

# GambleAware

## Minutes of the Welsh Advisory Panel

<b>DATE</b>	Monday 15 April 2019
<b>TIME</b>	11.30am – 1.30pm
<b>VENUE</b>	Local Government House, Drake Walk, Brigantine Place, Cardiff, CF10 4LG

<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>INITIALS</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Graham England	GE	Ara
Anna Hemmings	AH	GamCare
Bev John	BJ	University of South Wales
Sarah Meredith	SM	Welsh Government
Teresa Owen	TO	Directors of Public Health Wales
Amanda Gilroy	AG	Ara
Ann John	AJ	Swansea University Medical School
Charlotte Meller	CM	Gambling Commission
Simon Wilkinson	SW	WLGA (representing Cllr Huw David and Cllr Dafydd Meurig)
Simon Dymond	SD	Swansea University
Sarah Johns	SJ	Chair of the All Wales Licensing Expert Panel
Katie Fry	KF	Citizens Advice
<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>		
Iain Corby	IC	Deputy Chief Executive, GambleAware
John McCracken	JM	Director of Commissioning, GambleAware
<b>APOLOGIES</b>		
Dave Holland	DH	Director of Public Protection Wales lead for licensing matters
John Wainwright	JW	South Wales Police
Wynford Ellis Owen	WEO	The Living Room, Cardiff / Beat the Odds / CAIS
Cllr Huw David	HD	WLGA - Health and Social Care Lead
Kate Evans	KE	WSA
Owen Hathway	OH	Sport Wales
Cllr Dafydd Meurig	DM	WLGA Spokesperson for Public Protection and Regulatory Services

### **1. Welcome and apologies**

IC welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from those listed above.

## **2. Declarations of interest**

IC set out that members of the panel would be required to declare any personal interests relevant to items on the agenda at each meeting. This was particularly important for any attendees who may wish subsequently to bid for GambleAware funding, where they would need to step out for discussions on both the overall prioritisation of funding, as well as specific funding recommendations. Given the very general, introductory nature of the first meeting, no declarations of interest were expected or offered.

## **3. Terms of Reference**

The draft terms of reference for the Panel had been circulated in advance - see Paper WAP 19 01 (01). It was agreed to review these at the Panel's second meeting in the light of the experience of the first.

## **4. Research in and for Wales**

The panel agreed to be briefed regularly on both research relevant to Wales, and research being undertaken by research teams based in Wales.

Professor Ann John presented early findings of work on Gambling-related harm and suicide in the UK. (AH noted that data were available from the helpline and treatment services on suicidal ideation which could be shared with researchers subject to ethics approval.)

Professor Simon Dymond outlined the findings of two reports published since the Welsh CMO's roundtable in January:

- Gambling as a public health issue in Wales, and
- Framing a public health approach to gambling harms in Wales: Challenges and opportunities

JM described current GambleAware Treatment Research projects looking at the effectiveness of current services, a needs assessment and a gap analysis.

Professor Bev John also reminded the Panel about research into gambling in Wales prepared for the Welsh Assembly which highlighted how often gambling is used as a coping mechanism.

## **5. Promoting treatment – lessons from Aberdeen**

IC presented the outcome of GambleAware's campaign to promote the national Gambling Helpline and BeGambleaware.org in Scotland.

SD suggested future campaigns could learn from other public health campaigns. AJ encouraged a joint approach with other mental health charities.

## **6. Early intervention and referral pathways**

KF provided a brief update on developments to extend across Wales the Citizens Advice initiative which began as a pilot in Newport.

JM described referral pathways from local authority services.

## **7. GamCare update**

AH presented the latest figures for people accessing the Helpline and face-to-face treatment from Wales. She also described the preparations to launch a Computerised CBT service later this year.

## **8. Wales Treatment Network update**

AG presented on the expansion of ARA service in Cardiff

GE gave an update on ARA services across Wales. Current plans are to centre services initially on Aberystwyth, Bangor, Cardiff, Newport, Swansea, Wrexham to take advantage of the universities and their links with surrounding communities. TO suggested working with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)

## **9. Systems design for gambling treatment by NHS Wales**

JM facilitated a discussion on the future strategy for treatment across Wales.

TO mentioned the interest of the Aneurin Bevan UHB in the topic.

## **10. Any other business**

The Panel agreed to recommend to GambleAware trustees the appointment of Theresa Owen as its chair.

The Gambling Commission would host a launch event in May for their new strategy in the Senedd, exact date to be confirmed.

On the 27 June, the Living Room would host a conference for children to discuss gambling.

The presentation from the meeting will be available on the GambleAware website alongside these minutes (subject to redaction of unpublished findings from ongoing research)