

Tuesday, 19 March 2024

GambleAware Lived Experience Council 2024 Welsh Recruitment

Overview

GambleAware

A new opportunity to join the Lived Experience Council

GambleAware are delighted to announce the recruitment of a **Welsh representative** to join our Lived Experience Council (LEC) as a full member, as part of GambleAware's proud commitment to engage with communities of people who have experienced gambling harms.

To find out more about this opportunity and how to apply, please read the Information Pack that you can download from our [webpage](#).

About GambleAware

GambleAware is the leading independent charity and strategic commissioner of gambling harm education, prevention and treatment across Great Britain to keep people safe from gambling harms.

GambleAware commissions the National Gambling Support Network (NSGN) which provides, free confidential treatment for almost 7,000 people, as well as the National Gambling Helpline which takes around 44,000 calls a year. The charity is independent and evidence-based, with a robust governance process in place to ensure the industry has absolutely no input or influence on our work.

About GambleAware Lived Experience Council

The purpose of the Lived Experience Council (LEC) is to ensure that communities of people with lived experience of harms associated with gambling can provide expert advice to GambleAware's activities, programmes and strategic development.

The Lived Experience Council was first launched in the summer of 2022 and it comprises entirely of people with direct lived experience of gambling harms, as well as those who are indirectly impacted by others' gambling harms, to share their expertise and experience and to inform GambleAware and its Board of Trustees.

The scope of the LE Council is to...

Represent the views of affected groups

Provide strategic advice based on members' own lived experience of gambling harms

Make recommendations which will inform and contribute to the strategic planning and development of GambleAware

Act in pursuance of GambleAware Charitable Objectives

The LE Council also supports GambleAware and its Board of Trustees by:

Helping identify and understand GA's audiences.

Providing insight and understanding of what resonates with LE community.

Horizon-scanning of challenges and opportunities of the constantly evolving landscape GA operates in.

LEC Membership

The term of office is 2 years and it can be renewed once.

We encourage applications from individuals from groups that are disproportionately affected by gambling harms, currently underrepresented and from minority communities.

For this new round of recruitment, we are specifically seeking only applications from Welsh residents, to ensure that the Lived Experience Council has full representation of the developed nations.

Eligibility Criteria

In order to apply you must:

- Reside in Wales;
- Be 18 years old or over;
- Have lived experience of gambling harms;
- Not work – either paid or unpaid - for the gambling industry;
- Not receive (yourself or the business you may be a director of or have a financial interest in) LCCP RET funding (gambling operators' contributions). To note this does not apply to employees below Director level or to consultants of organisations directly receiving RET funding, or to employees and consultants of organisations being awarded RET funding via GambleAware.
- Be more than 6 months in recovery (this applies only to those who experienced gambling harms due to their own gambling).

The role of Lived Experience Council members

Values and Behaviours:

- Embrace diversity of experiences, views, and opinions.
- Ensure equal opportunity and encourage participation.
- Foster collaboration to achieve positive outcomes.
- Maintain accountability, respect, and courteous communication.
- Encourage seeking support when needed.

What you'll offer to the LEC:

- Personal insights and guidance stemming from your experiences with gambling harms.
- Constructive input and feedback to enhance LEC meetings, goals, and workplans.
- Expertise in relevant fields beyond gambling harms is appreciated.
- Familiarity with corporate governance or openness to learning through GambleAware's provided training.

The role of Lived Experience Council members

What you will do with the LEC:

- **Collaborate with other LE Council members** to advocate for groups affected by gambling harms.
- **Contribute to and implement a workplan** to guide the LE Council's role in GambleAware's strategic planning.
- **Provide recommendations and advice** to shape various GambleAware activities.

The skills you need:

- **Effective time management:** Demonstrating reliability and organisation in completing tasks and seeking assistance when needed.
- **Computer proficiency:** Accessing emails, sharing documents online, and participating in virtual meetings.
- **Strong communication:** Clearly expressing opinions, actively listening, and discussing gambling harm experiences comfortably and confidentially.
- **Teamwork abilities:** Collaborating in group settings, maintaining a constructive approach to discussions.

Selection timeline

- Call for applications launched on **Wednesday 20th March 2024**.
- An online Q&A and Information session will be held on **Thursday 18th April 2023**.
- The closing date for applications is 12pm on **Monday 29th April**.
- Applicants will be notified by **Monday 13th May** about the outcome of the shortlisting process.
- Interviews will take place on **Thursday 23rd May**, where possible at the GambleAware office in London.
- Interview outcomes will be communicated by **Friday 31st May**.
- Training for new Council members will take place in June and it will be a mixture of in-person and online sessions and include meeting current Council members.
- The first LEC meeting will be on **Thursday 11th July**, again preferably in person at the GambleAware office in London.

How do I apply?

To find out more about the opportunity, and to access the links to the online forms to register for the Q&A Information Session and to submit an application, please download the LEC 2024 Welsh Recruitment Information Pack, on our website at:

<https://www.begambleaware.org/lived-experience-gambling-harms-community>

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Involvement Team by emailing:

involvement@gambleaware.org

Quotes from the LEC Chair and LEC members

Statement from Ben Howard, LEC Chair:

“As Chair of the LEC, I’m looking forward to welcoming a new member to represent Wales to enhance the diversity and viewpoints of lived experience further. Following on from recruiting three new members last year, and seeing the support, guidance and integration so quickly into the LEC, and how welcomed they all felt, we are all keen to extend this further to a new member to become instantly valued and part of the team.”

One of the current LEC members, reflecting on the first 12 months of LEC activities, shared:

“When I joined the LE Council, I was not sure what to expect, but I was excited to get involved. I have learnt a great deal about the sector and the amazing work and support that GambleAware provide for the lived experience community of gambling harms.

Since becoming a LEC member, I have been involved in many of the projects and workstreams supporting the work of GambleAware, and the knowledge I have learnt has been invaluable. It has given me a platform to elevate my voice and given me confidence to feel that my contribution is valid and makes a difference. I feel that I am not only part of the Lived Experience Council, but part of the GambleAware team and part of a family.

Right from the start I was made to feel welcome and there is a real sense in the council of looking out for each other and ensuring we are all in a good place. I feel in the LE Council I can be myself, ask questions and not be judged.”

One of the LEC members who joined the LE Council in 2023, shared:

“Knowing I was joining the Panel later than most other members, I was a little apprehensive about joining an established group that was familiar with the work they were already heavily involved with. However, I immediately felt welcomed and at ease, with absolutely no sense of pressure or expectation to get up to speed. I was able to familiarise myself with all the projects at a comfortable pace.”