# Reducing gambling harms on the island of Ireland IPH activity report 2023





### **Enhancing evidence on gambling activity and harms**

In September, we published our joint report 'Children and gambling – evidence to inform regulation and responses in Ireland' with the TobaccoFree Research Institute Ireland. This report presented data on gambling among 16-year-olds in Ireland.

Policy team worked with partners to input into future waves of the *Growing up in Ireland survey* and the *European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs survey* to enhance data on gambling among young people.



We also contribute to the Gambling Regulatory of Ireland (GRAI) Research Steering Group. The group was established in March 2023 and agree priority research objectives, scoping new projects, providing feedback on the design of research projects.

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## Supporting public health focussed regulation of gambling

In February and in September, IPH presented to the All Party Group on Reducing Harm Related to Gambling in Northern Ireland. This evidence formed part of an inquiry into public health approaches to gambling-related harms in Northern Ireland.

We accepted an invitation to meet with the Minister for State with responsibility for Law Reform and Youth Justice, James Browne TD, and his officials on 7th March 2023 to provide a public health perspective on the Gambling Regulation Bill.

Minister James Browne TD issued a *statement* on the 'Children and gambling – evidence to inform regulation and responses in Ireland' report findings.

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#### Information sharing with stakeholders

Our joint report on gambling among 16-year-olds was launched at a *webinar* and led to extensive media coverage – at national and local level the report has generated around 35 media mentions since launch.

In October, we hosted a webinar with Public Health Wales to discuss the 'Gambling Health Needs Assessment for Wales.' The webinar included brief overviews of gambling policy and legislative developments in Ireland and Northern Ireland.



To enhance the accessibility of our work to different audiences we delivered

- a video from our webinar
- a plain language summary
- infographics of the main findings
- an academic abstract in the Lancet
- Presentations at
  - the UK Public Health Science Conference in London
  - Children's Research Network
  - Childhood and Human Development Research Centre (CRN and CHilD-RC) Annual Conference in Dublin.

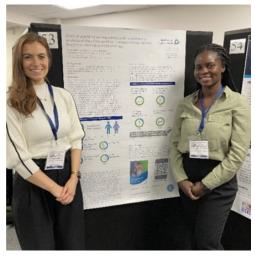


Figure 1. Dr Ciara Reynolds (L) and Salome Sunday (R) at the UK Public Health Science Conference in London



Dr Helen McAvoy at the University College Annual Conference in Dublin



