

GambleAware

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PRESS RELEASE

GambleAware announces £3.9m to treat more people with gambling problems

London, 14 May: GambleAware will invest an additional £3.9m for up to three years to fund expansion of the National Gambling Treatment Service through GamCare and its network of partners across Great Britain.

The money will:

- Enable the National Gambling Helpline to provide advice and brief interventions to more people; £705k
- Enable people to have access to computerised Cognitive Behavioural Therapy where this is clinically appropriate; £435k
- Develop peer support so that people who are recovering from gambling addiction can help others to access treatment and aftercare; £438k
- Expand provision of face-to-face treatment services in England, Scotland and Wales; £2.35m

Following the signing of the Grant Agreement between GambleAware and GamCare covering 2018-2021, the two organisations have been discussing how to develop services further, to expand the range of treatment options available to people with gambling problems and to make treatment as accessible as possible. The range of initiatives being announced today will be funded immediately, and they supplement other developments which have already been announced, such as work with Adfam to improve support for those affected by the gambling of others, and a major investment to open the NHS Northern Gambling Clinic and newly extended services from GamCare in Leeds this summer.

GambleAware announced last week that it had received £7.3 million in one-off regulatory settlements which will allow the charity to plan to spend significantly more than the £10 million it seeks each year from the gambling industry through voluntary donations in the short term. Trustees anticipate that GambleAware's actions to help deliver the National Strategy to Reduce Gambling Harms will require a significant step-

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Chair: Kate Lampard CBE

Trustees • Saffron Cordery • Professor Sian Griffiths OBE • Michelle Highman • Professor Anthony Kessel
• Rachel Pearce • Chris Pond • Paul Simpson • Professor Marcantonio Spada • Professor Patrick Sturgis

Chief Executive: Marc Etches

up in funding for core services from April 2020, over and above the investment being announced today.

Marc Etches, Chief Executive of GambleAware said: “Today’s announcement reflects a commitment by GambleAware to take a strategic approach to commissioning treatment services, to give people the help that they need to tackle the hidden addiction of problem gambling, and to improve the quality of life for them and their families.

This significant expansion of the existing National Gambling Treatment Service demonstrates the shared commitment between GambleAware and GamCare, as commissioner and prime provider respectively, to make a real difference to people’s lives, by reducing barriers to treatment and increasing the capacity in the treatment system.”

Anna Hemmings, Chief Executive of GamCare said:

“GamCare is delighted to have developed a collaborative approach with GambleAware to support the expansion of the National Gambling Treatment Service. This funding will mean we can introduce broader accessibility, availability and choice for those harmed by gambling. With it, we will be able to reach larger numbers of people in more locations nationally, offering a wider range of services including both online and peer support alongside our existing treatment provision.

GamCare and its network of regional partners provide services which significantly improve the quality of life of those harmed by gambling, and we will continue to develop our services to ensure that they can grow sustainably and offer the right support at the right time to as many people as possible.”

-ENDS-

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NOTES

- GambleAware is an independent charity (Charity No. 1093910) tasked to fund research, prevention and treatment services to help to reduce gambling harms in Great Britain. GambleAware is a commissioning and grant-making body, not a provider of services. For more information, please go to: <http://about.gambleaware.org/>
- Guided by the [National Strategy to Reduce Gambling Harms](#), the charity’s strategic aims are to: broaden public understanding of gambling harms, in particular as a public health issue; advance the cause of harm-prevention so as to help build

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resilience, in particular in relation to the young and those most vulnerable to gambling harms; and help those who do develop gambling harms get the support that they need quickly and effectively.

- GambleAware is wholly independent of the gambling industry and has robust governance arrangements to protect the independence of the services and research it commissions. The charity's commissioning plans are developed in collaboration with the Advisory Board Safer Gambling (ABSG) and the Gambling Commission. These arrangements are underpinned by an 'assurance and governance framework' in place since 2012:
<http://about.gambleaware.org/media/1216/statementofintent.pdf>.
- GambleAware published a [5-year strategy](#) in November 2016, and in July 2018 published a [Strategic Delivery Plan](#) that sets out how the charity proposes to broaden the range of services and activities it funds, supports and works with between 2018 and 2020.
- The Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (now ABSG) estimated that GambleAware would require a minimum of [£9.5 million in voluntary donations in 2018/19](#) plus running costs to implement its commissioning plans.
<https://about.gambleaware.org/media/1932/quantum-of-funding-january-2017.pdf>
- For GambleAware to continue to meet its existing commitments and complete the successful delivery of its current two-year strategic delivery plan the charity will require a minimum of £10 million in the 12 months to 31 March 2020.
- GambleAware asks all those who profit from the gambling industry in Great Britain, whether or not they hold a licence from the Gambling Commission, to donate a minimum of 0.1% of their annual Gross Gambling Yield (GGY) directly to GambleAware. This voluntary donation-based system was agreed after the Gambling Act 2005 and is underpinned by the Gambling Commission's Social Responsibility Code Provision 3.1.1. (2).
- GambleAware is at the forefront of commissioning a National Gambling Treatment Service, working with the NHS and other services in the statutory and voluntary sectors to help direct people to the right intervention.
- The National Gambling Treatment Service includes NHS and voluntary sector providers. GambleAware has commissioned specialist treatment for gambling addiction at Central & North West London NHS Foundation Trust since 2008 and in the summer of 2019 a second specialist clinic will open in collaboration with Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. GambleAware also commissions treatment in a residential setting via the Gordon Moody Association. And for those who need less intensive treatment, there is a network of providers across Great Britain, led by GamCare. In 2018/19, 30,000 people received advice from the **National Gambling Helpline (0808 820 133)** and 9,000 people were treated. The National Gambling Helpline (available via phone and web chat), is open from 8am to midnight, seven days a week for self-referrals.

- GambleAware also runs the website [BeGambleAware.org](https://www.begambleaware.org) which helps 2.7 million visitors a year, and signposts to a wide range of support services.
- For more information on GamCare please visit www.gamcare.org.uk