

ANNOUNCEMENT

GambleAware publishes 2019/20 voluntary donations

London, 21 April 2020: GambleAware has today published details of donations for the 12 months ending 31st March 2020. The total for voluntary donations is £10.05 million. This is the first year donations have exceeded the charity's minimum target of £10 million.

The funding provided by the industry enables GambleAware to commission a coherent, co-ordinated and efficient system of prevention and treatment to keep people across England, Scotland and Wales safe from gambling harms.

Working in partnership with expert organisations and agencies, including the NHS, these donations fund a range of services, including the National Gambling Treatment Service, which includes the National Gambling Helpline. A summary of commissioning activity is available in a recently published [briefing document](#).

In addition to this core funding, GambleAware has received £1.5 million in regulatory settlements. Also, GambleAware has published a list of companies who supported the Safer Gambling Campaign, Bet Regret, for its first year in 2019. The amount donated came to £3.8 million alongside media donations from broadcasters

Marc Etches, CEO of GambleAware, has said:

"For the tenth year in a row, we have seen an increase in donations, which means for the first time, we have been able to meet our minimum target of £10 million. Commissioning a coherent, co-ordinated and efficient system of prevention and treatment requires the strategic distribution of sufficient funding, guided by appropriate expertise underpinned by effective partnership working.

GambleAware is currently the primary commissioner using best-practice to ensure that evidence-informed services are developed according to need within a robust and accountable system, and that funding is allocated efficiently and independently as one would expect of other health and social care commissioning and grant-making bodies.

Our mission is to keep people safe from gambling harm and these donations are vital to making sure we are able to deliver on that mission. Gambling is a serious public health issue in Great Britain, with two million adults experiencing some level of gambling harm. With these donations, we are able to continue funding the National Gambling Treatment

Service to provide treatment for those who need it, while working in partnership with the NHS and Citizens Advice amongst others."

-ENDS-

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NOTES

About GambleAware:

- 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 4.2 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

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Chief Executive: Marc Etches

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/>.