

# GambleAware

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### **GambleAware commissions Leeds Beckett University to undertake an evaluation of GambleAware funded treatment system**

**London, 9 September 2019:** GambleAware has commissioned Leeds Beckett University, led by Dr Jim Morgan, to carry out the evaluation of the GambleAware funded treatment system.

This evaluation will provide the evidence base to inform: policy discussions and developments; any future improvements to the GambleAware-funded treatment system; the design of new treatment approaches and strategies; considerations of what a future integrated treatment system for gambling-related harms might look like in Great Britain; and, considerations for future research and evaluation of treatment and support for those affected by gambling difficulties.

### **-ENDS-**

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### **NOTES**

- GambleAware is an independent charity (Charity No. England & Wales 1093910, Scotland SC049433) that champions a public health approach to preventing gambling harms – see <http://about.gambleaware.org/>
- GambleAware is a commissioner of integrated prevention, education and treatment services on a national scale, with over £40 million of grant funding under active

management. In partnership with gambling treatment providers, GambleAware has spent several years methodically building structures for commissioning a coherent system of brief intervention and treatment services, with clearly defined care pathways and established referral routes to and from the NHS – a National Gambling Treatment Service.

- The National Gambling Treatment Service brings together a National Gambling Helpline and a network of locally-based providers across Great Britain that works with partner agencies and people with lived experience to design and deliver a system, which meets the needs of individuals. This system delivers a range of treatment services, including brief intervention, counselling (delivered either face-to-face or online), residential programmes and psychiatrist-led care.
- In the 12 months to 31 March 2019, provisional figures show that the National Gambling Treatment Service treated 10,000 people and this is projected to rise to 24,000 people a year by 2021. Helpline activity is currently running at about 30,000 calls and on-line chats per annum. GambleAware also runs the website BeGambleAware.org which helps 2.7 million visitors a year, and signposts to a wide range of support services.
- GambleAware produces public health campaigns including **Bet Regret**. A Safer Gambling Board, including representatives from Public Health England, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, and GambleAware, is responsible for the design and delivery of a campaign based on best practice in public health education. The Bet Regret campaign is being funded through specific, additional donations to the charity, in line with a commitment given to the government by the broadcasting, advertising and gambling industries.

See <https://about.gambleaware.org/prevention/safer-gambling-campaign/>.