



**RESPONSIBLE  
GAMING  
FOUNDATION**



**Report for Period  
January 2018 - December 2020**

“

Accepting that  
you have a problem  
and you need help  
are the first and most  
important steps that  
lead to problem  
gambling recovery”

Mr. KAYNE SAID  
(Promotions Executive at the  
Responsible Gaming Foundation)



**Report for Periods  
January 2018 - December 2018;  
January 2019 - December 2019; and  
January 2020 - December 2020**

# Table of CONTENTS

Message from the Minister for the Economy and Industry - Hon. Silvio Schembri.....	04
Foreword by the RGF Non-Executive Chairman - Mr. Neville Mangion.....	06
Introduction from the RGF General Manager - Mr. Shawn Zammit .....	07
Board Members as to December 2020.....	08
Purpose of the RGF and what do we stand for.....	09
How do we do this? .....	10
Promotional Awareness.....	12
Meetings & Donations.....	14

Looking back at the business plan.....	15
Outreach Advertising, New Website, Features and Projects Reports.....	16
The Education Campaign.....	18
Helpline 1777, Self-barring & Statistics.....	20
TAKE ACTION: Against Problem Gambling in Malta.....	22
Supporting alternatives to gambling and the CSR.....	24
Future Plans.....	25
Financial Statements: January 2018-December 2020 .....	26



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## Message from the Minister for the Economy and Industry

### Hon. SILVIO SCHEMBRI

Despite the challenges experienced during 2020 brought forward by the COVID-19 pandemic, the sustained employment's growth in the gaming industry further assists the sector's significant contribution to the Maltese economy.

According to the Annual Report for the period between January to December 2020 published by the Malta Gaming Authority, as of the end of June 2020, the gaming sector in Malta expanded by 15.3% in terms

of value added. As a result, the share of the gaming sector in the Maltese economy rose by 1.36 percentage points to 8%. These positive economic numbers continue to carry a substantial moral responsibility on the government. A commitment to providing the necessary research, adequate support, healthy alternatives and preventive awareness to the 1%-2% of the gambling population who in the first quarter of 2018 reported some form of adverse effect on their lifestyle after acquiring gaming services against payment, and this is where the Responsible Gaming Foundation comes in.

Along the way, there remained a significant gap in knowledge, information and awareness about gambling and problem gambling locally and where to get support for the addiction. One of the reasons for this gap in understanding is the lack of training. Without training, the signs and symptoms of problem gambling can be hard to recognise compared to substances such as drugs and alcohol, where they are more visible. Consequently, there can be a lack of confidence in recognising risk factors that lead to problem gambling and a general perception that the social and health consequences of problem gambling are not as severe as in the other potential addictions.

During these past three years, the Foundation embarked on an exciting TAKE ACTION project part-financed by the European Social Fund. Through the national research completed in the third quarter of 2020 for the period 2018-2019, the project aims to find ways to address the problem of gaming, betting addictions, and related issues. Furthermore, other activities of the project, such as the training element, which has been completed till June 2021 with a total number of 595 participants covering 163 sessions, aims to improve the services available in this field as it is considered that specialists in the field are not adequately trained in this area. The awareness campaign is also another means how to address this social problem in the Maltese context. Therefore, this project will better address betting and gambling addictions in our society.

The project aims to enhance existing and provide a new social service locally to increase the capacity to address gambling and betting addiction problems. By addressing this social problem, whereby targeted services are lacking, the general public will be receiving a more accessible and improved service. The upskilling and training that will be offered to professionals and workers in the field to better address persons with such difficulties will significantly improve the services.

I want to praise the Foundation for their hard work, dedication and ability to go remotely during the pandemic period of March to June 2020 and hence manage to keep the 1777 helpline services working 24 hours a day. The Foundation also managed to keep on working on its educational awareness campaign, utilising several features to be more effective in reaching both guardians and children alike. The Foundation also issued several features and articles on TV, newspapers and social media regarding gambling and gaming.

“  
I have always believed  
that rapid growth  
within the sector should  
not come at a negative  
social cost”

Till this very day, the Foundation has relentlessly advocated for a healthy balance between the gaming industry's drive for growth and its Corporate Social Responsibility. I have always believed that rapid growth within the sector should not come at a negative social cost.

The Ministry for the Economy and Industry will always support the Foundation to foster greater community empathy for problem gamblers and reduce the stigma associated with the addiction. The Foundation's role is to increase awareness amongst the communities in preventing problem gambling by enhancing their knowledge on how to address known risks and protect factors pro-actively. Its work agenda needs to target at risk community segments to raise awareness of the potential harms and dangers of problem gambling. It should also raise awareness of the range of help and treatment available to problem gamblers to encourage uptake and increase the number of problem gamblers who access the Responsible Gaming Foundation's help services. Also, front-liners and professionals need to be supported in recognising and referring problem gamblers.

I augur the Responsible Gaming Foundation's excellent work to provide a clearer picture and more support to society on problem gambling. The government will ensure that the Foundation is continuously strengthened to increase awareness in the days to come.



## Foreword by the Non-Executive Chairman

**Mr. NEVILLE MANGION**

**B**eing the Non-Executive Chairman of the Responsible Gaming Foundation, I am pleased to present these reports based on the working period from 2018 till 2020.

The Responsible Gaming Foundation was founded in February 2014, and throughout these years, we managed to continue building upon the solid groundwork done under the supervision of both former Chairman Hon. Silvio Schembri, now Minister for the Economy and Industry and also of former Interim Chairman Mr. Vincent Muscat.

The Foundation's main aim has always been to seek and manage funding from the gaming sectors, government and other channels, fund projects for research, develop preventative measures in education, and provide support and technologies that enhance and improve responsible gaming. The Foundation's pro-active approach in promoting responsibility and aligning with the gaming regulations in our country has always kept the above aim in its line of sight. During the past year, the Foundation, like any organization in the whole world, experienced a unique challenge, the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic managed to bring companies to their knees and affected workers' psyche vis-à-vis routine and workload.

Nonetheless, today, I'm pleased to state that, with the help of all employees at the Foundation, led by an astute management team, under the guidance of its General Manager Mr. Shawn Zammit, and by the then former Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services, Digital Economy and Innovation Hon. Clayton Bartolo, we all embraced this period and ensured that the working processes and services offered to the general public had minimal impact. Once again, the Foundation gave more prominence to online mediatic awareness

through social media features aimed to increase preventive measures to specific target audiences including children, parents, guardians, individuals and families.

During the past years, the Foundation continued to work hard on its Educational Campaign with the Ministry for Work and Education's help by raising gambling awareness to Year 4 Primary Students. The National Gambling Helpline 1777 continued to strengthen its support services to problem gamblers. Under the Malta Gaming Authority's watchful eye, addicts were still able to self-bar themselves for six months, 12 months, an indefinite period and now also with an auto-renew option.

During these last three years, the Foundation together with the established board, has especially risen up to the challenge put forth by the government with the €1.1 million TAKE ACTION project part-financed by the European Social Fund. I give thanks to all employees taking part in this initiative for taking good care that everything goes according to plan. Throughout this project, the Foundation presented national research for the period 2018-2019. The training was and is still given to stakeholders that face (directly or indirectly) problem gamblers in their line of work and later this year the Foundation will be working on a campaign to increase awareness on problem gambling and increase knowledge on how to address symptoms of problem gambling.

These reports give prominence to what has happened in the recent past, but now all the team is looking forward to what is to come. As part of the team I also look forward to working hand in hand with the Minister for the Economy and Industry Hon. Silvio Schembri, RGF's board members, RGF's General Manager, all stakeholders, and present CEO of the MGA Dr. Carl Brincat and thank them for their support and aid to the social cause.



## Intro from the General Manager

**Mr. SHAWN ZAMMIT**

**A**s General Manager of the Responsible Gaming Foundation, my role has been to ensure that its mission is put to fruition.

The Foundation's mission is to create broader awareness of the extent, possible causes and consequences of problem gaming in Malta to prevent it through our education campaigns and media awareness programs. Also, the Foundation has to provide the necessary support and advice to problem gamblers and their dependents in their recovery efforts through its national gambling helpline 1777 and online chatline service on its newly revamped website [www.rgf.org.mt](http://www.rgf.org.mt).

Apart from making sure that the above programs and services are supported and strengthened, I have been involved as Project Leader for the TAKE ACTION program during these recent years. Through this project, the Foundation is proposing effective action to prevent gambling-related problems and protect subjects with gambling disorders in Malta and Gozo.

The project so far implemented a national research study for the period 2018-2019. Before this project, there were no concrete statistics involving gambling addiction in Malta and policies and preventive programs in place. For this reason, a research study was carried out to identify the vulnerable groups that are being affected by gambling addictions and recommend policies and preventive measures to ensure such habits are not on the rise.

Also, the project intends to increase the capacity of care and social service delivery to clients with problem gambling. This has been done by providing specialized training to Foundation for Social Services employees and Responsible Gaming Foundation employees. Such training has been assisting in offering a better service

to targeted individuals with the ultimate aim of providing better support.

The project provided training to land-based and remote-based gaming companies, front-liners, customer care agents and senior executives, including managers, to obtain better knowledge and understanding of social responsibility and raise awareness of problem gambling and support available.

Training has also been offered to professionals such as psychologists, counsellors, social workers, youth workers and care workers, and NGO staff members. The Foundation has also partnered with the Department for Curriculum Management and offered training to educators that may include school counsellors, LSAs, personal, social development and career teachers.

In the long run, the national awareness campaign will also be held in the general public's interest to create more awareness of this problem for people to become conscious of responsible gambling and those who need assistance will know it is available.

The whole project is based on a two-fold approach. That of assisting vulnerable individuals, which include problematic gamblers and their families, obtain better support services. This helps them achieve a better quality of life and especially raise awareness by educating them about the risk which is associated with the act of gambling. I want to end this introduction by thanking all the RGF's board members and employees, the Minister for the Economy and Industry Hon. Silvio Schembri, the then Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services, Digital Economy and Innovation Hon. Clayton Bartolo, all stakeholders and our Chairman Mr. Neville Mangion, for his constant support and collaboration in our daily work.



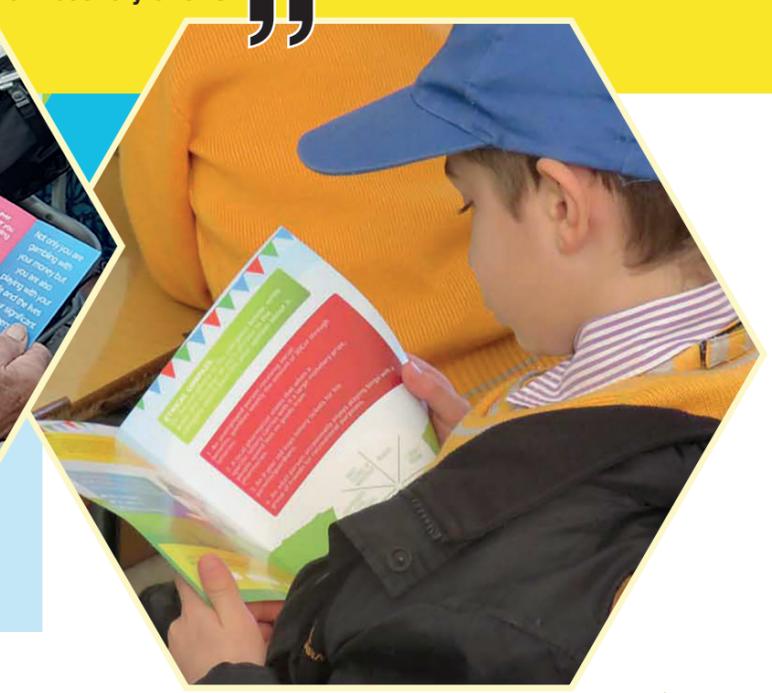
# The PURPOSE of the Foundation

- To continuously seek funding for the Foundation's causes;
- To administer and manage those funds in a responsible and transparent manner;
- To promote responsible gambling;
- To encourage the creation of systems that combat irresponsible gambling;
- To encourage responsible consumption of gambling; and
- To undergo further research into compulsive gambling.



## What do we stand for?

“ The mission we pursue through the organisation is: **To create a wider awareness** of the extent, possible causes and consequences of problem gambling in Malta with a view **to preventing it** and **to provide the necessary support** and advice to problem gamblers and their dependants in their recovery efforts. ”



## Board members as to December 2020

- MR. NEVILLE MANGION**  
*Non-Executive Chairman*
- MR. PAUL BUGEJA**  
*Deputy Non-Executive Chairman*
- MR. SHAWN ZAMMIT**  
*General Manager / Board Administrator*
- MS. DORIANNE ATTARD**  
*Call Centre Manager / Board Secretary*
- MS. ANDREANA FRIGGIERI**  
*Board Member*
- MS. SILVANA MIFSUD**  
*Board Member*
- MS. KELLY-ANN PELOW**  
*Board Member*

# How do we do this?

**WE CREATE AWARENESS** by embarking on a national advertising campaign which includes all media platforms: Different types of social media, TV and Radio. The advertising campaign focuses on making the general public aware of the possibility of a gambling problem and the risks of excessive and irresponsible gambling. We also support this through our educational campaign which targets students and makes them aware of the different dangers that may be found in excessive gambling/gaming.

**WE PREVENT IT** by supporting different organisations that have the aim to promote activities which are alternatives to gambling. Between 2018 and 2020 the Foundation also embarked on a €1.1 million project part financed by the European Social Fund entitled “Take Action Against Problem Gambling in Malta”. With the help of this project, the Foundation conducted research which covered the period 2018 and 2019 on problem gambling in Malta. The Foundation also conducted problem gambling training to all those entities and stakeholders that on an everyday basis face problem gamblers through their professional line of work. All this for a better preventive program that will lead to an awareness campaign through Malta and Gozo.

**WE PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SUPPORT** by having established the Responsible Gaming Foundation anonymous Helpline 1777 which is the first national helpline that is dedicated solely to gambling. The Helpline is the bridge between the problem gambler’s silence and help. The Responsible Gaming Foundation is in collaboration with different non-governmental and ecclesiastical entities which contribute to the treatment of the problem gamblers that come to us for help. In addition to the Helpline we also have an anonymous chatline which runs on the same hours as the Helpline through our website [www.rgf.org.mt](http://www.rgf.org.mt). Also problem gamblers can come to the Foundation’s offices and self-exclude themselves for a period of 6 months, 1 year or for an indefinite period from casinos, gaming parlours and bingo halls all licensed with the Malta Gaming Authority.

The Responsible Gaming Foundation’s mascot Chippy during “Loghob għal Kulhadd 2018”, a summer sports event held in Rabat, Malta, supported as a healthy alternative to gambling amongst children and young adults





# Meetings & Donations

Throughout these couple of years Maltco Lotteries has once again reaffirmed the company's commitment and support towards responsible gaming by contributing each time €50,000 to the Foundation. This contribution is used to actively promote and put into practice responsible gaming principles whilst protecting players, especially those most vulnerable.



The Responsible Gaming Foundation's Non-Executive Chairman Mr Neville Mangion, together with all Board Members, met up with Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services and Digital Economy Hon. Clayton Bartolo late in 2020

# Looking back at the business plan

The RGF has concluded the business plan commissioned by Grant Thornton in the year 2015. The business plan showed what measures needed to be implemented in order to promote responsible gaming. These measures varied from the promotion of responsible marketing, to the drafting of a detailed study portraying a clear picture of Malta's gaming scenario. In the first year of the business plan almost nothing was known empirically about gambling and/or problem gambling. As we have concluded all four years of the business plan, work has been done by the MGA on a national scientific research on gaming services during 2015, 2017 and currently the Foundation has concluded research which covers 2018-2019. What is universally true is that problem gambling can negatively effect significant areas of a person's life that include their health, employment, finances and interpersonal relationships as problem gambling rates in Mal-

ta appear to be similar to rates in Europe, typically 0.5%-2%. After reviewing the social landscape in Europe and locally, best in class practices were analysed in order to set for our advertising campaign earmarked at convincing gamblers that gambling should be for entertainment purposes only. Hence a marketing campaign was designed and implemented. The RGF secured funds set aside for responsible gaming and in the same time secured EU funds via the "Take Action: Against Problem Gambling in Malta" to support present and future initiatives, like the Education Campaign amongst 4th Year Primary Students and the support of complimentary organisations and encourage activities alternate to gaming. In order to protect the vulnerable, there was an enhancement to the existing helpline where staff was increased and the provision of training was given to ensure that proper support is always provided.



**GAMBLING PROBLEM?  
SEEK HELP  
CALL 1777**

All information will be treated confidentially



**PROBLEM GAMBLING  
EDUCATION  
ALTERNATIVE  
CALL 1777  
WE ARE THERE TO HELP**



# The Education Campaign

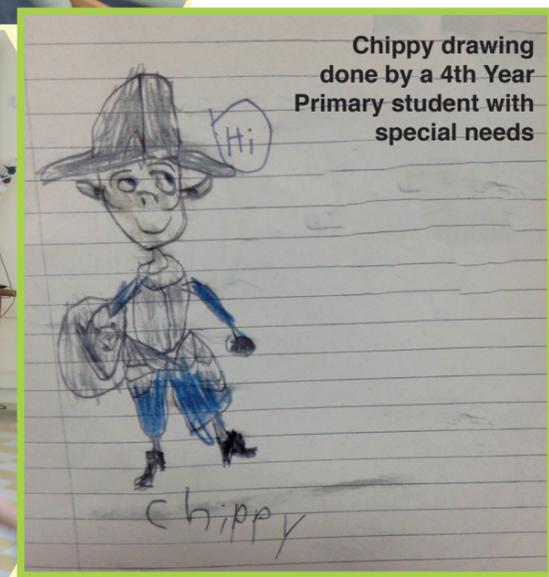


The RGF works together with the Ministry for Education and Work to continually raise awareness in education regarding responsible gaming. The Foundation started the Education Campaign amongst 4th Year Primary Level students around Malta and Gozo. An educative campaign run amongst state schools, church schools and independent ones. The Education Campaign was launched on the 8th of January 2015 at Senglea Primary School where the RGF mascot “Chippy” was also introduced and goodies with the RGF logos were distributed to the children present. By end of 2020 the Responsible Gaming Foundation reached 98 schools which translates into 225 classrooms of 4287 students of the fourth primary year. The response from the informal sessions has been very positive. Chippy, the RGF’s Mascot, proved to be influential in helping the children grasp difficult concepts relating to the dangers of irresponsible gaming. One has to keep in mind that the Education Campaign was interrupted abruptly due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



## STATISTICS

- Scholastic Year 2017-2018  
Second and Third Semesters  
(January 2018 – June 2018)**  
18 schools visited/35 classrooms/616 pupils
- Scholastic Year 2018-2019  
First Semester  
(September 2018 – December 2018)**  
14 schools visited/30 classrooms/546 pupils.
- Second and Third Semesters  
(January 2019 – June 2019)**  
25 schools visited/65 classrooms/1272 pupils
- Scholastic Year 2019-2020  
First Semester  
(September 2019 - December 2019)**  
23 schools visited/49 classrooms/956 pupils
- Second and Third Semesters  
(January 2020 – March 2020)**  
18 schools visited/46 classrooms/897 pupils
- March 2020 - June 2020**  
Schools were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Scholastic Year 2020-2021  
First Semester  
(September 2020 - December 2020)**  
No schools were visited due to the Education Coordinator’s vacant position at the RGF



Chippy drawing done by a 4th Year Primary student with special needs



# Helpline 1777, Self-barring & Statistics

On the 28th September 2015 the national helpline was introduced. The Helpline 1777 is the first national helpline that is dedicated to dealing and providing support to problematic gamblers and their relatives or close ones. The call-centre is an integral part of our operations because it is the bridge between silence and help for all of the problematic gamblers in Malta as well as their relatives. During these past years, the resources of the call-centre were strengthened with regular training and exercises in order to maintain and improve their standard of professionalism when it comes to dealing with the sensitive calls that the Helpline 1777 receives. A person can also make use of the chatting service on [www.rgf.org.mt](http://www.rgf.org.mt)

## SELF-BARRING STATISTICS

**2018**  
Self-barring forms were processed by the Foundation under a previous agreement with the MGA

1,410 registered requests with the RGF  
6 months: 662  
12 months: 747  
Indefinite: 1

**2019**  
Self-barring forms were processed by the Foundation and by the MGA

1,789 registered requests with the RGF  
6 months: 841  
12 months: 766  
Indefinite: 2  
Auto-Renew: 180

**2020**  
Self-barring forms were processed by the MGA

1,479 registered requests with the RGF  
6 months: 760  
12 months: 611  
Indefinite: 1  
Auto-Renew: 107

A self-barring form gives the opportunity to exclude oneself from all land based gaming parlours for a period of 6 months, 12 months or for an indefinite period. The auto-renew option automates the barring process so that players do not need to request another barring once the barring period has lapsed. This can however be interrupted at any point and once the effective barring period lapses, the barring is lifted accordingly.



ARE YOU IN CONTROL?  
HAS GAMBLING BECOME A PROBLEM?

**HELPLINE 1777. WE CAN HELP!**



RESPONSIBLE GAMING FOUNDATION

[www.rgf.org.mt](http://www.rgf.org.mt)

All information will be treated confidentially



Have you ever thought whether you have a gambling problem or not?

- › Have you ever gambled with the hope of regaining your losses?
- › Have you ever missed an important appointment or failed to attend work because you indulged in a gambling activity instead?
- › Have you ever been nervous, irritable, or violent when others draw your attention to your involvement in excessive gambling activities?
- › Have you ever tried to stop gambling but found it difficult/overwhelming to do so alone?
- › Have you ever lied about how much money you actually spend on gambling?
- › Has gambling ever led you to borrow money to further finance your gambling activities?
- › Have you ever engaged in gambling activities to distance yourself from other problems in your life?
- › Have you ever experienced difficulty sleeping due to gambling urges?

If you answered "Yes" to most of the above questions, seek help and phone 1777 (Freephone) or access the chatting facility via [www.rgf.org.mt](http://www.rgf.org.mt).

Not only gambling money, but playing with your life and the lives of your significant others

**PHONE 1777 FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE**



## CALL-CENTRE STATISTICS

- From **January 2018 till December 2018:**
- 41% of the callers were relatives or friends of gamblers;
    - 50% of the callers were gamblers;
  - 9% of the callers wanted to get information;
  - 0% wanted to complain about something;
    - 50% were females;
    - 41% were males.
  - 9% wanted to remain anonymous.

- From **January 2019 till December 2019:**
- 46% of the callers were relatives or friends of gamblers;
    - 39% of the callers were gamblers;
  - 4% of the callers wanted to get information;
  - 11% wanted to complain about something;
    - 57% were females;
    - 42% were males.
  - 1% wanted to remain anonymous.

- From **Januray 2020 till December 2020:**
- 40% of the callers were relatives or friends of gamblers;
    - 50% of the callers were gamblers;
  - 7% of the callers wanted to get information;
  - 3% wanted to complain about something;
    - 43% were females;
    - 57% were males.
  - 0% wanted to remain anonymous.



Photo by Jeremy Wonnacott at DOI

# TAKE ACTION: Against Problem Gambling in Malta

Project Leader and General Manager of the Foundation Mr. Shawn Zammit



Photo by Alan Carville

The Responsible Gaming Foundation continued to strengthen its social function by means of the project entitled "TAKE ACTION: Against Problem Gambling in Malta". A €1.1 million project part-financed by the European Social Fund, managed by Project Leader and General Manager of the Foundation Mr. Shawn Zammit.



## TAKE ACTION RESEARCH

**Percentage of Gamblers**

Category	Percentage
Nationwide	41.9%
Youths	83.6%

**Age at which one starts gambling**

Age Group	Nationwide	Youths
<18	~10%	~15%
18-24	~30%	~45%
25-29	~40%	~55%
30-39	~35%	~40%
40+	~25%	~30%

**Should Stop Gambling?**

Response	Nationwide
Yes	25.7%
No	69.9%
No Response	4.4%
Total	100.0%

**Feel Anxious?**

Response	Nationwide
Yes	18.6%
No	79.3%
Don't Know	3.7%
No Response	0.2%
Total	100.0%

## RESEARCH

The Foundation has successfully conducted research (2018-2019) in relation to:

- Individuals encountering problems related to gambling;
- A sample from the Maltese population covering gamblers and non-gamblers;
- Youth leisure gamers;
- Problem gamblers, leisure gamblers and gamers.

Prior to this project, there were no concrete statistics involving gambling addiction in Malta as well as policies and preventive programmes in place.

## TRAINING

With the help of this project, the Foundation made it its mission to provide training to different sectors that make contact (directly or indirectly) with problematic gamblers. In fact a training program has been provided which is specialised to those stakeholders that help problem gamblers as part of their profession.

Specialised training was provided to Foundation for Social Wellbeing Services employees, Responsible Gaming Foundation employees, land-based and remote gaming companies, front-liners, customer care agents and senior executives including managers to obtaining better knowledge and understanding of social responsibility and to raise awareness of problem gambling and support available.

Training was also offered to professionals such as psychologists, counsellors, social workers, youth workers, and/or care workers, as well as NGO staff members who deal with social matters.

The RGF also partnered with the Department for Curriculum Management and started offering training to educators that may include social counsellors, LSAs, personal and social development and career teachers.



Out of 595 participants, 580 booked for training till December 2020. Out of 163 training sessions, 110 were completed till the month of January 2021.

The majority of training sessions were provided online because of the COVID-19 pandemic



The project aims to implement a holistic plan on improving care and social services in the field of gambling problems and addictions, as well as raise awareness on responsible gambling

### STHARRIĠ U TAHRIĠ RELATAT MAL-VIZZJU TAL-LOGHOB F'MALTA

Jigi pprezentat il-Proġett "Hu Azzjoni Kontra l-Vizzju tal-Loghob"; 1% sa 2% tal-popolazzjoni li jilgħabu bi flus irraportaw li l-loghob affettwalhom negattivament l-iżtil' ta' hajja tagħhom

**DISPOSSESSING PROBLEM GAMBLING**

- Problem Gamblers recalled were "addicted".
- They acknowledged that "possessioners", including non-problem gamblers, were aware of this gambling.

**'PROBLEMATIC' GAMBLING AND LOSS OF MONEY**

- Several Leisure Gamblers and Problem Gamblers noted that one of the reasons for gambling was to "maintain a gambling problem without being in financial difficulties".
- Maintaining that a gambling problem is only one that financial difficulties risks normalising irresponsible gambling.

**Feel Anxious?**

- "At the casino, I feel the next win, so I need to skip going out with friends, never enough money to socialize with friends."
- "I was always in a position where I could afford to go to the casino, but I used to skip going out with friends, never enough money to socialize with friends."
- "There were times when I used to play large amounts, and I needed to borrow money, I never got to that state, but it was a bad day, I used to skip going out with friends, never enough money to socialize with friends."

The detailed report can be found in the bottom links section of RGF's website [www.rgf.org.mt](http://www.rgf.org.mt)

## AWARENESS

The national research and training will later lead to an Awareness Campaign, so that as a Foundation we continue to strengthen our services to those that need our support in terms of their gambling addiction. This will be held in the interest of the general public to become conscious of responsible gambling and assistance.

# Supporting alternatives to gambling and the CSR

The Foundation works tirelessly to get closer to youths and help them understand ways to keep themselves fit, learn how to work in a group environment, but above all instill values within our communities alternative to gambling addictions.

“Loghob għal Kulhadd”



Family Sports Day



## Voluntary work at id-Dar tal-Providenza

A group of workers from different sections working within the Responsible Gaming Foundation spent a full day carrying out voluntary work at id-Dar tal-Providenza in Siggiewi.

The employees carried out various tasks such as general cleaning, washing windows and food preparation. The Foundation organised the activity with the help of the Minister for the Economy and Industry then Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services, Digital Economy and Innovation as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility Programme.

Hon. Silvio Schembri attended for the event as well where he met with Fr Martin Micallef, Director at Dar tal-Providenza, and also met with the Responsible Gaming Foundation's staff. He thanked the staff for their healthy initiative and stated the importance of voluntary work in today's society. Hon. Schembri visited and talked with various workers at Dar tal-Providenza, where he thanked them and Fr Martin Scicluna for their precious work with people with disability on a daily routine.

On behalf of the residents, Fr Martin Micallef, Director of id-Dar tal-Providenza, thanked the staff of the Responsible Gaming Foundation for the voluntary work done and reminded everyone about the New Year's Day fundraising event in aid of Dar tal-Providenza.

On the other hand Mr Shawn Zammit, General Manager at the RGF thanked Hon. Silvio Schembri for his attendance for this social activity and Fr Micallef for his sterling work in helping person's with disability.



The Minister for the Economy and Industry then Parliamentary Secretary Hon. Silvio Schembri, together with the Director of id-Dar tal-Providenza Fr Martin Micallef, the Administrator Nadine Camilleri Cassano and the RGF's staff involved in the voluntary work carried out at id-Dar tal-Providenza in Siggiewi

# Future Plans

## The Education Campaign

The Foundation shall continue with its Education Campaign to further reach out to students and to make people more aware of gambling and gaming addictions and prevention. The campaign can be widened to reach out more students and more parents.

## Support Services

The Foundation shall better the Call Centre 1777 through strengthening its resources to be of better service to those problem gamblers in need of support.

## The conclusion of the TAKE ACTION training sessions, job shadowing and the start of the Awareness Campaign

The RGF shall conclude the TAKE ACTION training sessions, embark on the job shadowing as stated in the project (depending on the COVID-19 situation in Malta and the UK) and continue to promote its services together with more awareness on responsible gaming and gambling measures to the local sphere with more social media pages and a strengthened online profile, amongst others. Hence, research and training will lead to a National Awareness Campaign, so that we continue to strengthen our services to those in need of support in terms of their gambling addiction.

Photo by Jess Bailey on Unsplash

# Financial Statements

## January 2018 - December 2018

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2018

### Report of the members of the board

The administrators of the Foundation present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018.

#### Principal activities

The Foundation administers funds collected for the support of individuals who are affected by gaming-related problems.

#### Results

The deficit for the year amounted to € 8,087 (2017: surplus of € 243,574). During the period, the Foundation's income decreased, which resulted into the Foundation registering a deficit. The activities of the Foundation are to remain consistent in the foreseeable future.

#### Foundation administrators

The following have served as administrators of the Foundation:

Mr Neville Mangion - Chairperson (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)  
Mr Raymond Zammit - Deputy Chairperson (appointed on 20 June 2019 and resigned on 13 January 2020)  
Mr Paul Bugeja - Deputy Chairperson (appointed on 20 June 2020)  
Ms Kelly-Ann Peplov (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)  
Ms Andreeana Friggieri (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)  
Mr Edward Portelli (appointed on 20 June 2019 and resigned on 13 January 2020)  
Ms Silvana Mifsud (appointed on 20 June 2020)

The Foundation had no members on the board for 2018 with a board being formed on 20 June 2019.

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2018

### Statement of financial position

	Notes	2018	2017 (restated)	2016 (restated)
		€	€	€
<b>Assets</b>				
<b>Non-current</b>				
Property, plant and equipment	8	39,343	47,800	56,597
Other receivables	9	23,725	23,725	23,725
		<b>63,068</b>	<b>71,525</b>	<b>80,322</b>
<b>Current</b>				
Trade and other receivables	10	457,320	643,889	252,628
Cash and cash equivalents	11	293,913	83,270	168,052
		<b>751,233</b>	<b>727,159</b>	<b>420,680</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>814,301</b>	<b>798,684</b>	<b>501,002</b>
<b>Equity</b>				
Endowment capital		50,000	50,000	50,000
Accumulated fund		683,872	691,959	448,385
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>733,872</b>	<b>741,959</b>	<b>498,385</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
<b>Current</b>				
Trade and other payables	12	80,429	56,725	2,617
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>80,429</b>	<b>56,725</b>	<b>2,617</b>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<b>814,301</b>	<b>798,684</b>	<b>501,002</b>

The financial statements on pages 4 to 18 were approved by members of the board, authorised for issue on 22 September 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr Neville Mangion  
Chairperson

Mr Paul Bugeja  
Deputy chairperson



Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2018

The members of the board are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements for each financial period in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. In preparing these financial statements the members of the board are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Account for assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting;
- Value separately the components of asset and liability items on a prudent basis; and
- Report comparative figures corresponding to those of the preceding accounting period.

The members of the board are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Foundation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Foundation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The members of the board are responsible to ensure that the Foundation establishes and maintains internal control to provide reasonable assurance with regard to reliability of financial reporting, effectiveness and efficiency of operations and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

#### Disclosure of information to the auditor

At the date of making this report, the members of the board confirm the following:

- As far as each member is aware, there is no relevant information needed by the independent auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report of which the independent auditor is unaware, and
- Each member has taken all steps that she/he ought to have taken as a board member in order to make herself/himself aware of any relevant information needed by the independent auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report and to establish that the independent auditor is aware of that information.

#### Auditor

The auditor Grant Thornton has intimated its willingness to continue in office.

#### By order of the board

Mr Neville Mangion  
Chairperson

Mr Paul Bugeja  
Deputy Chairperson

90/91, Second Floor  
Psaila Street  
Birkirkara BKR 9073

Malta

22 September 2020

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2018

### Independent auditor's report

To the board members of Responsible Gaming Foundation

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements

##### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Foundation for Responsible Gaming Foundation set out on pages 4 to 18 which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2018, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Foundation as at 31 December 2018, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union (EU).

##### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements of the Accountancy Profession (Code of Ethics for Warrant Holders) Directive issued in terms of the Accountancy Profession Act, Cap. 281 that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Malta. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### Other information

The administrators of the Foundation are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Foundation Administrators' Report shown on pages 2 and 3 which we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2018

### Detailed statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

	2018	2017 (19 months)
	€	€
<b>Income</b>		
Fixed contribution from MGA	300,250	475,000
Contribution from MGA based on the Gaming Devices Regulations	170,785	232,674
Contribution from Mallaco Lotteries Limited	50,000	50,000
Sponsorships	-	73,087
	<b>521,035</b>	<b>830,761</b>
<b>Direct Costs</b>		
Events costs	-	(8,950)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>521,035</b>	<b>821,811</b>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>		
	(530,253)	(581,737)
	<b>(9,218)</b>	<b>240,074</b>
<b>Other operating income</b>		
Sundry income	1,131	3,500
<b>(Deficit)/surplus on ordinary activities before taxation</b>	<b>(8,087)</b>	<b>243,574</b>

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2018

Based on the work we have performed, in our opinion, the information given in the report of the administrators of the Foundation for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

In addition, in light of the knowledge and understanding of the Foundation and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we are required to report if we have identified material misstatements in the report of the administrators of the Foundation and other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Responsibilities of those charged with governance for the financial statements

The administrators of the Foundation are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRS as adopted by the EU and for such internal control as the administrators of the Foundation determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the administrators of the Foundation are responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the administrators of the Foundation or the Government of Malta either intend to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The administrators of the Foundation are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However future events or conditions may cause the Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2018

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Mark Bugeja.

Mark Bugeja (Partner) for and on behalf of

GRANT THORNTON  
Certified Public Accountants

Fort Business Centre  
Triq L-Intornjatur, Zone 1  
Central Business District  
Birkirkara CBD 1050  
Malta

22 September 2020

\* These are extracts from  
the full financial statements

# Financial Statements

January 2019 – December 2019

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2019

2

## Report of the members of the board

The administrators of the Foundation present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019.

### Principal activities

The Foundation administers funds collected for the support of individuals who are affected by gaming-related problems.

### Results

The surplus for the year amounted to € 46,987 (2018: deficit € 8,087). During the year, the Foundation's income increased, which resulted into the Foundation registering a surplus. The activities of the Foundation are to remain consistent in the foreseeable future.

### Foundation administrators

The following have served as administrators of the Foundation:

Mr Neville Mangion - Chairperson (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)  
Mr Raymond Zammit - Deputy Chairperson (appointed on 20 June 2019 and resigned on 13 January 2020)  
Mr Paul Bugeja - Deputy Chairperson (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)  
Ms Kelly-Ann Peplow (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)  
Ms Andriana Friggieri (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)  
Mr Edward Portelli (appointed on 20 June 2019 and resigned on 13 January 2020)  
Ms Silvana Mifsud (appointed on 20 June 2020)



Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2019

3

The members of the board are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements for each financial period in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. In preparing these financial statements the members of the board are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Account for assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting;
- Value separately the components of asset and liability items on a prudent basis; and
- Report comparative figures corresponding to those of the preceding accounting period.

The members of the board are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Foundation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Foundation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The members of the board are responsible to ensure that the Foundation establishes and maintains internal control to provide reasonable assurance with regard to reliability of financial reporting, effectiveness and efficiency of operations and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

### Disclosure of information to the auditor

At the date of making this report, the members of the board confirm the following:

- As far as each member is aware, there is no relevant information needed by the independent auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report of which the independent auditor is unaware, and
- Each member has taken all steps that she/he ought to have taken as a board member in order to make herself/himself aware of any relevant information needed by the independent auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report and to establish that the independent auditor is aware of that information.

### Auditor

The auditor Grant Thornton has intimated its willingness to continue in office.

### By order of the board

Mr Neville Mangion  
Chairperson

Mr Paul Bugeja  
Deputy Chairperson

90/91, Second Floor  
Psaila Street  
Birkirkara BKR 9073

Malta

14 January 2021

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2019

5

## Statement of financial position

	Notes	2019 €	2018 €
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Non-current</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	37,791	39,343
Other receivables	9	23,725	23,725
		<u>61,516</u>	<u>63,068</u>
<b>Current</b>			
Trade and other receivables	10	482,366	457,320
Cash and cash equivalents	11	289,819	293,913
		<u>772,205</u>	<u>751,233</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>833,721</b>	<b>814,301</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Endowment capital		50,000	50,000
Accumulated fund		730,859	683,872
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>780,859</b>	<b>733,872</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current</b>			
Trade and other payables	12	52,862	80,429
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>52,862</b>	<b>80,429</b>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<b>833,721</b>	<b>814,301</b>

The financial statements on pages 4 to 17 were approved by members of the board, authorised for issue on 14 January 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr Neville Mangion  
Chairperson

Mr Paul Bugeja  
Deputy chairperson

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2019

18

## Independent auditor's report

To the board members of Responsible Gaming Foundation

### Report on the audit of the financial statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Foundation for Responsible Gaming Foundation set out on pages 4 to 17 which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2019, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Foundation as at 31 December 2019, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union (EU).

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements of the Accountancy Profession (Code of Ethics for Warrant Holders) Directive issued in terms of the Accountancy Profession Act, Cap. 281 that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Malta. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other information

The administrators of the Foundation are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Foundation Administrators' Report shown on pages 2 and 3 which we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2019

21

## Detailed statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

	2019 €	2018 €
<b>Income</b>		
Fixed contribution from MGA	300,000	300,250
Contribution from MGA based on the Gaming Devices Regulations	187,241	170,785
Contribution from Maltaco Lotteries Limited	50,000	50,000
EU project fund	28,526	-
	<u>565,767</u>	<u>521,035</u>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>		
	(529,644)	(530,253)
	<u>36,123</u>	<u>(9,218)</u>
<b>Finance income</b>		
Bank interest in relation to EU project fund	9	-
	<u>36,132</u>	<u>(9,218)</u>
<b>Other operating income</b>		
Sundry income	10,856	1,131
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) on ordinary activities before taxation</b>	<b>46,988</b>	<b>(8,087)</b>

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2019

19

Based on the work we have performed, in our opinion, the information given in the report of the administrators of the Foundation for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

In addition, in light of the knowledge and understanding of the Foundation and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we are required to report if we have identified material misstatements in the report of the administrators of the Foundation and other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Responsibilities of those charged with governance for the financial statements

The administrators of the Foundation are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRS as adopted by the EU and for such internal control as the administrators of the Foundation determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the administrators of the Foundation are responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the administrators of the Foundation or the Government of Malta either intend to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The administrators of the Foundation are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial reporting process.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the date of the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However future events or conditions may cause the Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2019

20

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Mark Bugeja.

Mark Bugeja (Partner) for and on behalf of

**GRANT THORNTON**  
Certified Public Accountants

Fort Business Centre  
Triq L-Intornjatur, Zone 1  
Central Business District  
Birkirkara CBD 1050  
Malta

14 January 2021

\* These are extracts from  
the full financial statements

# Financial Statements

## January 2020 - December 2020

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2020

2

### Report of the members of the board

The administrators of the Responsible Gaming Foundation (the "Foundation") present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

#### Principal activities

The Foundation administers funds collected for the support of individuals who are affected by gaming-related problems.

#### Results

The surplus for the year amounted to €1,916 (2019: surplus €44,491). During the year, the Foundation's income decreased, which resulted into the Foundation registering a surplus. The activities of the Foundation are to remain consistent in the foreseeable future.

#### Foundation administrators

The following have served as administrators of the Foundation:

- Mr Neville Mangion - Chairperson (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)
- Mr Raymond Zammit - Deputy Chairperson (appointed on 20 June 2019 and resigned on 13 January 2020)
- Mr Paul Bugeja - Deputy Chairperson (appointed on 20 June 2020)
- Ms Kelly-Ann Peplow (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)
- Ms Andriana Friggieri (appointed on 20 June 2019, resigned on 13 January 2020 and re-appointed on 20 June 2020)
- Mr Edward Portelli (appointed on 20 June 2019 and resigned on 13 January 2020)
- Ms Silvana Mifsud (appointed on 20 June 2020)



Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2020

3

### Report of the members of the board (continued)

The members of the board are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements for each financial period in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. In preparing these financial statements the members of the board are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Account for assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting;
- Value separately the components of asset and liability items on a prudent basis; and
- Report comparative figures corresponding to those of the preceding accounting period.

The members of the board are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Foundation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Foundation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The members of the board are responsible to ensure that the Foundation establishes and maintains internal control to provide reasonable assurance with regard to reliability of financial reporting, effectiveness and efficiency of operations and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

#### Disclosure of information to the auditor

At the date of making this report, the members of the board confirm the following:

- As far as each member is aware, there is no relevant information needed by the independent auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report of which the independent auditor is unaware, and
- Each member has taken all steps that she/he ought to have taken as a board member in order to make herself/himself aware of any relevant information needed by the independent auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report and to establish that the independent auditor is aware of that information.

#### Auditor

The auditor Grant Thornton has intimated its willingness to continue in office.

#### By order of the board

Mr Neville Mangion  
Chairperson

Mr Paul Bugeja  
Deputy Chairperson

Registered address  
90/91, Second Floor  
Psaila Street,  
Birkirkara BKR 9073

Malta

20 July 2021

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2020

5

### Statement of financial position

	Notes	2020 €	2019 €
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Non-current</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	115,226	141,377
Other receivables	9	23,725	23,725
		<u>138,951</u>	<u>165,102</u>
<b>Current</b>			
Trade and other receivables	10	421,635	470,524
Cash and cash equivalents	11	304,952	289,819
		<u>726,587</u>	<u>760,343</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>865,538</u>	<u>925,445</u>
<b>Equity</b>			
Endowment capital		50,000	50,000
Accumulated fund		730,279	728,363
<b>Total equity</b>		<u>780,279</u>	<u>778,363</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Non-current</b>			
Lease liability	13	54,932	75,066
<b>Current</b>			
Trade and other payables	12	10,191	52,862
Lease liability	13	20,136	19,154
		<u>30,327</u>	<u>72,016</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>85,259</u>	<u>147,082</u>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<u>865,538</u>	<u>925,445</u>

The financial statements on pages 4 to 20 were approved by the members of the board, authorised for issue on 20 July 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr Neville Mangion  
Chairperson

Mr Paul Bugeja  
Deputy chairperson

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2020

21

### Independent auditor's report

To the board members of Responsible Gaming Foundation

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements

##### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Foundation for Responsible Gaming Foundation set out on pages 4 to 20 which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2020, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Foundation as at 31 December 2020, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union (EU).

##### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements of the Accountancy Profession (Code of Ethics for Warrant Holders) Directive issued in terms of the Accountancy Profession Act, Cap. 281 that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Malta. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### Other information

The administrators of the Foundation are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Foundation Administrators' Report shown on pages 2 and 3 which we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2020

24

### Detailed statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

	2020 €	2019 €
<b>Income</b>		
Fixed contribution from MGA	300,000	300,000
Contribution from MGA based on the Gaming Devices Regulations	132,598	187,241
Contribution from Maltaco Lotteries Limited	50,000	50,000
EU project fund	32,362	28,526
	<u>514,960</u>	<u>565,767</u>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>		
	(521,294)	(526,587)
<b>Finance costs</b>		
	(4,753)	(5,553)
	<u>(11,087)</u>	<u>(33,627)</u>
<b>Finance income</b>		
Bank interest in relation to EU project fund	1	9
	<u>(11,086)</u>	<u>33,636</u>
<b>Other operating income</b>		
Donation	10,000	-
Sundry income	3,002	10,856
<b>Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation</b>	<u>1,916</u>	<u>44,492</u>

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2020

22

Based on the work we have performed, in our opinion, the information given in the report of the administrators of the Foundation for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

In addition, in light of the knowledge and understanding of the Foundation and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we are required to report if we have identified material misstatements in the report of the administrators of the Foundation and other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Responsibilities of those charged with governance for the financial statements

The administrators of the Foundation are responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRS as adopted by the EU and for such internal control as the administrators of the Foundation determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the administrators of the Foundation are responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the administrators of the Foundation or the Government of Malta either intend to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The administrators of the Foundation are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but it is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Responsible Gaming Foundation  
Report and financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2020

23

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Mark Bugeja.

Mark Bugeja (Partner) for and on behalf of

GRANT THORNTON  
Certified Public Accountants

Fort Business Centre  
Triq L-Intornjatur, Zone 1  
Central Business District  
Birkirkara CBD 1050  
Malta

20 July 2021

\* These are extracts from  
the full financial statements



“

Gaming shall be conducted in a fair and transparent manner, minors and those vulnerable are protected and gaming is kept free from crime and corruption”

MAIN PRINCIPLE  
OF GAMING  
REGULATION IN  
MALTA

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