

# GambleAware

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## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **New research funded by GambleAware to explore the relationship between problem gambling and families**

**London, 7 June:** GambleAware has commissioned Sheffield Hallam University to undertake research that will explore problem gambling from the perspective of families. Dr James Banks, Dr Catrin Andersson, Professor David Best and Michael Edwards will lead an exploration of the impact of problem gambling on different family members, partners and close friends, the coping strategies they employ and their roles in helping to seek and remain in treatment and recovery, both for themselves and for the affected family member. This will include analysis of family members who are attempting to recover when the affected individual has relapsed or suffered adverse effects.

Following an open invitation to tender, the bids were evaluated by GambleAware's Independent Research Oversight Panel and the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board and the decision was made to award a tender to Sheffield Hallam University by the GambleAware Research Committee.

**Clare Wyllie, Director of Research & Evaluation at GambleAware** said:

"This research fills a gap in our understanding of the impact of problem gambling on the wider family and the role families can play in their own and the gambler's recovery. It will learn from families themselves about what would best support families to cope and recover from gambling-related harm and how to involve families in the problem gambler's treatment. The findings will support new approaches to support, treatment and policy for families affected by problem gambling".

**-ENDS-**

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## **NOTES**

- GambleAware is the leading charity in the UK committed to minimising gambling-related harm. As an independent national charity funded by donations from the gambling industry, GambleAware funds education, prevention and treatment services and commissions research to broaden public understanding of

gambling-related harm. The aim is to stop people getting into problems with their gambling, and ensure that those that do develop problems receive fast and effective treatment and support. For more information, please go to:

<http://about.gambleaware.org/>

- GambleAware aims to raise a minimum of £10 million each year in voluntary contributions from the gambling industry operating in Great Britain. This donation-based system was proposed under the Gambling Act 2005 and is prescribed by the Gambling Commission in its Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice.
- GambleAware's programme of treatment, education, harm prevention and research is guided by the National Responsible Gambling Strategy, which is defined by the independent Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (RGSB) and endorsed by the Gambling Commission. The RGSB, the Gambling Commission and GambleAware work together under the terms of an agreement in place since 2012: <http://about.gambleaware.org/media/1216/statementofintent.pdf>. Research is conducted under the terms of a 'Research Commissioning and Governance Procedure' agreed in 2016 by the RGSB, the Gambling Commission and GambleAware: <http://about.gambleaware.org/media/1270/research-commissioning-and-governance-procedure-may-2016-final.pdf>.
- The RGSB endorsed GambleAware's £10m funding goal in January 2017: <http://www.rgsb.org.uk/press-releases/responsible-gambling-strategy-board-publishes-assessment-of-the-quantum-of-funding-required-to-deliver-the-national-responsible-gambling-strategy.html>
- GambleAware funds the *Gordon Moody Association*, the *NHS National Problem Gambling Clinic*, *GamCare* and a network of charities across Great Britain to provide a full range of free treatment for problem gamblers and support for those affected by them. GambleAware also runs the website **BeGambleAware.org** which helps 2.7 million visitors a year, and supports the **National Gambling Helpline – 0808 8020 133**.