



Autumn 2018 Update

Welcome to GambleAware's latest quarterly e-newsletter.

In July we published a two-year [strategic delivery plan](#), and we are getting on with it.

Perhaps the most significant announcement has been the funding of the Northern Gambling Clinic in Leeds. This will become the second NHS-hosted clinic funded by GambleAware, and represents a significant step in our aim to better integrate the NHS with charities providing preventative education and treatment. We are actively seeking similar arrangements in Scotland, Wales and elsewhere in England. The purpose is to establish a robust, evidence-based integrated system of prevention, treatment and support for gambling addiction, free-at-the-point-of-delivery.

Also, we are delighted to be directly involved in cross-government initiatives involving DCMS, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), Public Health England, and others to contribute to a more joined-up approach to reducing gambling-related harms via research, education and treatment.

GambleAware now has a Board of trustees who are expert and experienced in all areas of our funding and grant-making activity, and who are wholly independent of the gambling industry. We publish

details of our funding on a quarterly basis, and speak out about issues on the basis of the evidence or, where the evidence is absent, on a precautionary basis. This is especially so in relation to children.

This week, we have launched a film-led awareness initiative to encourage football fans to discuss what they think about the relationship between football and gambling. Next month and into 2019, we will be launching a national multi-media '*Safer Gambling Campaign*'.

These are the activities and actions of an independent charity committed to reducing gambling-related harms. We are respectful of the current voluntary donation-based system, and understand that businesses may sometimes be uncomfortable about what we do and say. Please be assured that donations are not taken for granted and that our focus is on delivering our strategic plans effectively and efficiently for the benefit of those that need help. Thank you for supporting us.

Marc W Etches, Chief Executive

For further information, please visit about.gambleaware.org or [send us an email](#).

Download GambleAware's Annual Review
2017/18 [here](#)

Meet the speakers at GambleAware's 2018 Conference [here](#)

[Click here for further information on our new trustees](#)

Learn more about how to donate to
GambleAware [here](#)

'Love the Game' initiative

GambleAware is concerned that the extent of gambling-related marketing around football is increasingly contributing to the normalisation of gambling for children. It is reported that 450,000 children spend their own money on gambling, and that more than 55,000 children are understood to be addicted. Astonishingly, 12% of 11 to 16 year olds now follow gambling companies on social media.

We recognise that gambling-related sponsorship and advertising are important sources of funding for both the professional game and grass-roots community participation. However, our concerns are increasingly reflected in public and political opinion, and so **GambleAware has this week launched a social media initiative to stimulate a public debate among football fans about this issue.**

The film-led initiative is intended to appeal to anyone who loves football. We hope it will encourage them to reflect on why they love the game, and whether the current relationship between football and betting is undermining what it means to be an authentic fan.

We are not advocating any specific solutions, but we do want to invite you to take part in the conversation by working with us to help improve awareness of gambling as a health issue within the context of football, and to reduce the harms that arise. More information is available on the initiative's website, by clicking the link below.



[Watch the 'Love the Game' video here](#)

Aberdeen awareness campaign

GambleAware has launched an initiative in Aberdeen to treat more people for problem gambling. Adverts on the side of buses and on local radio stations will raise awareness of the National Gambling Helpline to encourage people to access treatment for problem gambling.

Across Scotland there are over 230,000 people who are classed as either problem gamblers, or at risk of becoming so. This campaign in Aberdeen will help GambleAware to understand how to encourage people to make use of the help and support that is available. The campaign has received support from local MSP Kevin Stewart as well as from the RCA Trust, which provides treatment in the city, and national charity Fast Forward.

In conjunction with the campaign, GambleAware is also working with local colleges to engage with students in the area (see details of the Fast Forward project below). In the first week of the campaign, we recorded over 20,000 hits on the BeGambleAware.org website from users in Aberdeen.



[Click here for further information](#)

Systematic review of evidence for treatment and support

GambleAware has commissioned academics at the University of Huddersfield & Flinders University (Australia) to undertake a systematic review of international evidence on treatment and support for those with gambling difficulties.

[Click here for further information](#)

New NHS Northern Gambling Clinic

GambleAware has commissioned a new service based in Leeds, worth over £1 million a year. The partnership between Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and the GamCare network will provide treatment for people from across the north

of England where thousands are recognised as being at risk from gambling addiction. This will be the second NHS-hosted clinic funded by GambleAware.

[Click here for further information](#)

Innovative applied research invitation to tender

GambleAware has issued an invitation to tender (ITT) for its innovative applied research grants scheme (IARGS). **The deadline for tenders is 17 December 2018.**

Our definition of innovative applied research is that it is original, pushes boundaries or breaks new ground, and that it is applicable to policy and/or practice. This scheme is for those currently working in the field of gambling studies who want to explore new ideas and approaches, and those who can enrich gambling studies with transferable knowledge and expertise from other fields.

We have four central themes for the 2018 IARGS call. These are:

1. The gaming/gambling interface (exploring relationships between online gaming, gambling, the role of technology and the internet)
2. Mental health, gambling and wellbeing (particularly issues relating to resilience and prevention for people of all ages)
3. Corporate social responsibility, sustainability and responsible marketing in gambling (and other business research areas in gambling)
4. Cross-cutting research in gambling studies (such as socio-cultural inequalities in gambling, gender

diversity and gambling, social policy and gambling, employment studies in gambling).

Two engagement events were held in London and Sheffield in November 2018 to inform prospective bidders of the goals of this grants scheme, and to explore some of the key policy drivers related to our four themes.

The ITT and supporting documents can be found [here](#)

Blocking software funding available

GambleAware has published an independent evaluation of software packages designed to block access to gambling websites and apps. The review, by researchers from Winning Moves, considered both the technical and therapeutic benefits of such software. The evaluation compared three specialist gambling solutions and three more general products.

The published research anonymises the packages considered, but Gamban® emerged as the most technically effective at blocking licensed and illegal gambling sites. However, the report also discovered that many people found the cost of these tools a barrier to use.

GambleAware has agreed it will make Gamban® software available to clients of its national gambling treatment services. The decision was made with the understanding that by reducing cost limitations for individual, it would encourage more people who are at risk to use the app if they needed it. This means that people calling the National Gambling Helpline who are referred for treatment from GamCare, its network of regional

partners, the CNWL Problem Gambling Clinic, and the Gordon Moody Association will be given use of the software free of charge by Gamban® .



[Click here for further information](#)

[Access the research here](#)

Adfam funding announced

GambleAware will be giving a grant worth £180,000 over 3 years to Adfam to improve the help available to family members and friends who are affected by the problem gambling of a loved one.

[Click here for further information](#)

Partnership with Citizens Advice

GambleAware has announced a new two-year, £1.5 million partnership with Citizens Advice to help debt advisors better understand, prevent or reduce gambling-related harms. The service, delivered across England and Wales, will provide training for

frontline advisors, enabling them to better identify and provide support to those experiencing gambling-related harms.



[Read the press announcement here](#)

Scottish youth problem gambling initiative

The Scottish charity, Fast Forward, has secured a £750,000 grant from GambleAware to run a major national youth problem gambling initiative across the country for three years. The service will offer training and resources to professionals working with youth in formal and informal education settings.

[Read the press announcement here](#)

RSPH launches free access e-learning

The Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) has launched a new free access e-learning programme, commissioned by GambleAware, as a resource to assist workers to provide brief intervention to address risks and harms related to problematic

gambling. It offers practical tips on identifying a problem, how to talk to someone about their gambling, offering immediate brief support and when to signpost to specialist services.

[Click here for further information](#)

[Access the resources here](#)

**If you are looking for help, advice or support
in relation to your gambling, please go
to: [BeGambleAware.org](#) or contact the
National Gambling Helpline on [0808 8020
133.](#)**

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