



PRESS RELEASE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF

A New Provider of Educational Work on Problem Gambling

The Responsibility in Gambling Trust, or RIGT, is an independent charitable body, funded by the UK gambling industry, which commissions treatment, education and research into problem gambling. The aim of the Trust is to make it less likely that people will become problem gamblers and more likely that those who do will be able to seek and to secure effective help.

The Trust is pleased to announce it has appointed TACADE, working in partnership with the Nottingham Trent University International Gaming Research Unit, to be the provider of new work to encourage education about problem gambling in Britain's schools and youth clubs under contract to RIGT.

Background

One of the three primary aims of the Trust is to commission education about the possible risk of problem gambling delivered to young people. After extensive review of what works in education for risky-behaviours, and extensive consultation with leading experts and the Department for Education and Skills, the Trust put a three part contract out to tender. The approach involves developing and promoting resources for use by teachers and youth workers with young people. After an extensive review process, a decision was made at the end of January 2006 to award all three parts of the contract to a single consortia provider. This contract will run for three years in the first instance.

What TACADE will do

TACADE, with support from the IGRU, are commissioned to:

- Write new materials and resources for use in school and youth work settings to raise awareness of problem gambling and to enable young people to develop skills, knowledge and attitudes to resist problem gambling
- Promote these resources very actively to teachers and youth workers using every possible media
- Train teachers and youth workers to undertake education about problem gambling

In turn teachers and youth workers will carry out education about gambling as part of their work in Personal, Social and Health Education, Citizenship, and other areas of the school curricula and in informal youth work settings.

What the results will be:

- Teachers and youth workers will be trained, motivated and supplied with brand new, professionally produced resources most likely to lead to positive behavioural change amongst young people
- Much greater volume of educational work in schools and youth work settings
- Greater awareness amongst young people of the risks of problem gambling

Information about TACADE and IGRU

This partnership brings together TACADE, the leading national provider of resources and training for health and risk behaviours in school and youth work settings, in partnership with the UK's national leading organisation for young people's gambling (IGRU). Between them the two organisations are expert in education of teachers and youth workers, and in communication and research about problem gambling amongst young people.

Speaking of the new contract, the Trust Chairman, Sir David Durie, said:

“The Trust sees the education of young people about problem gambling as one of the key parts of its work. Up till now this has been an area the Trust has focused on far less, as it developed increasing treatment availability for problem gamblers. We are very pleased that with this contract, RIGT is now working with the leading body in education of this type, and is confident that this will lead to much more education about this serious social problem. In turn we hope this will reduce numbers of problem gamblers in the future.”

Speaking for the partners, Martin Buczkiewicz, Chief executive of TACADE, said:

“Tacade is delighted to be given the opportunity to work with RIGT to develop these much needed educational materials and disseminate them through seminars, training sessions and professional networks throughout the United Kingdom. Although for the majority of young people gambling does not present any major problems, Tacade and the IGRU recognise that materials are needed to prevent problem gambling and that secondary schools and the youth service are ideally placed to enable this process to be effective”.

Notes to Editors:

1. For all media enquiries please contact Malcolm Bruce from RIGT on 0207 022 1865
2. For the partnership contact Martin Buczkiewicz of Tacade on 0161 836 6850 or via email martin@tacade.co.uk, or Mark Griffiths from IGRU on 0115-8485528
3. The contract starts immediately, but resources will be available for schools at the start of the 2006-7 financial year, when a programme of teacher and youth work training will be available.
4. Full details of the contract are available from RIGT on the number given above.