

28 October 2010

Dear Colleague

Collecting Adult Gambling Prevalence Data: Consultation

You will be aware that the Commission is currently consulting on the future options for collecting data on gambling participation and problem gambling. The aims of that review are to determine whether, going forward, an approach can be taken which allows for more flexibility, regularity of outputs and continues to offer value for money. The consultation makes clear that continuity of data collection and maximum comparability with the data previously collected is a key factor when considering whether alternative approaches to data collection are feasible.

We thought it could be helpful, in the context of that consultation, to let you know that as a result of the recent spending review, the government has decided to withdraw its grant in aid allocation to the Gambling Commission. Up until now, this grant in aid allocation has been the source of funding used to pay for the collection of prevalence data. It would therefore be very helpful for respondents to give particular consideration to what other sources of funding and management arrangements would be appropriate for taking the survey forward. It is also more important than ever that proper consideration is given to the approach which could be taken to the data collection to ensure that, whatever funding arrangements are secured, an approach is adopted which offers the best quality and value to all interested stakeholders.

We look forward to receiving your consultation responses.

Yours faithfully



Matthew Hill
Director of Strategy, Research and Analysis

