



Expression of Interest in Joining the Lived Experience Advisory Panel for a GambleAware Funded Research Project

Understanding LGBTQ+ Gambling

Overview

We are looking for five people to join a Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP) for an exciting new research study starting in April this year, and running until September 2025. This would suit people who:

- Are aged 18 years+
- Live in Great Britain
- Identify as LGBTQ+
- Have experience of gambling, including but not limited to gambling harm

The role will involve attending online meetings every four months to help guide the study. You will feed into strategic decision making around the project and provide feedback on issues as they arise. Members will also be invited to participate in a final consultation and dissemination event. Training and guidance will be provided.

If you think you might be interested, please read on for further information. You are also welcome to contact us to discuss this, using the contact details at the bottom of this sheet.

The closing date for expressions of interest is 13 May 2024.

What is the study about?

Our aim is to understand gambling and gambling harms within LGBTQ+ communities in Great Britain (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and allied groups). This includes understanding more about:

- The prevalence and types of gambling engaged in within LGBTQ+ communities
- Lived experience of gambling in LGBTQ+ communities
- The wider impacts of gambling for LGBTQ+ people
- The drivers underpinning why people in in LGBTQ+ communities might experience gambling harms
- The factors that protect against gambling harm in LGBTQ+ communities
- How we might better deal with the issue of gambling harm in in LGBTQ+ communities

We will be exploring these issues through an 18-month long study that includes:

1. A large-scale national survey exploring gambling behaviour, prevalence of harm, risk and protective factors, and available support in LGBTQ+ communities.
2. Interviews and journalling activities with people in LGBTQ+ communities who have experience of gambling harm.
3. A photovoice study (combining participant-led photography, group and individual discussion) exploring experiences of gambling and gambling harm with people from LGBTQ+ communities who also experience other forms of marginalisation.
4. A consultation and dissemination event, using our findings to make recommendations to key stakeholders, with a view to developing recommendations for service delivery to support people in LGBTQ+ communities who experience gambling harms.

How can I get involved?

We are putting together a new Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP) that will advise on and shape this research project. The panel will be co-chaired by Dr Helen Johnson, as part of the University of Brighton research team and a person from the LGBTQ+ community with lived experience of gambling. The LEAP will be used to shape the study throughout, including advising on study design, participant-facing study information, data collection techniques, outputs and dissemination, and discussing new issues and challenges as they arise.

LEAP members will be asked to attend four online meetings, with one meeting every four months throughout the project. We will send you information in advance of each meeting, so you have time to think before the discussion. Each meeting will be around one hour long, and we expect the first meeting to be held in May this year. We will occasionally send you information and ask for your thoughts and feedback via email and/or WhatsApp outside of the main Advisory Group meetings. Members will also be invited to participate in the final consultation and dissemination event with key stakeholders. Training and/or guidance will be provided to support you in your role.

What do I need in order to take part?

We are inviting people who:

- Are aged 18 years or older
- Identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ community
- Live in Great Britain and expect to continue living here for the duration of the project
- Have a stable internet connection, internet-enabled device and use of a microphone to join online meetings. A webcam would also be helpful, but is not essential
- Have access to an email account and word processing software to read text-based attachments
- Have access to a quiet, private space in which you could join meetings
- Have some experience of gambling, including but not limited to gambling harm
- Have an ability and willingness to draw on your personal experiences of gambling and to use this knowledge in meetings to inform the project
- Able to work well in a group, including being respectful and open to other people's ideas and experiences
- Willingness and ability to contribute to group discussions

Why should I join the LEAP?

- You will meet other people around the country who are interested in research and

learning more about LGBTQ+ gambling experiences.

- You will be contributing to nationally funded scientific research, which will add to knowledge about LGBTQ+ gambling and ultimately inform work on how to support people who struggle with this.
- We hope that you will benefit from the experience personally. We know the study will benefit enormously from working alongside people within the LGBTQ+ community who have experience of gambling.

Will I be paid for my time?

Yes. You will receive a £25 voucher per hour of your time, which can be spent in a range of stores and online. It is anticipated that one hour will be needed to prepare for each meeting. Involvement in the panel will be for a maximum of 14 hours over the course of the project. We anticipate that meetings will take place virtually, so we do not expect expenses to be linked to this project.

Are there any other opportunities related to this research project?

Members of the LEAP may also be invited to participate in the project as peer researchers. Peer researchers will lead photovoice sessions/interviews within particular marginalised communities to which they belong, and work with relevant support organisations to support the recruitment of participants for this part of the research. They may also be invited to speak at community outreach events as relevant. Peer researchers will receive additional training and payments for their time.

Contacts

If you are interested in this opportunity or would like to find out more, please email Dr Helen Johnson (H.F.Johnson@brighton.ac.uk) at the University of Brighton using the subject line 'LGBTQ Gambling LEAP Application.'