

# Wales Gambling Levy Strategic Group

## Terms of Reference

### Purpose of Group

1. The Wales Gambling Levy Strategic Group (The 'Group') will advise and report directly to the Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing and lead upon the implementation in relation to Wales of the statutory levy on gambling operators.

### Scope and Remit

2. The Group will:
  - a) Develop the policy position for Wales, to advise the Minister, in relation to each stream of the levy system (research, prevention and treatment) and ensure this is represented to the UK Government at each stage of the levy's implementation.
  - b) Ensure Wales interests are fully represented during the development of the levy's [governance systems](#), including considering appropriate representation on the Gambling Levy Programme Board and Gambling Levy Advisory Group.
  - c) Provide direction and oversight of the Wales treatment pathway development subgroup, as well as any other structures established by the Group that are tasked with leading the implementation in relation to Wales of the relevant levy streams.
  - d) Ensure stakeholders in Wales are fully engaged and supported during the transition to the levy system.
  - e) Provide timely reports of progress to the Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing.

### Responsibilities of Group members

3. Members are expected to:
  - a) Bring their knowledge, skills and expertise to provide strategic leadership to the levy's implementation in relation to Wales.
  - b) Ensure they use their networks to support collaboration and partnerships to best support the levy's implementation in Wales.

### Membership

4. The full list of members is at Annex 1. The Group will be chaired by Section 40 (2), Director of Public Health Protection, Welsh Government who will agree with the Group a suitable timescale for the periodic review of these Terms of Reference and membership.

5. If a member is unable to attend a meeting, they may nominate a deputy. Members should ensure deputies are briefed and able to contribute to discussion and decision making.

### **Conflicts of interest and commercial sensitivity**

6. All members must complete Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Agreement forms to participate in the Group. These will be reviewed every 12 months and again when any commercial or procurement activities begin.



A. For use where an individual participates in personal capacity



B. For use where an individual participates as representative or employee of a body/organisation

7. The gambling industry, through voluntary donations made to the charity GambleAware, currently fund the majority of gambling support and prevention work in Great Britain. Until the statutory levy is fully implemented, the main source of funding for many third sector organisations remains GambleAware, often on a project-to-project basis. As GambleAware funding is independent from the gambling industry, this funding route is not a reason to not interact with these groups, many of whom have valuable knowledge that will be vital in developing gambling prevention and support policies.

### **Governance, proceedings, and timescales.**

8. The Group will be chaired by the Section 40 (2) for Public Health Protection or equivalent in Welsh Government.
9. Secretariat functions will be undertaken by Welsh Government officials within the Risk Behaviours team. The secretariat will provide the Group with the operational management support and will:
  - arrange meetings in consultation with the Chair
  - prepare and distribute agenda, actions of the last meeting
  - liaise with other Welsh Government departments, and any other stakeholders; and
  - prepare and collate briefings and monitoring reports.
10. The Group will meet monthly (or in a timescale agreed by the Group) to ensure the pace of work is maintained. Group members may also be asked to provide views and advice via email on an ad hoc basis as issues arise. However, if a member requests a Group discussion on a particular issue, this will be considered by the Chair and a Group meeting arranged if suitable. In addition to the Wales treatment pathway development subgroup, additional subgroups may be convened if the Chair deems this appropriate.

11. The agenda and papers will be circulated to Group members at least three working days in advance of any required meetings. The minutes/actions of the Group will be noted and circulated to members.
12. Where advice is requested from Group members via email, these will be circulated with clearly determined timescales for the Group to respond with their views. Welsh Government officials will compile the views and seek agreement to a shared statement by the Group which may then be used for policy development of shared more widely.
13. From time to time and depending upon the issue being considered by the Group, other officials and/or organisations will be invited to attend the Group, although these officials will not be formal members of the Group.

### **Membership**

14. Members will serve in their professional capacity and represent the broad range of disciplines responsible for, or involved in, gambling prevention. Membership of the Group will be agreed at its establishment. Deputies will be allowed by prior notification. Members will be expected to attend meetings and be active participants by providing constructive challenge to and scrutiny of emerging proposals as well as active supporters of the delivery
15. Full membership is available at Annex 1.

### **Timeline and Review**

16. The Group was established in January 2025 and will operate throughout the implementation in relation to Wales of the statutory levy on gambling operators. Amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Group will be agreed by the Group.
17. The Terms of Reference were updated and agreed in 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

## Wales Gambling Levy Strategic Group

### Membership

#### Chair

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job Title/ organisation</b>
Section 40 (2)	Section 40 (2), Welsh Government

#### Members

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job Title/Organisation</b>
Section 40 (2)	Section 40 (2)
Section 40 (2)	Section 40 (2), Public Health Wales. Chair of the Wales treatment pathway development subgroup
Section 40 (2)	Section 40 (2), Public Health Improvement, Welsh Government
Section 40 (2)	Head of Risk Behaviours Branch, Welsh Government
Section 40 (2)	Section 40 (2), Mental Health, Learning Disability and Neurodiversity, NHS Wales Executive
Section 40 (2)	Section 40 (2), NHS Wales Executive
Section 40 (2)	Section 40 (2), Cardiff and Vale UHB. Representative for Directors of Public Health
Section 40 (2)	Section 40 (2), Public Health Wales
Section 40 (2)	Welsh Government Research and development

#### Supporting officials

<b>Name</b>	<b>Area</b>
Section 40 (2)	Risk Behaviours Branch, Welsh Government
Section 40 (2)	Risk Behaviours Branch, Welsh Government
Section 40 (2)	Risk Behaviours Branch, Welsh Government