

ADPH NE GAMBLING HARMS PROGRAMME NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

Welcome to the Association of Directors of Public Health North East Gambling Harms Programme newsletter. We are developing a regional approach to tackle gambling harms across the North East.

In this edition....

Durham County Council announces the launch of their gambling-related harms training programme and Hartlepool Borough Council shares local insights from their new gambling harms health needs assessment. We also highlight key findings from the annual *Young People and Gambling Survey* and gambling harms action areas identified in the *Men's Health Strategy for England*.

You'll find new job opportunities within the programme, alongside gambling research, news and updates.

As 2025 draws to a close, we would like to thank you for your continued support and contributions to our shared work across the North East to address gambling harms, and for the learning, advocacy and skills development made possible through your involvement.

Thank you

Durham County Council Gambling-Related Harm Awareness Launch Event

**Thursday 15 January 2026
9:30AM – 12:00PM**

**Education Development Centre, Enterprise Way,
Spennymoor, DL16 6YP**

This event marks the introduction of our new training programme designed to address gambling-related harms and enhance prevention through early intervention. The event will include a guest speaker with lived experience and an overview of DCC and partner training delivery plans for 2026.

Open to all DCC employees and external partners.

Please email PublicHealth@durham.gov.uk to register. *Bookings close Friday 9th January.*



Durham Training Offer: MECC & Gambling Harms

These training dates are available for County Durham based professionals and volunteers via Microsoft Teams.

**Wednesday 21st January | 1:00pm - 3:00pm
Tuesday 10th February | 9:30am - 11:30am
Wednesday 25th March | 9:30am - 11:30am**

To book, please email cdda-tr.CBS@nhs.net



Hartlepool Gambling Health Needs Assessment

Hartlepool Borough Council has published the *Hartlepool Gambling Harms Health Needs Assessment*, which examines gambling behaviour and gambling harms in the area.

The report brings together local data from treatment and support services, alongside information on the number and distribution of betting premises in the area. The findings highlight a higher concentration of gambling premises in more deprived areas in Hartlepool.

Key recommendations include:

- Implementation of NICE guidance on screening within services
- Improving signposting to treatment and support pathways
- Reducing gaps between the need for support and access to treatment.
- Continuing to develop a comprehensive understanding of gambling harms affecting communities across Hartlepool

The report will be shared more widely once it is publicly available.

If you would like to know more about the work being done in Hartlepool to address gambling harms, contact Abigail.Reay@hartlepool.gov.uk

Men's Health: A Strategic Vision for England

Following a 12-week call for evidence starting in April 2025, the Department of Health and Social Care has published the first *Men's Health Strategy for England*. This strategy outlines a 10-year plan to improve the health and wellbeing of men and boys.

Harms related to gambling arose as a strong theme among the written evidence received from organisations and professionals.

Actions outlined in this strategy to address gambling harms:

- develop a coordinated approach to preventing gambling-related harms at national, regional and local level
- raise awareness of the risks of harmful gambling through national campaigns and local initiatives
- increase access and integration of treatment and support services for those experiencing gambling-related harm, and improve data collection and evaluation
- addressing gaps in the evidence base through high-quality independent research

Read the full report [here](#).

UK Parliament Debate

On Thursday 15 January in Westminster Hall, MPs will hold a debate on the impact of gambling harms in children and young people.

Watch the debate on Parliament Live. Find details [here](#).

RESEARCH CORNER

**These articles have been checked for any conflicts of interest or industry funding. None were identified.*

Addressing gambling harm to affected others: A scoping review (Part I: Prevalence, socio-demographic profiles, gambling profiles, and harm).

Link [here](#)

The Efficacy of Psychosocial Interventions in Minimising the Harm Caused to Affected Others of Problem Gambling: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Link [here](#)

Strengthening the service experiences of women impacted by gambling-related intimate partner violence

Link [here](#)

Harms from Other People's Gambling: Associations with an Individual's Own Gambling Behaviours, Health Risk Behaviours, Financial Problems, General Health, and Mental Wellbeing

Link [here](#)

Young People and Gambling 2025 Report

This annual Gambling Commission study provides information about young people's exposure to and involvement in gambling, as well as the impact gambling can have.

Data was collected from pupils aged 11- to 17-years old from schools across England, Scotland and Wales.

Key Findings from the 2025 Report:

- 49% of 11- to 17-year-olds have experienced gambling in the previous 12 months
- 30% of 11- to 17-year-olds have spent their own money on gambling in the previous 12 months
- 78% of young people who spent their own money on gambling did so because they regard it as 'fun'
- the proportion of young people experiencing issues with their gambling is 1.2%
- 49% of young people reported seeing adverts on social media at least once a week

The 2025 survey included for the first time questions on the role of influencers in advertising gambling-related content and young people's attitudes toward risk-taking behaviour.

Read the full report [here](#).

Inside the Commission Podcast

Findings in the Young People and Gambling Survey showing boys are at heightened risk of exposure to gambling. The latest episode of this Gambling Commission podcast looks into research on teenage boys and young men's experiences of gambling.

Listen to the podcast [here](#).



Join the team!

We are currently looking to recruit the following roles to join the ADPH NE Gambling Harms Programme:

Advanced Practitioner Public Health Officer

This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in supporting the public health approach to gambling harms in the North East.

You can find the job descriptions and application submission links below:

[Advanced Practitioner Role](#)

[Public Health Officer Role](#)

Applications close Monday 12th January at 23:59 GMT.

In the News

London: Calls grow for ban on Tube gambling ads.

Read [here](#).

'It's shattered our family': how illicit offshore bookies exploit struggling gamblers who are trying to quit.

Read [here](#).

Podcast Episodes: BBC Sounds

High Stakes: Gambling in the armed forces

This episode examines the scale of problem gambling in the armed forces and the devastating impact on those serving, veterans and their families.

Listen [here](#).

Finding my Sikh faith against the odds

This episode shares the story of Harj Gahley, a Sikh who began gambling when he was just 23.

Listen [here](#).

Please be aware these episodes and articles may discuss suicide and other distressing subjects.

LOCAL PUBLICATIONS

Gambling Harms in the North East: Regional Health Needs Assessment

⇒ Read [here](#)

Gambling-Related Harms in Sunderland: Health Needs Assessment

⇒ Read [here](#)

North Tyneside Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: Gambling

⇒ Read [here](#)

Newcastle City Council Gambling and Gambling-Related Harms: Needs Assessment

⇒ Read [here](#)

County Durham Gambling Health Needs and Assets Assessment

⇒ Read [here](#)

GAMBLING HARMS LIVED EXPERIENCE FORUM

The ADPH NE Gambling Harms Lived Experience Forum is seeking members!

Members offer insight and expertise to local and regional work to address gambling harms.

The forum is open to anyone living in the North East, aged 18+ and has lived experiences of gambling harms, either personally or as an affected other.

Members are offered a £25 voucher per hour for their participation.

To register your interest in joining the forum, please scan the QR code. For further information, please email GHR@middlesbrough.gov.uk



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If you would like us to include anything in our next newsletter, please email GHR@middlesbrough.gov.uk

Find more information about the ADPH NE Gambling Harms Programme [here](#).