

Minutes of the meeting of the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board held on 15th March 2010

Present:

Chris Bell
Paul Bellringer
Henrietta Bowden-Jones
Neil Goulden
Richard Ives
Alan Jamieson
David Miers
Julia Neuberger (Chair)
Gerda Reith (arrived at item 12)
Eleanor Roaf

In attendance:

Jane Glastonbury
Robert Rogers (items 9 - 14 only)
Natalie Simpson (minutes)
Carol Stone

1 Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meetings on 18th January 2010 and 12th February 2010 were approved as a true record.

Matters arising – 18th January minutes

There was discussion about arranging a meeting with representatives from Gamblers Anonymous.

It was noted that RGF does not have a requirement to register with the Care Quality Commission. Some service providers do have a requirement to register, and this will be built into their contracts with RGF.

Matters arising – 12th February minutes

The action points were updated.

There was discussion about the intellectual property of the gambleaware website, and it was noted that GREaT have invited AJ to join the newly-formed gambleaware editorial committee.

It was agreed that AJ will represent RGSB and join the gambleaware editorial committee.

There was discussion about the need for a communications strategy for RGSB and RGF.

2 Minutes of expert Panel meetings

The minutes of the Treatment, Prevention and Research Panels were noted.

3 Fuller strategy

The paper 'Producing the 'fuller' strategy' was introduced and discussed. It was agreed that the Strategy 2010 would be based on the current strategy and would contain appendices with further detail for those who require it. The document represents an ongoing development strategy and is reflective to changes in the environment and stakeholder participation.

4 Update on forums

The update on the stakeholder forums was noted.

5 Update on Treatment work

The update on the Treatment work was noted.

6 NHS positioning paper

The NHS communications and engagement paper was introduced and discussed.

It was agreed that the Board supports and endorses the following, subject to the views of the Treatment and Prevention Panel:

- the development of a strategic engagement and communications framework for the NHS
- the proposals for three specific work streams aimed at informing the future work of the RGSB and RGF.

7 Care pathway

The draft integrated care pathway project plan was noted.

8 Helpline

The helpline paper was introduced and discussed. As operational issues are contractual matters for RGF, this paper considers policy issues.

It was suggested that hard copy information in key languages should be made available, and the intellectual property of the phone number and website should be owned by RGF.

There should be a minimum data set built into providers' contracts and the opportunity to 'bolt on' data collected for their internal use.

It was agreed that the model should pass to RGF to develop and form the basis of an invitation to tender for the delivery of a national telephone helpline with web access specifically related to responsible and problem gambling. It was also agreed that a small reference group could be established to advise RGF on an ad hoc basis as they move to commissioning.

9 PhD call 2010

There was discussion about how to ensure high quality PhD applications, and it was suggested that now there is a national strategy, the Research Panel could advise on the specific PhD projects required.

It was agreed that RGSB would recommend to RGF that the PhD programme should continue with the recruitment of two new PhD students

in autumn, following agreement of the PhD subject areas by the Research Panel.

10 RGF staff recruitment

All applications have been received for the two new positions. GR will be on the interview panel for the Head of Policy and Research position, and an RGF Board member will be on the panel for the Programme Manager position.

11 Invitations to bid for RGF 2010/11 funding

The Board was informed that the three currently funded treatment providers have been invited to bid for 2010/11 funding, and the RGF Board will make a decision on their submissions.

12 RGSB's costs 2009/10

The RGSB costs-to-date for 2009/10 were noted.

The executive are discussing invoice payments with the Gambling Commission and it is anticipated that payments to Board members will be processed by the executive rather than through the Commission.

13 Internet gambling

Professor Robert Rogers, University of Oxford, made a presentation on 'A web-based survey of the clinical and psychological characteristics of a sample of Internet gamblers', a project jointly funded by ESRC and RIGT/RGF.

14 A.O.B

JG was thanked for all her work with RGSB, as she will be working full-time for DCMS from April 2010.