

Introduction

The Gambling Industry Engagement Forum featured an agenda and discussions that aimed at identifying the issues and concerns of the gambling industry in the current gambling environment and that explored areas of mutual interest and opportunities to strengthen efforts aimed at preventing gambling related harm.

Gambling Industry Engagement Forum Discussion Summary

Foundation Chief Executive Officer (Louise Glanville) provided a brief introduction noting the role of the forum, the aim of exploring areas to work together and the opportunity to exchange knowledge and information. Given the recent changes at the Foundation discussion was also held on how Forum members saw the greatest benefit from the Forum sessions. Discussion centered on the potential for issues based meetings.

Tony Clarkson (Director, Professional Development Centre) provided an update on Foundation activities that focused on responding to actions from the previous Forum (29 November 2016). These consisted primarily of an update on the development of online CBT training materials, consultation on Self-Exclusion arrangements and an update on current Foundation campaign activity.

The Forum moved on to discuss issues in the current gambling environment and how the Forum might best be able to contribute to the Foundation's aims and strategic imperatives. Discussion centered on:

- Actions resulting from the Commonwealth announcements around the National Consumer Protection Framework for online wagering.
- Continued emergence of online gambling, e-sports and fantasy sports gambling.
- The emergence of skill based electronic gambling.
- Recent Victorian EGM changes around caps, EFTPOS and other regulations.
- Training activities being undertaken by online industry providers.

Consultation on the Foundation's research agenda was also undertaken with a number of areas discussed including evaluation of the effectiveness of current and proposed harm minimisation measures, research into emergent issues (e-sports, fantasy gambling etc.), a clear need for applied research, communication with customers experiencing distress and normalization. Members of the forum were also invited to provide further feedback via an online survey.

Meeting Outcomes and Actions

A number of actions related to response to previous action items:

- Ongoing consultation with OLGR around advanced RSG or development of higher level Venue Support Program training.
- Exploration of the provision of data on Gambler's Help counselling and industry/self-exclusion referrals.
- Continued work on national consistency with responsible gambling messages and RGAW time/dates.

Main action items from the current Forum were:

- Foundation to call for agenda items from Forum members prior to each meeting.
 - Forward agenda to potentially include: campaign development, co-morbidities, severe and low/moderate risk harms and public health approach to gambling harm.
- Forum to meet three times per calendar year with a focus on emerging issues, policy, strategy and research areas.
- Forum members to explore the potential for sharing information on self-exclusion programs and options.
- Foundation to provide Forum members with the opportunity to feedback on research agenda development.
- Foundation to provide forum members with a current membership listing and invite comment on members.

It is proposed that the next meeting of this group take place around March 2018, with communication on this to follow prior to that date.