

GambleAware

Minutes of the Welsh Advisory Panel

DATE	Friday 1 st November 2019
TIME	11.30am – 1.30pm
VENUE	Local Government House, Drake Walk, Brigantine Place, Cardiff, CF10 4LG

PRESENT	INITIALS	NOTES
Glen Dighton	GD	PhD Student, University of Swansea
Adele Duncan	AD	Gordon Moody Association
Wynford Ellis Owen	WEO	The Living Room, Cardiff / Beat the Odds / CAIS
Graham England	GE	Ara
Alison Fisher	AF	South Wales Police
Katie Fry	KF	Citizens Advice
Rachel Hassan	RH	GamCare
Ann John	AJ	Swansea University Medical School
Dee Lally Osborne	DLO	The Living Room
Charlotte Meller	CM	Gambling Commission
Dafydd Meurig	DM	WLGA
Teresa Owen	TO	Director of Public Health BCUHB (Chairperson)
Lee Phillips	LP	Money and Pensions Advice Group
Robbie Thornhill	RT	Ara
Diana Yorath	DY	Ara Cymru
IN ATTENDANCE		
Jason Heffron	JH	Events Administrator, GambleAware
John McCracken	JM	Director of Commissioning, GambleAware
Jane Rigbye	JR	Director of Education, GambleAware
Amy Sweet	AS	Research Manager, GambleAware
APOLOGIES		
Simon Dymond	SD	Swansea University
Amanda Gilroy	AG	Ara
Anna Hemmings	AH	GamCare
Alice E. Hoon	AEH	Swansea University Medical School
Sarah Johns	SJ	Pembrokeshire Local Authority
Sarah Meredith	SM	Welsh Government
John Wainwright	JW	South Wales Police
Simon Wilkinson	SW	WLGA

1. Welcome and apologies

TO welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received as noted above.

2. Declarations of interest

None were declared.

3. Minutes of meeting 15th April 2019

No changes to the minutes from the previous meeting were proposed. WEO updated the Panel on the Beat the Odds Wales young person day and reported a good level of engagement from young people during the day. The full recording of the day is available at www.beattheodds.wales.

4. Terms of Reference

JM brought forward a change to the terms of reference to the panel that had been suggested at the Scottish Advisory Panel. The change was to clause 1.4 of the membership document, which is that the panel *“must agree in advance the attendance of any industry representatives who will be invited to attend only for the agreed relevant parts of any meeting”*.

The proposed change to clause 1.4 of the Terms of Reference was approved by the panel.

CM highlighted the need to update terminology in clause 1.5 from “RGSB” to “ABSG”.

The change to clause 1.5 of the Terms of Reference was approved by the panel.

WEO requested that relevant WAP documents should be produced in both English and Welsh, and that this be reflected in the Terms of Reference.

ACTION – JH to amend the Terms of Reference, and explore the provision of WAP documents in Welsh and English.

5. Implementation of the Gambling Commission’s Strategy

CM led a discussion on the Gambling Commission’s strategy to reduce gambling harms. Panel members were encouraged to sign up to the Gambling Commission’s newsletter on the strategy implementation plan by contacting communications@gamblingcommission.gov.uk. CM shared the current working proposal to convene statutory bodies in Wales to track strategy progress. CM was keen to coordinate meetings of that group with Welsh Advisory Panel meetings in order to avoid duplicating discussions.

ACTION – CM and JM to discuss future meeting dates

WEO highlighted the Secretariat support he provides to the Welsh cross-party group on problem gambling and suggested coordinating the implementation strategy alongside the work undertaken by this group.

LP asked about interaction with the Wales single advice service expansion.

ACTION - KF to provide update on current status of Wales advice sector to LP.

TO confirmed a willingness to contribute to implementation plans.

AD highlighted the contribution that the voluntary sector could make to implementing the strategy.

ACTION: CM to relay all feedback to the Gambling Commission and will give update at next meeting. Panel members to contact CM direct with any additional points.

6. Welsh Government Commitments

JM shared slides from Welsh Government on behalf of SM.

KF reported that Citizens Advice held an 80th Anniversary event in the Senedd and that work to reduce gambling harms which was showcased in the exhibition was well received by Assembly Members.

TO highlighted the need to make sure that developing strategies would build upon existing systems.

7. Treatment

- ***Helpline and Ara Activity***

GE updated the meeting on activity by Ara Cymru. As a result of awareness-raising initiatives by Ara, calls to the National Gambling Helpline from Wales had risen significantly, as had referrals to treatment. Ara Cymru had its own direct Cardiff telephone number, and calls did not need to be routed via Ara's Bristol number.

RH stated that the helpline's hours were 24/7 since October 1st.

- ***Development of additional locations***

WEO shared information about BeatTheOdds services in Wales.

- ***Engagement between ARA and statutory sector***

GE referenced Ara's ongoing work with the criminal justice system.

- ***Out of Court Disposals***

AF spoke about the ongoing work within the Welsh criminal justice system to screen for gambling harms. AF detailed that out of court disposals for those with evidence of gambling harms would be offered from January.

- ***NHS Treatment for gambling in Wales***

JM gave a status update on developing NHS provision in Wales.

TO discussed the general guiding principles for any treatment by NHS in Wales.

ACTION - JM agreed to provide an update on progress at the next meeting.

8. Early intervention and referral pathways

KF discussed current Citizens Advice activity in Wales, highlighting the close collaboration that existed between the two Citizens Advice hubs and Ara.

SM and WT spoke about training Sport Wales workers to screen for gambling harms.

DY discussed Ara engaging Aneurin Bevin UHB.

DM stressed the importance of avoiding duplication of services. KF offered support to CM to map service provision with a view to avoiding duplication.

ACTION- local authority pathways to be included on the agenda at the next meeting.

9. Research in and for Wales

AS updated the Panel on GambleAware's intent to work with the research community in Wales to better understand and build research capacity and capability.

ACTION – all Panel members were invited to suggest researchers to be invited to future meetings. It was agreed that research should be a standing agenda item.

GD gave a brief outline of his PhD on veterans and gambling behaviour.

10. Women and Gambling

AD presented slides on Gordon Moody's residential treatment services for women.

11. Safer Gambling Campaign

JR provided the panel with an update on the progress of the Bet Regret campaign.

ACTION – JR to circulate minutes of the Safer Gambling Campaign Board to the Panel once approved.

12. Any other business

GE drew attention to the Experts by Experience group which would be held in Wales in the New Year.