

# GambleAware

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### GambleAware announces new trustees

**London, 4 October:** GambleAware announces the appointment of two new trustees, and completes its move to establish a Board that is wholly independent of the gambling industry. The new trustees are:

- **Professor Marcantonio Spada**, Professor of Addictive Behaviours and Mental Health at London South Bank University.
- **Paul Simpson**, Chief Finance Officer/Deputy Chief Executive, Surrey & Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust.

Professor Spada is the Head of the Division of Psychology and Deputy Lead of the Centre for Addictive Behaviours Research at South Bank University. He brings to the Board significant experience in working to identify factors that influence various addictive behaviours. Similarly, Paul Simpson brings to the role significant healthcare and financial management experience which stems from an extensive career in senior finance roles across a range of local NHS Trusts.

The appointments were made following an open recruitment process supported by an independent recruitment advisor.

Alan Jamieson and Brigid Simmonds have retired at the end of their respective terms of service as trustees.

**Kate Lampard, GambleAware's Chair of Trustees** said:

"We are delighted that Marcantonio and Paul have agreed to become trustees of GambleAware. Between them, they bring strong experience in addiction, public health, finance and risk management. Also, I should like to record our thanks to both Alan and Brigid for their hard work as trustees.

GambleAware's Board is now wholly independent of the gambling industry, and we believe this is necessary to secure public trust and confidence given our central role in commissioning research, education and treatment services. Trustees continue to call for

a statutory levy on the gambling industry to ensure research, education and treatment services are adequately and sustainably funded. In the meantime, we will continue to pursue our charitable objectives to reduce gambling-related harm within the Government-prescribed voluntary donation-based system currently in place, and we are confident that this can and ought to be achieved without the need for anyone employed by a gambling company to have a seat on the Board.”

**-ENDS-**

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**NOTES**

- GambleAware is an independent charity tasked to fund research, education and treatment services to help to reduce gambling-related harms in Great Britain. GambleAware is a commissioning and grant-making body, not a provider of services.
- 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.
- Guided by the [National Responsible Gambling Strategy](#), the charity’s strategic aims are to: broaden public understanding of gambling-related 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-related harms; and help those who do develop gambling-related harms get the support that they need quickly and effectively. For more information, please go to: <http://about.gambleaware.org/>
- The current National Responsible Gambling Strategy was published in April 2016 by the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (RGSB) and endorsed by the Gambling Commission. GambleAware develops its commissioning plans in collaboration with the RGSB 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>.
- Research is conducted under the terms of a ‘Research Commissioning and Governance Procedure’ agreed between the RGSB, the Gambling Commission and GambleAware: <https://about.gambleaware.org/media/1332/research-commissioning-and-governance-procedure-september-2016-final.pdf>. A revised [RGSB and Gambling Commission research programme](#) was published in

September 2018 and sets out priorities for research to be commissioned from 2018 to 2022.

- GambleAware requires a minimum of £10 million annually to deliver its current responsibilities, and looks to all those that profit from commercial gambling to support the charity. This donation-based system was proposed after the Gambling Act 2005 and is prescribed by the Gambling Commission's Social Responsibility Code Provision 3.1.1.(2). The RGSB endorsed GambleAware's £10m funding goal in January 2017:  
<http://www.rgsb.org.uk/press-releases/responsible-gambling-strategy-board-publishes-assessment-of-the-quantum-of-funding-required-to-deliver-the-national-responsible-gambling-strategy.html>
- GambleAware funds the *Gordon Moody Association*, the *NHS National Problem Gambling Clinic*, *GamCare* and a network of charities across Great Britain to provide a full range of free treatment for problem gamblers and support for those affected by them. GambleAware also runs the website **BeGambleAware.org** which helps 2.7 million visitors a year, and supports the **National Gambling Helpline – 0808 8020 133**.