ANNOUNCEMENT

GambleAware publishes 2018/19 donations

London, 3 May 2019: GambleAware has today published details of donations for the 12 months ending 31 March 2019. The total for voluntary donations is £9.6 million. While this is marginally more than in the previous 12 months, it remains below the minimum of £10 million that trustees had asked of the gambling industry. In addition, GambleAware has received £7.3 million in regulatory settlements. Taken together these monies are funding the delivery of our strategic priorities.

GambleAware is at the forefront of commissioning a National Gambling Treatment Service, working with the NHS and others such as Citizens Advice to help direct people to the right intervention. However, less than three per cent of the reported number of problem gamblers access services currently so it is clear there is much more to be done in both raising awareness about this serious public health issue and commissioning more prevention and treatment services.

Meeting our existing commitments will require a minimum of £10 million in the next 12 months ending 31 March 2020. However, trustees anticipate that our response to the National Strategy to Reduce Gambling Harms will require a significant step-up in funding from April 2020.

ENDS

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NOTES

• GambleAware is an independent charity (Charity No. 1093910) tasked to fund research, prevention and treatment services to help to reduce gambling harms in
Great Britain. GambleAware is a commissioning and grant-making body, not a provider of services. For more information, please go to: http://about.gambleaware.org/

- Guided by the National Strategy to Reduce Gambling Harms, the charity’s strategic aims are to: broaden public understanding of gambling harms, in particular as a public health issue; advance the cause of harm-prevention so as to help build resilience, in particular in relation to the young and those most vulnerable to gambling harms; and help those who do develop gambling harms get the support that they need quickly and effectively.

- GambleAware is wholly independent of the gambling industry and has robust governance arrangements to protect the independence of the services and research it commissions. The charity’s commissioning plans are developed in collaboration with the Advisory Board Safer Gambling (ABSG) and the Gambling Commission. These arrangements are underpinned by an ‘assurance and governance framework’ in place since 2012: http://about.gambleaware.org/media/1216/statementofintent.pdf.

- GambleAware published a 5-year strategy in November 2016, and in July 2018 published a Strategic Delivery Plan that sets out how the charity proposes to broaden the range of services and activities it funds, supports and works with between 2018 and 2020.


- For GambleAware to continue to meet its existing commitments and complete the successful delivery of its current two-year strategic delivery plan the charity will require a minimum of £10 million in the 12 months to 31 March 2020.

- GambleAware asks all those who profit from the gambling industry in Great Britain, whether or not they hold a licence from the Gambling Commission, to donate a minimum of 0.1% of their annual Gross Gambling Yield (GGY) directly to GambleAware. This voluntary donation-based system was agreed after the Gambling Act 2005 and is underpinned by the Gambling Commission’s Social Responsibility Code Provision 3.1.1. (2).

- GambleAware is at the forefront of commissioning a National Gambling Treatment Service, working with the NHS and others to help direct people to the right intervention. GambleAware has commissioned specialist treatment for gambling addiction at Central & North West London NHS Foundation Trust since 2008 and in the summer of 2019 a second specialist clinic will open in collaboration with Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.
• GambleAware also commissions treatment in a residential setting via the Gordon Moody Association. And for those who need less intensive treatment, there is a national network of providers, led by GamCare. In 2018/19, 30,000 people received advice from the National Gambling Helpline (0808 820 133) and 9,000 people were treated. The National Gambling Helpline and its online equivalent, the National Gambling Netline, are open from 8am to midnight, seven days a week for self-referrals.

• GambleAware also runs the website BeGambleAware.org which helps 2.7 million visitors a year, and signposts to a wide range of support services.