

---

**PRESS STATEMENT**

Reference	0162
Release date	8 June 2015 - for immediate release
Available for interview	Marc Etches, Chief Executive
Images available	Responsible Gambling Trust logo

**Responsible Gambling Trust extends 'national problem gambling service'**

The Responsible Gambling Trust (RGT) has issued an invitation to tender for a new £1million Gambling-Related Harm Minimisation programme. The programme will provide funding over a period of two years and will form an important element of RGT's ambitions for an effective and integrated 'national problem gambling service' delivered by public and third sector providers.

RGT is seeking applications for funding to deliver advice and education projects that demonstrably reduce the impact of gambling-related harm, particularly on vulnerable populations such as young people. The charity is seeking projects that have a national focus and provide an integrated gambling-related harm minimisation service offering strong local partnerships with public bodies, charitable organisations and other services.

This latest round of funding will build on a successful pilot of harm minimisation programmes run by organisations in England, Scotland and Wales which concluded in March. In particular, RGT hopes to encourage innovative proposals that show evidence of investment by public bodies such as the NHS and local authorities, or of collaboration between public service agencies.

**Marc Etches, Chief Executive of the Responsible Gambling Trust, said:**

"RGT is keen to promote an integrated and holistic prevention and treatment landscape for those suffering gambling-related harm in Great Britain. Underpinned by the National Gambling Helpline, a 'national problem gambling service' includes awareness-raising and early harm prevention work, particularly among young people and other vulnerable populations, alongside the various counselling and treatment services RGT already funds. We are committed to funding effective harm minimisation programmes and are looking for innovative and practical proposals that have the potential for sustainable national impact."

**-ENDS-**

**Contact:**

Paul Scaping  
Bell Pottinger  
Direct line: +44 (0)20 3772 2626  
Mobile: +44 (0)7795 971022  
pscaping@bellpottinger.com

## NOTES TO EDITORS

- The Responsible Gambling Trust is the leading charity in the UK committed to minimising gambling-related harm. As an independent national charity funded by donations from the gambling industry, the Responsible Gambling Trust funds education, prevention and treatment services and commissions research to broaden public understanding of gambling-related harm. The aim is to stop people getting into problems with their gambling, and ensure that those that do develop problems receive fast and effective treatment and support.
- The Responsible Gambling Trust raises a minimum of £5 million each year from the gambling industry operating in Britain within a voluntary (donation based) system and funds research, education, prevention and treatment services. Funding priorities are guided by the national strategy advised by the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (RGSB) and endorsed by the Gambling Commission. The latest strategy was published in December 2012.
- The Responsible Gambling Trust expects that projects should have a national focus – either in terms of geographical spread of provision, or as pilot projects with the intention of evidencing national roll-out. The Responsible Gambling Trust is being deliberately non-prescriptive about the approach to be taken to harm-minimisation, in order to encourage innovation. However, examples of appropriate proposals submitted in response to this ITT might include, but are certainly not limited to:
  - The development and implementation of education/prevention programmes, activities, materials, approaches and/or policies around gambling and problem gambling for use in schools or youth centres, with the aim of developing materials which can be delivered independently by educators across Great Britain;
  - A project exploring the use of technology (including social media) to reduce the impact of gambling related harm amongst young adults;
  - Provision of services to educate those working with vulnerable populations (e.g. Prison and Probation service, military, ethnic communities) to identify problem gambling and provide brief intervention.
  - A collaboration between public service agencies (for example advice services or charitable organisations) to develop and implement a national advice programme and supporting materials.
- In particular, the Responsible Gambling Trust should like to encourage proposals which show evidence of investment by other public bodies (e.g. NHS, local authorities). This may be through joint working and public sector investment in cash or kind.