

Meeting of the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board: 22 September 2015

Venue: London Mathematical Society, Hardy Room, De Morgan House, 57-59 Russell Square, London, Greater London, WC1B 4HS

Time: 10.15am - 2pm

Attendees: Kate Anthony (KA), Henrietta Bowden-Jones (HBJ), David Forrest (DF), Russell Hoyle (RH), Richard Ives (RI), Chris Kelly (CK) (Chair), Rachel Lampard (RL), David Miers (DM), Simon Tanner (ST), Heather Wardle (HW)

In attendance: Ruth Callaghan (RC), Iain Corby (IC), Joanne Higgs (JH) (minutes), Paul Hope (PH), Jon Watkin (JW)

Apologies: Marc Etches (ME), Ian Gilmore (IG)

| Ref | Action: | Status | Minute number / Page |
|-----|--|-------------|----------------------|
| 94 | IC to check and confirm the timescales for the gambling-related harm work. | In progress | 3.2, p.2 |
| 95 | RC to add the detailed drafting comments to a master version of the draft strategy. | Done | 4.3, p.3 |
| 96 | CK and secretariat to undertake further drafting and share an updated version with Board members prior to the next meeting. | Done | 4.3, p.3 |
| 97 | Secretariat to arrange an additional Board meeting before the meeting on 1 December to focus on revising the strategy and measures of success. | Done | 4.3, p.3 |
| 98 | Secretariat to postpone the Advisory Group meeting on 14 October. | Done | 4.3, p.3 |
| 99 | IC to share a copy of the Harm Minimisation ITT which contains the learning from the GRaHM pilots with RGSB. | In progress | 4.3, p.3 |
| 100 | Secretariat to research what percentage of funding is spent on research and development in other industries. | In progress | 4.3, p.3 |
| 101 | Secretariat to add the vulnerability research presentation to the agenda for 1 December. | Done | 6.1, p.3 |

1: Apologies and declarations of interest

- 1.1. CK welcomed Iain Corby, the new Director of Operations and Development at the Trust to his first RGSB meeting.
- 1.2. Apologies were received from ME and IG.

2: Minutes and matters arising from meeting on 22 July 2015: RGSB 15 05 (01)

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

3: Delivering the Strategy: RGSB 15 05 (02)

3.1 RC drew Board members' attention to the section on recent research activity and highlighted the links with HW's work on developing a research commissioning protocol.

3.2 IC outlined what the Trust would be doing to take forward the outcomes of the Public Health Summit. This would include publishing a position paper, issuing an invitation to tender (ITT) for partnership projects involving public health bodies and the NHS and also launching the ITT on gambling-related harm.

Action: IC to check and confirm the timescales for the gambling-related harm work.

3.3 HW felt that the summit didn't successfully address the issue of whether a public health approach was relevant to gambling and ST cautioned against focusing on treatment rather than on developing a public health approach. HBJ also advised that the Royal College of Psychiatrists had done a lot of work in this area.

4: Developing the new Strategy: RGSB 15 05 (03)

4.1 CK thanked Board members for their written responses on the draft strategy and advised that the remainder of the meeting would focus on reviewing the strategy and agreeing further drafting changes.

4.2 Board members had a thorough discussion on the draft strategy and a summary of the key points is provided below. The specific drafting changes would be incorporated into a new version of the draft strategy to aid further editing.

4.3 Key points:

- There was general consensus with the approach in the strategy but agreement that greater clarity and robustness was required in some areas
- The strategy would benefit from some reordering and better use of section headings to aid readership and engagement whilst being mindful about its overall length
- The strategy needs to be more externally facing and engaging
- The need to involve the industry in the development of the new strategy
- Agreement that a future draft of the strategy should be sent to key stakeholders as a consultation document (**decision**)
- Ensuring that the strategy takes a longer-term view and is not just aligned to 'issues of the day'
- The strategy should be more proactive in what it says about future research priorities
- The strategy should provide the framework and direction of travel within which the industry can move forward and experiment with new ideas and approaches (as long as well evaluated)
- Balancing the gathering of more evidence with the need for action
- Clarifying who is the custodian of the evidence, who should be responsible for it and how should it be used to greatest effect
- Using RGSB contacts to promote the strategy more widely

- The need to address the rapid pace of technological change in gambling
- Agreement not to continue with the 8 Key Performance Indicators in the new strategy (**decision**)
- Needing to understand the position on the GRaHM pilots
- Needing to include more honest reflections and assessments of work undertaken in good faith that for one reason or another have not been successful
- Understanding what level of funding would be appropriate
- Agreement that Board did not wish to comment on the voluntary system in the new strategy
- That detailed consideration needs to be given to measures of success, both for RGSB and the strategy overall
- That Board needed an action plan against which it could monitor and measure progress and achievements.

Action: RC to add the detailed drafting comments to a master version of the draft strategy.

Action: CK and secretariat to undertake further drafting and share an updated version with Board members prior to the next meeting.

Action: Secretariat to arrange an additional Board meeting before the meeting on 1 December to focus on revising the strategy and measures of success.

Action: Secretariat to postpone the Advisory Group meeting on 14 October.

Action: IC to share a copy of the Harm Minimisation ITT which contains the learning from the GRaHM pilots with RGSB.

Action: Secretariat to research what percentage of funding is spent on research and development in other industries.

5: Evaluation Protocol and Research Governance: RGSB 15 05 (04)

5.1 There was no time to discuss the information paper on developing an Evaluation Protocol and Research Governance but it was noted that JW and HW would be hosting a consultation drop-in session for Trade Bodies after the Board meeting.

6: Presentation on Vulnerability Research

6.1 It was agreed that HW's presentation on exploring area-based vulnerability to gambling-related harm would be deferred to the December meeting.

Action: Secretariat to add the vulnerability research presentation to the agenda for 1 December.

7: Update from the Responsible Gambling Trust: RGSB 15 05 (05)

7.1 A written update from the Trust on their five-year funding plan, current funding agreements for Treatment and ongoing research activity had been circulated to Board prior to the meeting. Unfortunately there was no time to discuss the report but CK thanked the Trust for the update which he had found helpful.

8: AOB

8.1 There were no additional items for discussion.

Future meetings:

**14 October 2015, 10.30am – 12.30pm, The Kings Fund, No 11 Cavendish Square,
London, W1G 0AN**

**1 December 2015, 10.15am – 2pm, London Mathematical Society, Hardy Room, De
Morgan House, 57-59 Russell Square, London, Greater London, WC1B 4HS**