

## Meeting of the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board: 27 November 2013

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

**Time:** 10.15 – 14.00

**Attendees:** Kate Anthony (KA), Chris Bell (CB), Paul Bellringer (PB), Sanju George (SG), Richard Ives (RI), Chris Kelly (CK) (Chair), David Miers (DM), Simon Tanner (ST)

**In attendance:** Ruth Callaghan (RC), Rebekah Eden (RE), Marc Etches (ME), Katherine Jackson (KJ) (minutes),

Ref	Action:	Status	Minute number / Page
216	ME to meet with ABB, he will ask if it will evaluate its code (to include what is new or improved?). ME to discuss with the Commission first, before this meeting takes place. ME is also attending a re-arranged trade association briefing, he will discuss the ABB code there.		3.2/ p3
217	RC to re-align the Board's success criteria at paragraph 38 with the three objectives listed at paragraph 3.	In progress	4.2/ p3
218	RC to produce a forward agenda for 2014 Board meetings.	In progress	4.5/ p4
219	RC to produce a Business Plan.	Done	4.5/ p4
220	RC to revise wording for KP 2.		4.6/ p4
221	RC to draft a letter to the Commission to confirm that a strategy update will not be produced.	In progress	5.1/ p4
222	RC and ME to discuss a public health action plan	In progress	7.2/ p5

### 1: Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies received from Gerda Reith (GR), Russell Hoyle (RH) and Henrietta-Bowden Jones (HBJ).

1.2 DM and CB attended the meeting but were delayed.

## **2: Declarations of interest**

- 2.1 CK asked for clarity around declarations of interest. Is it to cover all interests or just those relevant to the Board? It was agreed that it was the latter.
- 2.2. ST declared that he is contracted to Public Health England for six months. He is an employee and is based in Bristol. This interest will be added to the register.
- 2.3 KA noted that she would be attending a Gordon Moody event that evening, regarding the re-launch of its website.

## **3: Minutes and matters arising from meeting on 24 September 2013: RGSB 13 06 (01)**

3.1 The minutes were agreed.

3.2 The actions were updated as follows:

- Action reference 180: All Board members to review the KPs assigned to them and to consider:
  - whether the KPs makes sense?
  - what should the Board be doing?
  - what are the implications for a workplan and resources?
  - are the KPs still relevant?

Board members are to undertake a critical evaluation of the KPs so the Board knows what is expected of it. To be completed by 7 October (responses to be sent to RC). **All responses received, except for GR.**

- Action reference 181: RC to add a column to the table contained at Annex A which will capture the outcomes outputs for each KP which will describe what the end point for them will look like. **Done.**
- Action reference 182: HBJ to look into approach taken by an alcohol and drug misuse advisory group and see what can be replicated for gambling. **In progress, KJ to follow up with HBJ.**
- Action reference 183: RC to query the last bullet point of the SHS summary with the Commission. Done – RE confirmed that there was an error in the way the results were published. The ratio was slightly skewed – the age group was 35 to 45 (who are more likely to be parents).
- Action reference 184: Secretariat to map the SHS results against the Board's KPs. **To be done once the Health Survey for England results are published on 18 December.**
- Action reference 185: Board members to forward comments on ME's public health paper to the secretariat. The secretariat will then forward these comments to ME for consideration. **Done (the collated responses are set out in paper RGSB 13 06 (05)).**

- Action reference 186: Secretariat to undertake an assessment of what is new in the ABB's Code (in comparison to the last one) and report back to the Board. This will enable the Board to take a view of the Code in the event that it wishes to comment publicly on it. **To be done. RC has been discussing the work already undertaken within the Commission to avoid duplication, there is not as much done on the Commission side as she thought. The Board agreed that it would like to know how much of an advance the Codes represent. The Commission should push back on the industry to provide evidence on whether the codes are effective and this should be fed back to the Board. RC to follow up on industry codes. Specifically, this should include:**
  - **Are the Codes an advance on the previous position?**
  - **What else was on the 'shopping list' to which agreement could not be obtained?**
  - **What are the arrangements for evaluation?**
  - **Establish the baseline**

**Action:** ME to meet with ABB, he will ask if it will evaluate its code (to include what is new or improved?). ME to discuss with the Commission first, before this meeting takes place. ME is also attending a re-arranged trade association briefing, he will discuss the ABB code there.

- Action reference 187: RC and ME to obtain and review a copy of a similar code recently published by NCIF, and update the Board with their findings. **Done (see paper RGSB 06 (08)).**
- Action reference 188: ME/JW to discuss card blocking further in the context of self-exclusion. **Done.**

#### **4: Planning: RGSB 13 06 (02)**

- 4.1 The Board agreed that there was no need to change the Key Priorities (KPs).
- 4.2 Paragraph 38 – increased visibility in the media is not a success criteria in itself. However, a failure to be consulted could be a failure criteria.

**Action:** RC to re-align the Board's success criteria at paragraph 38 with the three objectives listed at paragraph 3.

- 4.3 Paragraph 42 – speakers to be invited to attend an after lunch session at Board meetings. The speakers will be there to address issues relating to specific KPs. Therefore those responsible for the KP in question will attend, although if other Board members have an interest then they can also attend. Speakers must be briefed in order to allow sufficient time for questions at the end of the session.
- 4.4 The Board agreed that it would invite all treatment providers to attend a session at least once a year. The purpose of this is for information exchange and not evaluation. It is also important that we keep a list of what conferences are available and that we suggest Board members to attend.

4.5 With regard to Annex B (items for future Board meetings), ME suggested that harm minimisation and machines are added.

**Action:** RC to produce a forward agenda for 2014 Board meetings.

**Action:** RC to produce a Business Plan.

4.6 DM noted that some of the KPs need outputs adding (for example, an output could be a position paper). In particular, the wording for KP 2 needs to be made more specific.

**Action:** RC to revise wording for KP 2.

4.7 DM suggested having a friendly critic from a non-domestic jurisdiction. CK to consider.

### **5: Strategy update document: RGSB 13 06 (03)**

5.1 Do we need to produce a revised strategy update document? The Board agreed that it did not.

**Action:** RC to draft a letter to the Commission to confirm that a strategy update will not be produced.

### **6: Draft position paper on young people: RGSB 13 06 (04)**

6.1 CK commented that paper reflects strategy and not the Board's position on young people. What are the key challenges, such as exposure of young people to gambling, social grooming etc? The next iteration will need to include marketing and advertising (pre-watershed viewing), social gaming, and learning from other fields.

6.2 ST suggested that the paper set out hot topics (describing the issues) and what our position is (e.g. there is evidence, or a lack of evidence etc).

6.3 DM suggested a structure which all position papers should follow:

- What does the evidence tell us?
- What are the issues/those outstanding?
- What are the possibilities? What can be done? The following options can be considered...

6.4 The Young People Omnibus demonstrates that parents are buying tickets while their children are present. Is there an opportunity to engage with parents at this point (i.e. through leaflets at National Lottery retailers, which could cover other forms of gambling?)

6.5 ST referred to the neuroscience evidence regarding brain development of young people up to the age of 24. We need to acknowledge this in the position paper.

6.6 Regarding paragraph 4 of the paper about treatment, ME confirmed that tools will be made available on the Gamble Aware site (not InfoHub). He emphasised that GambleAware is an 18+ website and the language and messages on it reflect this (content aimed at under 18s needs to be written in such a way that it is understood by that age group).

## **7: Position on public health and action plan: RGSB 13 06 (05)**

- 7.1 ST advised that we must be careful to define what we mean by a public health approach, and that it should have a narrow interpretation. There is a shift from treatment to prevention. Are we looking at those at harm rather than those at risk of harm? A true public health approach looks at the wider economic and societal issues.
- 7.2 The Board welcomed the Trust's paper on public health which it submitted to the Board in September. It agreed that the secretariat should produce an action plan on public health. This should review the evidence and how to split roles and responsibilities between the Board and the Trust. RC and ME to discuss and flesh out who will do what.

**Action:** RC and ME to discuss a public health action plan.

- 7.3 ST is happy to speak to Public Health England. SG has some contacts in public health in Birmingham, which may be of help to the Board and the Trust.

## **8: Next steps on advertising, social gambling, self-exclusion and machines research framework: RGSB 13 06 (06)**

### Gambling marketing and advertising

- 8.1 RC gave an update on developments around gambling advertising and marketing.
- 8.2 The Trust has commissioned Dr Per Binde to review gambling advertising and marketing, examining relevant literature in analogous fields such as alcohol. This will be completed within the next four weeks and will be made to the Board in January.
- 8.3 The Board will not set up a separate group for gambling marketing and advertising, but it may organise a 'round the table' discussion involving others. In the meantime, the Board agreed that it would use the Young Persons Groups as a sounding board. The Board plans to produce a position paper on gambling advertising and marketing.

### Social gaming

- 8.4 KA and RE gave an update on social gaming.

### Self-exclusion

- 8.5 PB gave an update on the Self-exclusion Group. The Group will put a position paper to the Board next year.

## **9: Next steps on Machines research framework: RGSB 13 06 (07)**

- 9.1 The Board approved the paper.

## **10: Update on industry codes of practice: RGSB 13 06 (08)**

- 10.1 Already covered above.

## **11: Update from the Responsible Gambling Trust on delivery progress: RGSB 13 06 (09)**

11.1 The three GRaHM (Gambling Risk and Harm Minimisation) projects finish in March 2014. These pilots will be evaluated. The Trust will sit down with those running the pilots and other treatment providers to see what can work well and how this can be extended to other areas. The Trust will come to a resolution in the first quarter next year as to how to take these pilots forward.

**12: Possible complementary approaches to operator-based self-exclusion: RGSB 13 06 (10)**

12.1 This paper was well received. It requested that the secretariat continue exploring the possible measures outlined in the paper.

**13: Transparency: RGSB 13 06 (11)**

13.1 The Board approved the paper, although the secretariat is not to spend too long on redacting Board/Panel/Group papers and minutes and on improving the RGSB website. If any Board/Panel/Group members would prefer not to have their photographs published on the RGSB website, they should let the secretariat know.

**14: Any other business**

14.1 RE gave an update about the Millennium Cohort Survey. Jonathan Watkin is putting together questions which we are seeking to be incorporated in this survey. The Gambling Commission has agreed to meet the cost of this.

**Next meeting: 21 January 2014, 10.15am – 2.00pm, London Mathematical Society, De Morgan House, 57-58 Russell Square, London, WC1B 4HS**