GLASGOW CITY WHOLE SYSTEM APPROACH TO TACKLING GAMBLING RELATED HARMS LOCAL ACTION PLAN 2022-2024

Action 1: Engage a wider community in understanding and raising awareness of gambling related harms

A Multi-Agency Gambling Related Harms Group will continue to take responsibility for leading the development and implementation of a local action plan to address gambling related harms. The group will consider funding and resource needs to enable and support the key priorities and actions.

A plan for wider stakeholder engagement will be developed that embeds a coproduction approach with the involvement of those with lived experience central to shaping and building a new narrative on gambling harms which (all partners) can commit to, share and work with.

A co-ordinated training offer, in partnership with key stakeholders will be supported to help increase awareness of gambling harms.

Action 2: Challenge shame and stigma associated with disclosing gambling harms by encouraging people to talk about it in open, non-judgemental conversations

The Multi-Agency Group will develop a communications plan that agrees language and terms about gambling harms based on current research and insights and is proactive in utilising opportunities to raise awareness about gambling harms including across intersectional areas.

Action 3: Increase awareness of the risks of participating in gambling, helping to counter the normalisation of gambling, particularly among children and young people, and

Action 4: Increase awareness of the risks of participating in gambling and gaming, particularly among children and young people where there is encouragement towards 'pay to play' gaming via skins and loot boxes

Consistent messages that challenge the normalisation of gambling will be developed. Work that focuses on children and young people will connect to the Health Improvement Multiple Risk Task Group and will consider the latest evidence around young people and gambling e.g. Glasgow Secondary Schools Survey. Links will be established with Fast Forward to identify training that can be included within the training offer to schools, youth services and parenting programmes.

Action 5: Build understanding of gambling participation, risks and harms amongst women and black and minority ethnic groups and advocate for service design that takes account of gender and cultural differences

Work will be undertaken with key stakeholders to develop a better understanding of the needs of those who may be more vulnerable to gambling harms e.g. women, black and minority ethnic groups, those at risk of homelessness.

Action 6: Explore opportunities to work in partnership to increase staff capacity and confidence to ask the question about gambling harms and improve knowledge of where to refer and signpost to support

A co-ordinated training offer, in partnership, will aim to increase awareness of treatment and support services for gambling related harms that builds capacity and improves knowledge, skills and confidence.

In collaboration with Renfrewshire Community Addiction (RCA) Trust and the Beacon Counselling Trust a collaborative project will provide training to criminal justice service staff and access to a clear pathway to treatment and support for those affected by gambling harms who are in touch with criminal justice services including affected others. The collaborative project is designed to respond to the learning and needs identified within listening and discussion sessions with Criminal Justice Service staff during 2021.

Action 7: Build understanding of how people experience gambling related harms to inform development of peer-led and informal support

Through the involvement of the Lived Experience Forum, learning will be captured and communicated to connect less heard from voices within communities to the developing gambling harms work across Glasgow.

Action 8: Create a community-led movement to support campaigns advocating for local action and changes to national legislation to create a safe and enjoyable environment for all who wish to participate in gambling

The learning from community grant funded projects will support the design and development of gambling harms work across Glasgow.

A creative arts approach will be utilised to commission a series of composite narratives that reflect the day-to-day realities of gambling participation, risks and harms which will be co-produced with those with lived experience.

Work with the Lived Experience Forum will support the development of community facing messages and campaigns.

The impact of the cost of living crisis upon those who participate in gambling will be considered and any potential increased financial and other harms will be monitored using existing data sources and through feedback from key stakeholders.

The links between alcohol availability and gambling products, particularly within deprived communities and growing access within discount stores will be considered as a potential focus for longer term work.

Action 9: Build the evidence base about gambling related harms and share learning at a local and national level and internationally with GREO to contribute to the understanding of gambling participation, risks and harms

The evidence base will be built through logging learning and developing an evaluation plan that builds on emerging work. Developing tools, including the Public Health Scotland Systems Map and Theory of Change model developed by Gambling Research Education Organisation (GREO) will be used to reflect on the factors and influencers of gambling participation, risks and harms and to support assessment of the short, medium and long term impacts and outcomes of the Glasgow project.

The project will utilise all of the data development and evidence to inform policy and practice that helps shape public framing at both a local and national level