

Minutes of the meeting of the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board held on 12 November 2012

Venue: Government Art Collection, Queens Yard, 179a
Tottenham Court Road, London, W1T 7PA
Time: 10.15am

Present:

Chris Bell (for items 1 – 8)	CB
Paul Bellringer	PB
Henrietta Bowden-Jones	HBJ
Russell Hoyle (for items 1 – 8)	RH
Richard Ives	RI
David Miers	DM
Brian Pomeroy (Chair)	BP
Eleanor Roaf	ER

In attendance:

Ruth Callaghan	RC
Rebekah Eden (observer)	RE
Marc Etches	ME
Rebecca Sutherland (minutes)	RS
Jonathan Watkin	JW

Apologies:

Gerda Reith	GR
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Action Ref	Actions:	Status	Minute number / Page
73	RC to provide final draft of Strategy to Board members showing amendments by 26 November.	Done	4.4/ p3
74	ME to send the test link to the new GambleAware site to Board members.	Done	5.2/p3
81	A press release in support of the Trust's research programme to be agreed.	Done	6.3/p4
75	A letter setting out progress on machines research to be sent to the Commission.	In progress	6.3/p4
76	The secretariat is to liaise with the Board regarding volunteers for the group and begin process of setting up the self exclusion group.	In progress	7.4/p4
77	JW to look into what other countries are doing regarding self exclusion with particular focus on Norway.	In progress	7.4/p4
78	Board members to work with secretariat in identifying members to act as main point of contact for issues for the forward plan.	In progress	9.3/p5
79	RC to establish contact Gamblers Anonymous.	In progress	10.3/p5

1. Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies were received from GR.

2. Declaration of interest:

- 2.1 CB declared his Chairmanship of Bet Clearer since September 2012.

3. Minutes and matters arising

- 3.1 The minutes from 24 September meeting were approved subject to an amendment of paragraph 11.5.
- 3.2 The actions were updated.
- 3.3 There were no matters arising.

4. Approval of Strategy 2013/14 to 2015/16: RGSB 12 05 (02)

- 4.1 The Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (the Board) reviewed the Strategy 2013/14 to 2015/16 (the Strategy). The Strategy now included the Chair's foreword and an executive summary which the Board was asked to comment on.
- 4.2 The following amendments were proposed by the Board to the foreword and executive summary:
- To amend the paragraph stating 'gambling is a legitimate leisure activity' to 'gambling is a widely accepted leisure activity'
 - To separate customer interaction and self exclusion
 - To remove the bullet point regarding men and women as vulnerable groups and include a sentence about this instead
- 4.3 The following changes were proposed by the Board to the main text:
- To be consistent with terminology throughout the document
 - Include more about the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (RGSB) in paragraph 1
 - Broaden out references to GPs and include a wider range of health professionals
- 4.4 The Board agreed a publication date of 3 December 2012, subject to seeing a final draft of the Strategy, with tracked changes, at the end of November.

Action – RC to provide final draft of Strategy to Board members showing amendments by 19 November.

5. Update from Responsible Gambling Trust on delivery progress: RGSB 12 05 (03)

- 5.1 ME introduced and set out the key points from the delivery report including progress on fundraising, cash-flow forecast, research and programmes of work from the Responsible Gambling Trust (the Trust):
- Amount pledged to the Trust is greater than this time last year
 - The target still remains £6million
 - The Trust have appointed Dr Jonathan Parke as Director of Commissioning
 - The position of Assistant Director of Commissioning is still vacant
 - A new Trustee is to be nominated
 - The Trustees will be asked to approve making the Chairperson a non-voting Trustee to ensure an evenly balanced Board of voting members
 - The Trustees are concerned regarding the quality of the research completed by Manchester Metropolitan University and this will be peer-reviewed.
 - A meeting of the National Clinicians' Network Forum will take place on 12 December.
- 5.2 The Board expressed concern that the post of Director of Commissioning had not been advertised.

- 5.3 ME provided an overview of the new GambleAware website. A link to the test site will be sent to Board members.

Action – ME to send the test link to the new GambleAware site to Board members.

6. Triennial update – advice and messages: RGSB 12 05 (04)

- 6.1 RC introduced the paper, Triennial Update – Advice and Messages, and provided an update to the Board. A delay in the publication of the DCMS consultation on the Triennial Review of stakes and prizes means that there has been no public statement regarding the work of the Machines Expert Group (MEG).
- 6.2 DM reported that MEG had made substantial progress with discussing the requirements of a machine research programme.
- 6.3 The Board agreed that a public statement regarding the work of MEG to be issued in the next couple of weeks and the work on return-to-player to be scoped and discussed with MEG and the Trust.

Action – A press release in support of the Trust’s research programme to be agreed.

Action – A letter setting out progress to be sent to the Commission.

7. Self exclusion: RGSB 12 05 (05)

- 7.1 JW introduced the paper on self-exclusion for discussion by the Board.
- 7.2 The Board suggested that there is a need to look into:
- Who self excludes, why they self exclude and what are the effects of self exclusion
 - Legal questions such as entering into an agreement (with an operator for example) and privacy of data
 - Regulation of self exclusion to ensure compliance with the LCCP
- 7.3 The Board suggested that research into the experience of gamblers who have self excluded and also into the experience of operators (of the self exclusion process) is important.
- 7.4 The Board agreed to set up a group to look into self exclusion and that a Board member should take the lead role in this work.

Action - The secretariat is to liaise with the Board regarding volunteers for the group and begin process of setting up the self exclusion group.

Action – JW to look into what other countries are doing regarding self exclusion with particular focus on Norway.

8. Social gaming expert seminar: RGSB 12 05 (06)

- 8.1 RC provided the Board with an update on the social gaming expert seminar.

- 8.2 The Board noted the proposed agenda.
- 8.3 It was agreed that a Board member will be on the panel for the afternoon session entitled 'Social Responsibility Challenges'.

9. Forward plan: RGSB 12 05 (07)

- 9.1 RC updated the Board on key achievements and progress over the period 25 September to 12 November 2012.
- 9.2 The Board noted the update.
- 9.3 It was agreed that a Board member will be assigned to each issue (where no RGSB project group is currently within the resource)

Action – Board members to work with the secretariat in identifying members to act as main point of contact for issues for the forward plan.

10. Harm prevention issues: Young People Harm Prevention Group

- 10.1 ER provided an update to the Board on the progress of the Young People Harm Prevention Group (YPHPG). YPHPG has been put in place to review whether particular groups of young people are at risk from gambling-related harm.
- 10.2 Membership of the group is still in development.
- 10.3 The Board decided that RC should contact Gamblers Anonymous to establish a relationship so that the extent of their treatment provision can be understood.

Action – RC to establish contact Gamblers Anonymous.

- 10.4 The group will meet in January 2013 and GamCare will be in attendance to present their work youth strategy.

11. Expert group feedback - Research

EASG summaries: RGSB 12 05 (08)

- 11.1 The Board noted the EASG summaries paper.

12. AOB

Scoping exercise of data held by National Problem Gambling Clinic: RGSB 12 05 (09)

- 12.1 HBJ provided the Board with an overview of the type of information collected by the National Problem Gambling Clinic (NPGC).
- 12.2 The Board agreed that this information was a useful data source for any future research by the Trust. HBJ gave permission for data to be used with a view for collaboration.

Recruitment to RGSB

- 12.3 RC provided an update to the Board regarding recruitment. The Board was reminded that the closing date was 12 November 2012.

Business cards

- 12.4 The secretariat is in process of signing off the business card design and these will be with Board members in December.

Register of declarations

- 12.5 The register of declarations is currently being updated. Where applicable, Board members are asked to submit declarations to the secretariat.