

Paul Toole Minister for Lands and Forestry Minister for Racing

MEDIA RELEASE

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GOVERNMENT BOLSTERS RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING FUND

Nine highly-qualified experts in public health, law, government, business and social research will advise the NSW Government on responsible gambling.

Minister for Racing Paul Toole said the reconstituted Responsible Gambling Fund (RGF) Trust will play a key role in helping the Government develop evidence-based and innovative approaches to prevent and reduce gambling harms.

"The Responsible Gambling Fund exists to support responsible gambling and minimise the risk of gambling-related harm in the community," Mr Toole said.

"We're fortunate to have such high-calibre people to advise on issues including research, community education, policies and intervention programs such as support and counselling services," Mr Toole said.

Experienced lawyer John Dalzell will chair the Trust. The other appointees are psychiatrist Dr Clive Allcock, gambling researcher Professor Paul Delfabbro, accountant Elizabeth Lyne, social researcher Mark McCrindle, public policy executive Janett Milligan and public health academic Associate Professor Joel Negin.

Liquor, Gaming & Racing Deputy Secretary Paul Newson and mental health specialist Dr Greg Hugh will continue as trustees.

A new Office of Responsible Gambling will support the Trust, drive innovative policy and implement programs and initiatives to prevent and reduce gambling harm.

The RGF, funded by a levy on The Star casino, will this year allocate \$18 million for initiatives to promote responsible gambling and address problem gambling.

Two RGF-funded research reports, on <u>placement of ATMs</u> and <u>third-party exclusions</u> of problem gamblers from gaming venues, have been released today.

"The Government will consider any RGF recommendations arising from these reports as part of our ongoing efforts to ensure a responsible gambling environment in NSW," Mr Toole said.

MEDIA: Ashley Gardiner 0429 063 494

PROFILES OF RGF TRUSTEES

- **Chair John Dalzell** is one of Australia's leading dispute resolution lawyers and the current chair of Dentons global litigation and dispute resolution group. He has previously advised the NSW Government on liquor, gaming and racing matters.
- **Dr Clive Allcock** is an experienced psychiatrist who has done significant work in the field of treatment of problem gamblers. He was a founding member of the National Association for Gambling Studies and has recently been made a life member.
- **Professor Paul Delfabbro** is an internationally renowned gambling researcher and a lecturer in Psychology at the University of Adelaide. His PhD thesis covered the demographic, behavioural and cognitive factors underlying gambling in SA.
- **Dr Greg Hugh** is an experienced psychiatrist who currently works in the Western NSW Local Heath District. He has previously been the clinical director of the Dubbo and Regional Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Service and has been involved in the policy and planning of various regional mental health and drug and alcohol initiatives.
- Elizabeth Lyne is an accountant and auditor with over 20 years' experience in public practice and commercial accounting. She has experience as a board director in the health, government and community sectors.
- **Mark McCrindle** is a demographer, social researcher and Principal of McCrindle Research which he began just over a decade ago. In 1994, he established the not-for-profit Australian Leadership Foundation which provides training programs and leadership development for young people in schools and tertiary studies.
- Janett Milligan is a senior executive who has held leadership positions at NSW government agencies including the Office of Sport and Department of Housing. She has strong governance experience as a board member of bodies including Barnardos Australia and Venues NSW.
- Associate Professor Joel Negin is head of the University of Sydney's School of Public Health. He is an experienced manager, project coordinator and researcher with a focus on health issues affecting vulnerable populations.
- **Paul Newson** is Deputy Secretary, Liquor, Gaming & Racing at the NSW Department of Industry. He has wide experience in leadership roles covering regulatory policy and practice, law enforcement and defence. Paul is also a Trustee of the International Association of Gaming Regulators.