

Michelle Hunt, Andy Todd and Brian Faint.

Todd and Brian Faint.





Gambling Related Harm in Criminal Justice

Michelle Hunt

Health Improvement Senior

Building a picture through conversations and listening

- Is gambling an issue you've come across in your role?
- What do you think the main causes and consequences of gambling harm are?
- Where are the touch points on someone's journey through the Criminal Justice Service where a gambling problem could be picked up?
- What could be done to help and support people experiencing harm through gambling?
- What do you think should be done to prevent gambling harms?

Gambling as an issue, causes and consequences?

- Gambling as an issue not seen as often as expected
- Secrecy and stigma surrounding client disclosure
- No routine screening – potential masking of the scale of the problem
- Correlation with other addictive behaviours
- Role of advertising – enticement with free bets
- Lotteries and competitions
- Impact of the pandemic
- Consequences – gender, young people, financial, relationships, mental health, crime, community

❖ **Understanding the scale & impact of harm is difficult because we don't routinely ask the question and record the information in an accessible way**

Opportunities for support?

- Missed opportunities within criminal justice services
 - Ability to build up a better picture and scale
- Need for staff training and development
- Lack of awareness of what support is available other than GA – some services unresponsive to the needs and complexities of the client group
- A formal pathway to help guide clients to localised person centred, tailored treatment and support
- Education of young people and general awareness raising
- Legislative action

Gambling Harms

Andy Todd

RCA Trust



Presentation Overview

- RCA Trust
- Gambling Harms – The Background
- The Treatment Pathway
- Public Health Approach
- The National Gambling Treatment Service
- Addressing Harmful Gambling



RCA TRUST



- Established in 1978
- Located in Renfrewshire
- The main aim of the Trust is to seek limit the effects of alcohol, drugs and gambling
- Harms on the individual, their families and the community by providing a range of services and activities
- Work in partnership with a range of different local and national providers across Scotland and the UK

Core Programmes Include:

- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Gambling
- Children and Young People
- Housing Support Services
- Supported Accommodation Project

PREVELENCE

340,000

Individuals identified as problematic gamblers



NHS SURVEY

The latest data from the NHS Digital Health Survey for England in 2018 shows that the prevalence of problem gambling (according to the PGSI or DSM-IV screen) was 0.5%, around 340,000 people.

GAMBLING COMMISSION 2019

Data from the Gambling Commission (2019) PGSI mini-screen 3 telephone survey observed a problem gambling figure within the UK of **350,000** people (0.6%).



GAMBLING RELATED HARM

Almost 20% of the UK population (approx. 13 million) experiences gambling-related harm, either as the person that is gambling themselves, or through the gambling of another individual. YouGov (2020).



YOUNG PEOPLE 2019

The Gambling Commission's schools survey identified that as many as 55,000 11-16 years old are considered problem gamblers.



HIDDEN HARM

In the UK it is estimated that between six to ten people are impacted upon due to an individual's gambling. Research findings in 2018 from Citizens Advice suggests that as many **4.3 million** people maybe adversely affected.



SUICIDE

Problem gamblers are 15 times more at risk of suicide than the general population. Karlsson and Hakansson (2018). This is significantly higher in individuals under the age of 30. NatCe (2018).



PRODUCTS & RISK / ONLINE GAMBLING

Certain gambling products carry a 50% risk of addiction NatCen (2018). Online gambling has increased by 24% in the past year. Gambling Commission (2020).



THE NATIONAL GAMBLING HELPLINE

Each year The National Gambling Helpline receives approximately **40,000** calls from any individuals or affected others who may be experiencing gambling related harm.



Oxford University Study (Muggleton, 2021)

Findings:

- 1.9 million people spent between £153 and £1838 each month on gambling activities.
- The top 1% of gamblers spent at least £22,060 in 2018, which equates to 218,000.
- There were 508,000 people who spent over £933 per month.
- The average monthly income for adults is £1950.

A Problem Gambler is:

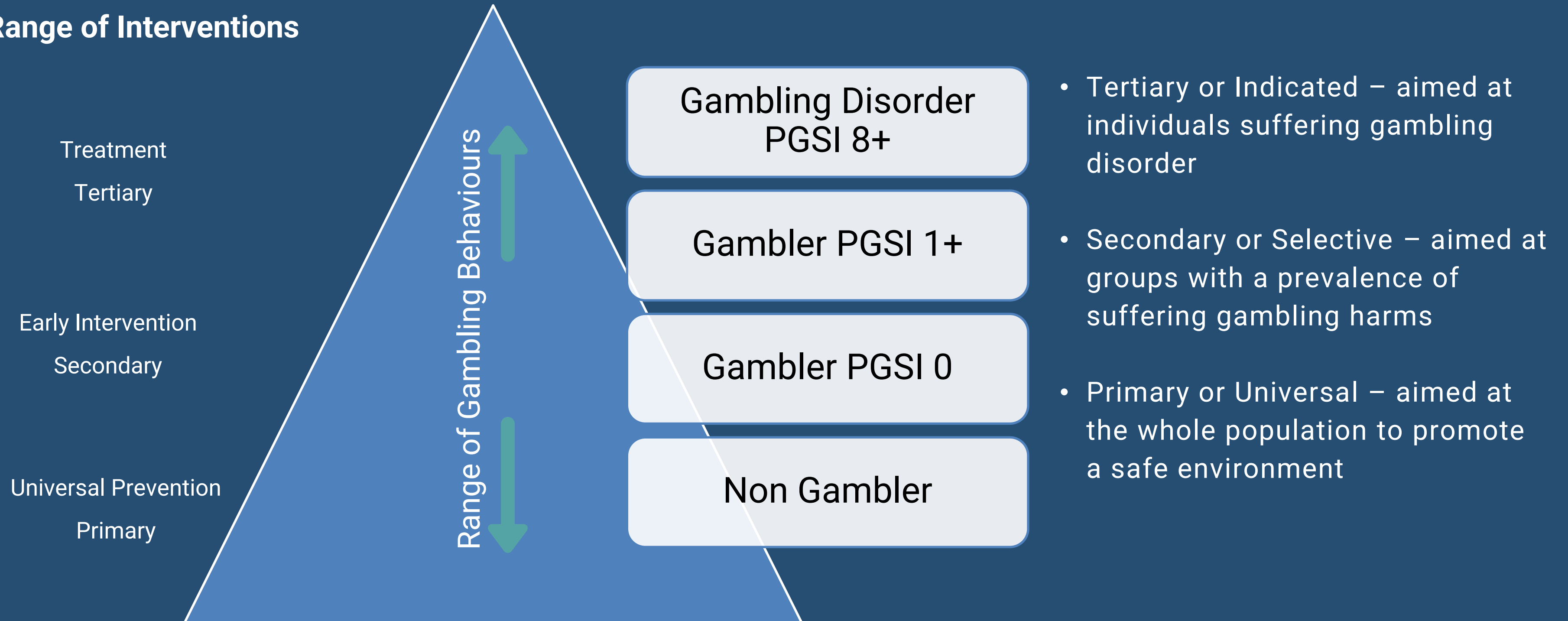
- 2.65 times more likely to be claiming JSA
- 8.7 times more likely to access homelessness services
- 4.4 times more likely to be in prison
- 8.54 times more likely to be accessing mental health services
- 5.53 times more likely to have been a hospital inpatient within the last 3 months
- 2.69 times more likely to have visited their GP in the last 12 months with a mental health issue

(IPPR Report, Dec 2016)



Gambling Harms Public Health Approach

Range of Interventions



The National Strategy to Reduce Gambling Harms 2019-2022



GAMBLING
COMMISSION

Prevention and Education – making significant progress towards a clear public health prevention plan which includes the right mix of interventions.

Treatment and Support – delivering truly national treatment and support options that meet the needs of users.

The National Gambling Treatment Service



The National
Gambling Helpline



Treatment Services



Education & Outreach
Programmes



National Gambling Clinic



RCA Trust

Training Options:

'Bet You Can Help' – Level 2 Award in Tackling Gambling-Related Harms. An Ofqual regulated course accredited by Royal Society of Public Health (RSPH). Full day programme (7 hours) including assessment (40-minute 25 question multiple choice paper requiring 17 out of 25).

'Bet You Can Help Now' – Tackling Gambling-Related Harms 1 hour training workshop. Workshop is designed to focus on awareness of GRH, screening and signposting individuals to appropriate support services.

'Bet You Can Help' – Train the Trainer programme. A 3-day course that includes the Level 2 Award in Tackling Gambling-Related Harms and approval to deliver programme under the BYCH structure.



Contact us:



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Supporting Recovery across Renfrewshire and beyond

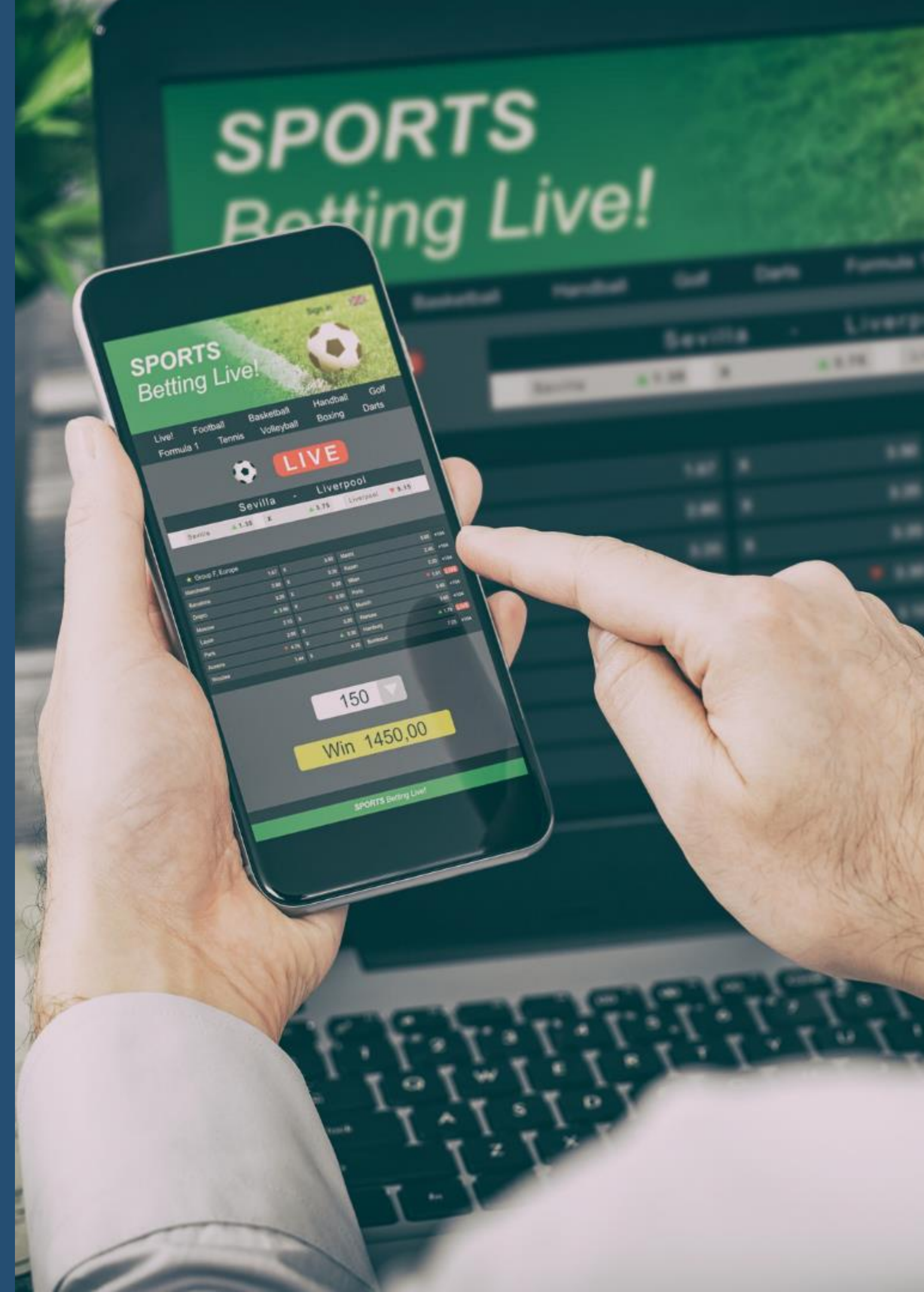


Glasgow Gambling Summit

Gambling Related Harm

13th and 14th September 2021

Brian Faint



Presentation Overview

- Criminal Justice Program
- Setting the Scene - CJ Opportunities
- GRH -Relationship with Criminality
- Screening, Diversion and Treatment Pathway
- 10 Police Forces
- Lessons Learnt
- Training and Development.



Arresting Problem Gambling

"We can estimate that problem gamblers are 4.4 times more likely to be in prison than the average member of the population. Costing between £40 and £190 million per year."

IPPR Cards on the Table - Nov. 2016



Arresting Problem Gambling in the UK Criminal Justice System

RAISING AWARENESS AND SCREENING FOR
PROBLEM GAMBLING AT THE POINT OF ARREST

Why Does Gambling Addiction have a Stronger Link to Criminality than other Addictions?

- Average drug dependent individual spends £ per day?
- Average alcohol dependent individual spends £ per day?
- Average problematic gambler spends £ per day?

Last 7 Years Over 1000 Court Cases Approximately £300 million in Theft over 2000 Years Sentencing (Epic 2018)



Recreational Gambling

Problem Gambling

Pathological Gambling

42% of the UK agree that gambling is linked to criminal activity - Gambling Commission (2020)

Correlating Crime and Gambling Related Harm



The links between crime and gambling are complex. A gambler may commit a crime based on multiple factors:

- a developing necessity for money
- desperation to fund their gambling
- gambling is an aspect of their criminal activities
- cross-addictions that require funds

Offences:

- Fraud and Financial Crime
- Money Laundering
- Domestic Abuse
- Theft from Family / Employer
- Offences Against a Person
- Criminal Damage
- Serious and Organised Crime



Crime and Problem Gambling: A Research Landscape
(2020)
The Howard League for Penal Reform



Link Between Criminality & Problem Gambling



Criminality Headline News

"Charity worker facing jail after admitting she stole £350,000 from British Red Cross to fund online gambling addiction"

"Gambling addict cheated family out of £25,000 after taking loan out in mother's name"

"Glasgow man who stole nearly £70,000 while working for the British Airports Authority has been jailed for 18 month had a gambling habit."

"Postal worker stole parcels worth £40,000 to fund gambling addiction"

"Gambling addict smashed up bookies in revenge after losing thousands of pounds causing £36,000 worth of damage"

"A recent survey with Cheshire Police show 13% report having a gambling problem when screened at the point of arrest"

Why Early Criminal Justice Intervention is Key?

- Voluntary Attendees to Police Stations.
- Custody suites – via L&D Support.
- Diversion Programs for G.R.H
- National Probation Service
- Court/ Fiscal Process.
- Prison Support Services.
- Community Rehabilitation Services.

Criminal Justice Program?

This program is delivering screening and diversion in 10 police forces.

The forces below are seeing the benefits from free treatment provision for gambling related harms via their L&D teams.

West Midlands

Merseyside

Lancashire

G.M.P

Cheshire (IOM Team)

Cumbria

Humberside

West Yorkshire

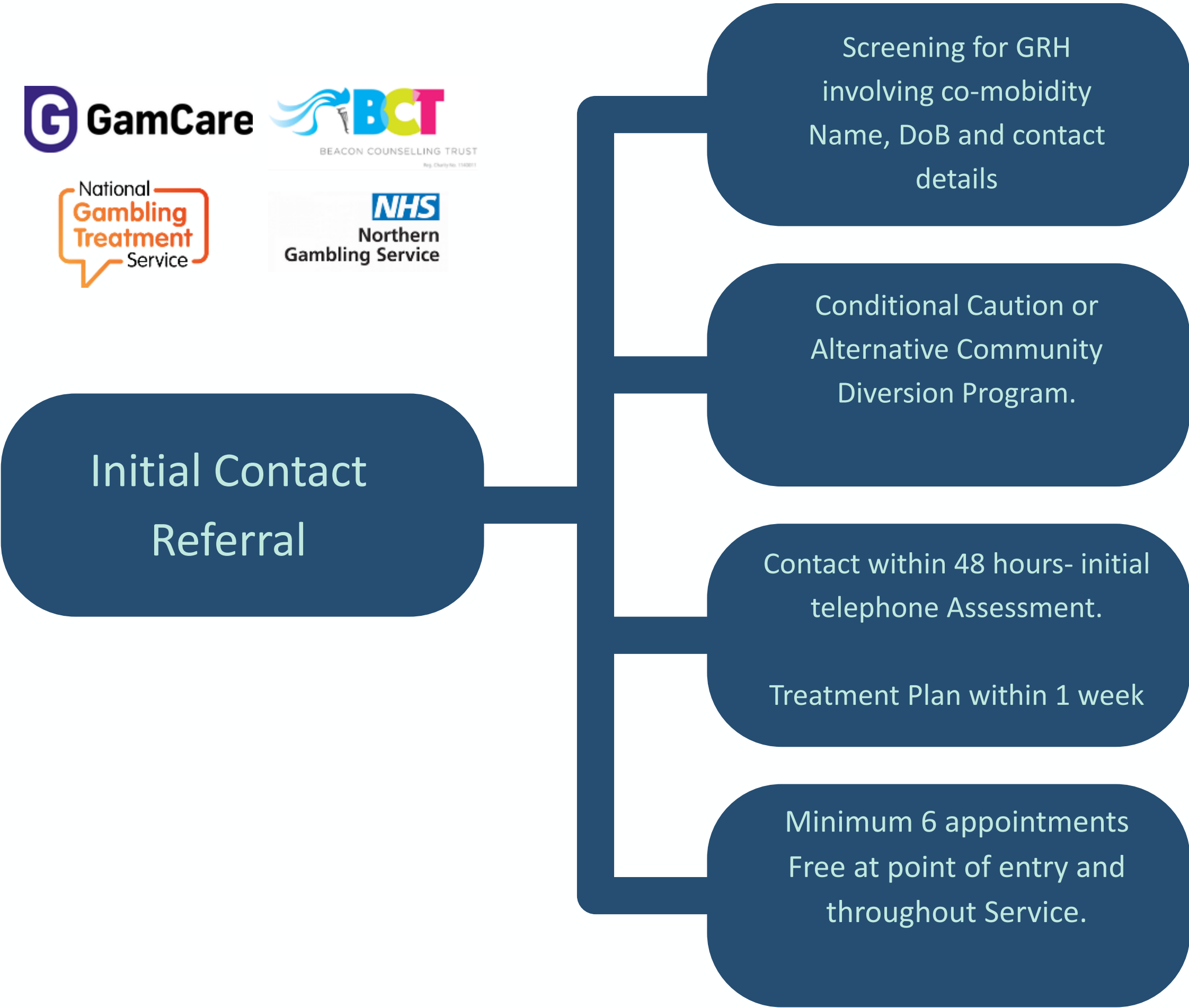
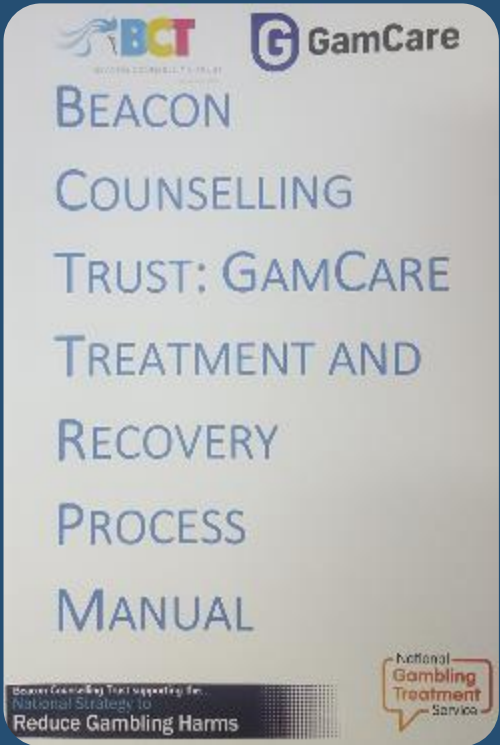
Cleveland

North Wales

Cheshire Probation Service and Courts Staff.

Cheshire PPU and Domestic Violence Charities

Beacon Counselling Trust Treatment Pathway



What Do Lived Experience Say?

Andrew – 50-60 years – Accountant -, £600,000, offered no support or treatment throughout 8 prison sentences over 25 years.

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Kelly -30-40 years- Children's Home Manager- £70,000, spent £1,600 a day on slots, offered no help from works management. No support

David – 40-50 years -Police Officer, 100's bets a day, no support or self exclusion, no welfare support from workplace and VIP incentives. No support

Sian – 20-30 years-Finance Manager, 2yrs 8 months, £360,000, VIP status, £15,000 in 10 minutes on slots and self harm offered police support but nothing in prison system.

Lessons Learnt?

Engagement with L&D Senior Management for support.

Provide Police Criminal Justice Senior Management briefings.

Deliver the bespoke requirements to each force.

Ensure training and development is provided to raise awareness.

Understand the needs of each L&D team for delivery of awareness training.

Deliver what you promise to the respective Senior Management.

Provide a clear message that the screening, diversion and treatment is FREE

Ensure all stakeholders are happy with the delivery and outcomes.

Seek feedback on what could have been done differently.

West Yorkshire have taken the delivery of the program for best practice.

BET YOU CAN HELP VISION

The Level 2 Award in Tackling Gambling Related Harms delivered through the 'Bet You Can Help' Programme, as the first universal accredited education platform, is to increase individuals into treatment from 3% to 15% (51,000) over the next three years, as well as providing early support to 'at risk' groups using a first aid foundation.



Talk to Us



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