bring existing and past PHD students together in September to consider the legacy of this approach aimed at increasing British gambling research capacity.
 - The new Gamble Aware site was live. It was noted that the Trust plans ongoing feedback and will review the site to ensure it continues to develop. RI raised a number of points which the Trust agreed to consider.

Action: ME to follow-up with RI on points raised about the Gamble Aware website.

- 7.2 The Board discussed the Gamble Aware brand. It was noted that this is not included on all gambling adverts/marketing material.

- 7.3 It was noted that the industry must have access to large amounts of data on its advertising practice and the impact this has on participation.

Action – RC to continue talks with the Trust regarding potential research on advertising and availability of industry data.

8. Strategy update document: RGSB 13 04 (05)

- 8.1 It was noted that a document was to be produced by the end of the year providing an update statement on the Strategy. It was agreed that this should be a short document linked closely to the planning proposed under agenda item 4. It was agreed that an outline would be submitted to the September Board meeting.

Action: RC to draft up outline for document and share with Board at the September meeting 2013.

9. Communication policy: RGSB 13 04 (06)

- 9.1 It was noted that if approached by the media to speak on behalf of RGSB this should be discussed with the Secretariat who have access to communications advice and support from the Commission's Corporate Affairs team. This does not stop Board members undertaking media activity where this clearly relates to other roles.
- 9.2 The Board asked whether it was possible to have weekly summaries of press articles so that RGSB members are briefed.

Action: RC to explore what press summaries can be shared with Board members on a regular basis.

10. AOB

- 10.1 RH provided an update on the industry's P3 initiative. The initiative will focus on harm minimisation and the mechanisms available within the industry to educate and inform gamblers, identify those with problems and to offer protections.
- 10.2 It was noted that RH would be the Chair of the P3 steering group. It was note that the output would be practical learnings and quick wins. There would be a flow of information to RGSB, the Commission and DCMS. The Trust will offer resources to help evaluate the trialling of new approaches.