

 Gambling treatment and unmet need

**Research Information Sheet**

**Gambling treatment and support services in Britain**

There is a gap between the number of people estimated to be experiencing problem gambling in Britain and the proportions known to be receiving treatment and support. This may be partly explained by a lack of access to appropriate interventions and, individuals not necessarily recognising their gambling to be problematic. However, the evidence on access to treatment and support is limited.

**What is the research about?**

NatCen, an independent, not-for-profit organisation, has been commissioned by GambleAware to conduct research to increase understanding around the need for treatment and support for problem gambling, in particular focusing on:

* Assessing the gaps in current treatment and support provision; and,
* Understanding why some experiencing problem gambling or those at risk of problem gambling may not access the current treatment and support services available.

As part of the research, NatCen would like to speak with staff and stakeholders who come into contact with people experiencing problem gambling and/or those at risk of problem gambling as part of their professional role, but do not work within gambling treatment and support services. The research will also involve interviews with people with problem gambling and individuals at risk; a review of existing evidence around gambling treatment and support services and need; and analysis of existing quantitative data. This will enable us to develop a robust evidence base to help better meet treatment and support needs for problem gambling.

NatCen is working in collaboration with the independent research organisation ACT Recovery, who will be interviewing problem gambling treatment providers. A small number of individuals may be approached by both organisations about the research.

**What is my involvement?**

If you do not deliver gambling treatment and support services but come into regular contact with people with problem gambling and/or those at risk of problem gambling, we would like to speak with you. The interviews can take place over the telephone. The interviews will last up to 60 minutes and take place during September 2019, at a time and date convenient for you.

**Key interview topics will include:**

* Your awareness and understanding of issues around gambling and problematic gambling;
* Views and experiences of engaging with people with problem gambling and those at risk;
* Knowledge of resources available to people with gambling issues and the quality and availability of services;
* Improvements to service provision and challenges that need to be addressed.

We would also like to ask you about existing research in this area and to send you a short summary from our evidence review and analysis of existing data for your feedback.

**Is the discussion confidential?**

NatCen will carefully manage your personal data as part of our public task, which is our lawful basis for processing. All the information you provide will be held securely and in strict confidence in accordance with the GDPR. With your permission, the interview will be audio recorded so that there is a detailed and accurate record of what you said.

The information you provide will be used to write a report for GambleAware, which will be published. We will not identify you in the reports or presentations of the research findings. Given that the pool of staff for some sectors involved in the research may be small it is possible that views may be identifiable to those who know you well. The research team will ensure that you are able to review your contribution at the end of the interview. Your personal details and the interview data collected will be deleted as soon as possible after the completion of the project.

**Do I have to take part?**

Your participation in the research is entirely voluntary and if you agree to participate you are free to change your mind at any point. Declining participation or withdrawing from the research at any point will not affect your employment in any way. During the interview discussion you are also free to not answer any of the questions you would prefer not to answer.

**How can I take part?**

With your permission your contact details will be passed to NatCen via the person who gave you this leaflet. Alternatively, you can contact the research team directly on **0808 196 1468** / gambleawareresearch@natcen.ac.uk to find out more about the research. We will ask you a short set of questions about you and your role, before arranging an interview. Unfortunately, not everyone who expresses an interest may be able to take part, as it is important the research includes a range of experiences and views.

**Gambling support services**

If participating in the research raises concerns around an individual’s gambling behaviour a list of services can be found at this download link <http://www.natcen.ac.uk/adviceorganisations> or can be provided by NatCen.

**More information on the research**

**If you would like to know more about how the information you provide will be processed, please see the privacy notice that was provided to you with this leaflet.**

For more information on the research, please also contact:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A member of the NatCen research team** | **GambleAware**  |
| 🕿 freephone **0808 196 1468**🖳 email: gambleawareresearch@natcen.ac.uk |  🖳 email: research@gambleaware.org |