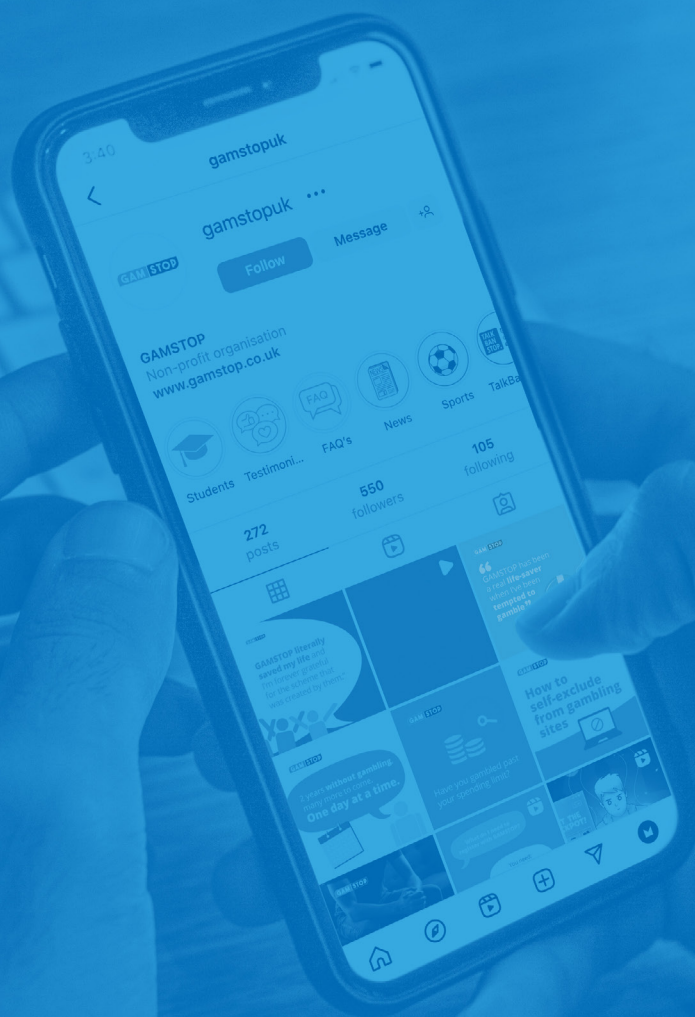


# Annual Report and Accounts



31 December 2022



The National Online Self  
Exclusion Scheme Limited  
(a Company Limited by Guarantee)

[gamstop.co.uk](http://gamstop.co.uk)

We help to safeguard  
people from the harms  
of gambling addiction

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## GAMSTOP Board

Jenny Watson CBE (Chair)  
Kevin Beerling (Senior Independent Director)  
Jo Watts  
Simon Reynolds  
Mike Dixon

## Registered Office:

3 Greengate, Cardale Park,  
Harrogate, HG3 1GY

## Registered Number:

10504973

## Contact Centre

helpdesk@gamstop.co.uk  
media@gamstop.co.uk

## CEO

Fiona Palmer

The National Online Self Exclusion Scheme Limited (Company Limited by Guarantee) trades as GAMSTOP. It is a not for profit organisation set up to design, introduce and run a national online self-exclusion scheme.

## Introduction

# Statement from the Chair



Welcome to the fourth Annual Review of The National Online Self Exclusion Scheme. As we approach 5 years since launching GAMSTOP, registrations have continued to rise at a steady rate with over 84,000 new people joining the scheme this year, and 341,365 new registrations in total.

2022 saw the beginning of the cost-of-living crisis following almost 2 years of COVID-19 restrictions. With record interest rate rises and people from all walks of life struggling to pay basic bills, there was concern that easy access to online gambling could lead to people gambling their wages to make money. According to Gambling Commission statistics,\* whilst the overall problem gambling rate was statistically stable at 0.2% compared with last year, there was a significant increase in the moderate risk rate of gamblers (1.3% in 2022 Vs. 0.8% in 2021). Set against this backdrop, the increase in registrations is perhaps not surprising.

The review of the Gambling Act 2005 stalled for a second year, creating an uncertain operating environment for us. As we stated in our response to the original call for evidence, we remained concerned about the rise of affiliate sites promoting "sites not on GAMSTOP" to potentially vulnerable people. We worked closely with the Gambling Commission to highlight this irresponsible activity and look forward to them having more power to shut these sites down.

Despite the external noise and uncertainty, Fiona and her team have worked hard this year to consolidate the governance, stability, and enhancement of the scheme. Staff levels remained consistent, and a strong emphasis was put on individual training and development within specific areas of expertise.

My colleagues on the Board have provided another year of wise advice and supportive challenge to the senior leadership team and I thank them for their contribution. Whilst our governance around non-executive terms of office encourages fresh perspective at board level, 2022 saw no board changes which has helped to generate an excellent working relationship all round.

\* Gambling Commission - Gambling behaviour in 2022: Findings from the quarterly telephone survey.

This was confirmed by an extremely positive review of governance conducted externally in line with good practice which concluded that GAMSTOP was "an exceptionally well run not-for-profit organisation".

In terms of research and evaluation, 2022 was a year of working through the conclusions and recommendations of the independent evaluation conducted in 2021. We also commissioned some qualitative research into the perceptions and activities of heavy gamblers to learn the optimum time and method to reach them. This provided us with an interesting perspective into our core target audience – and we know there is still work to be done to ensure that anyone who needs us knows about us. That remains a key focus in 2023.

The two collaborative projects we have been working on - TalkBanStop and The Student Gambling Roadshow - have gone from strength to strength this year and I am grateful to GamCare, Gamban, Ygam and RecoverMe for these successful partnerships. We continue to work closely with the other self-exclusion schemes and look forward to further developments in this area with the aim of making it easier for consumers to find the help and support they need.

As we approach our fifth anniversary we are as committed as ever to keeping at the heart of our work, those who use our service. Over the past five years we have learnt so much from those individuals who have courageously shared their stories with us. Our promise to them all is that we will continue to ensure GAMSTOP remains effective and easy to find and use by the many thousands of people who rely on us as part of their recovery journey.

Jenny Watson CBE

## Our Purpose

**We help to safeguard people from the harms of gambling addiction**

“

**This service is an absolute lifesaver and with the help of GAMSTOP I know I'm going to get my life back on track and I'm excited for the future**

— GAMSTOP service user

## Our Vision

**To be an effective and trusted national gambling self-exclusion service: valued by users, actively promoted by key stakeholders and independent from the industry**

## Our Values



**Open**

We are transparent about what we do and how we do things, building trust with each other, our users and our stakeholders.



**Collaborative**

We connect and collaborate internally and externally, creating strong relationships with our users and stakeholders.



**Integrity**

We always strive to do the right thing for our users and stakeholders, building confidence in our organisation and our people.



**Progressive**

We are bold, challenging the status quo, ourselves and each other. We embrace change and strive to continuously improve.

## Review of 2022

# Operational Overview

2022 has been a year of both consolidation and focused strategic development for the GAMSTOP team and I believe we have successfully strengthened our position as leading technical solution providers in this sector as we approach five years since our launch. It was a particular highlight to receive the Data for Good Award at April's British Data Awards, reflecting all the hard work that has gone in to making GAMSTOP possible.

The team have established themselves in their positions, and we have developed a strong set of objectives at every level.

Registrations have continued to grow at a relentless rate, reaching 341,365 by the end of 2022. The 7% year on year increase in new registrations was surprising given the level of registrations we experienced in 2021, but shows how important self-exclusion has become for those experiencing issues with their gambling.

GAMSTOP remains most popular with younger people, with over 40% of those registering during 2022 aged between 25 and 34. The male/female split has been stable at 70% male, although in August 2022 we did see 34% of those joining the scheme made up of women.

The three main areas of focus for us this year were security, collaboration, and promotion.

### Security

At a time of heightened global tension, it has been important for us to take steps to ensure that our systems and security are stronger than ever. We successfully attained the Cyber Essentials Plus certification and have developed even more robust security protocols for all members of the GAMSTOP team who received frequent cyber security training throughout the year.

The identity verification process using facial recognition software introduced in 2021 has allowed for a greater clarity in dispute resolution and has made registering with GAMSTOP undoubtedly quicker, easier and safer. The FAQ section of the website received an average of 14,000 views per month which has risen steadily throughout the year.

### Collaboration

Since our inception in 2017, we have emphasised the importance of collaborative working. Whether this is with operators, the regulator, other treatment and support organisations or key suppliers, we believe working with others is ultimately going to provide the best possible outcomes for our consumers. In 2022 we continued to work closely with GamCare and Gamban on the TalkBanStop partnership, raising awareness about the importance of layering tools with support to help recovery from gambling related harm. By the end of the year, the pilot had been successfully evaluated by Ipsos MORI and now looks set to receive long term funding to provide free Gamban licenses and advertising support. Working alongside Ygam and RecoverMe on the Student Roadshow project for a second year also gave us excellent exposure amongst a key audience.

Working closely with the land-based schemes, we have set up a collaborative workstream with the agreed aim of making it easier for people to self-exclude from all types of gambling if desired. I have been appointed chair of the group to drive forward delivery of this aim during 2023.

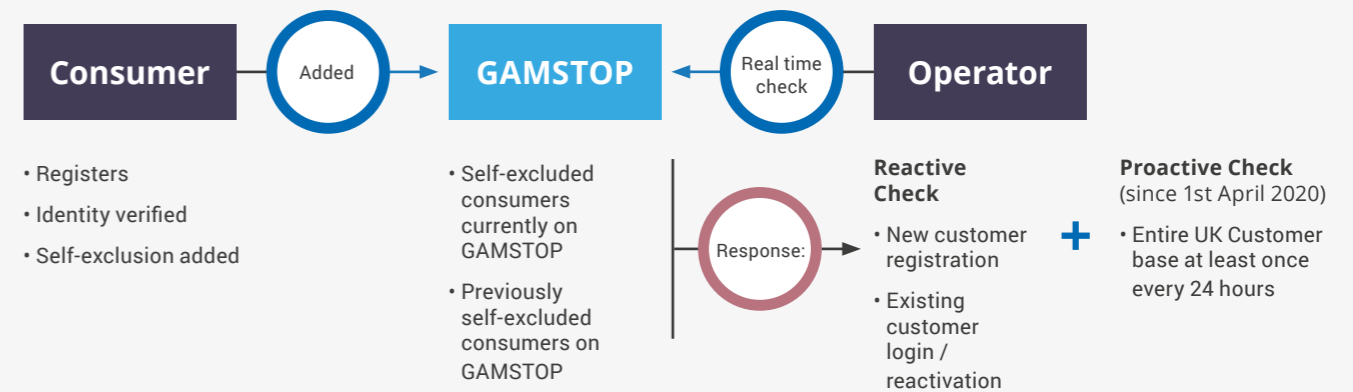
I am particularly proud of the hard work of the compliance team this year in building a strong and resilient relationship with their counterparts at the Gambling Commission. This has enabled us to ensure that integration with the scheme by operators was compliant at all times and any issues were dealt with robustly by the regulator.

## What is GAMSTOP?

GAMSTOP is a free service available to all consumers resident within the United Kingdom. Users choose to exclude themselves from all online gambling sites licensed in Great Britain for a specified period and, once that minimum period has elapsed, they remain self-excluded unless

they return to GAMSTOP to ask to be removed and successfully complete the process to end their self-exclusion.

Anyone who is identified as having an active self-exclusion on GAMSTOP is immediately blocked from being able to gamble by the operator.



### Promotion

In spite of record registrations again in 2022, it is clear from research we carried out that there still remains a lack of awareness about GAMSTOP amongst gamblers. Last year we launched the corporate section of the GAMSTOP website as a first step to providing broader information to a wider audience and it has been well received.

External engagement was successfully extended to a wider range of 3rd parties including Citizens Advice, StepChange, the Vulnerability Registration Service, County and District councils. We launched our social media advertising activity in 2022 and also held the first ever self-exclusion awareness day amongst our football club partners which undoubtedly broadened the reach of our messages. Overall, it has been a positive year for raising awareness and I look forward to extending this in 2023 as we mark five years of GAMSTOP.



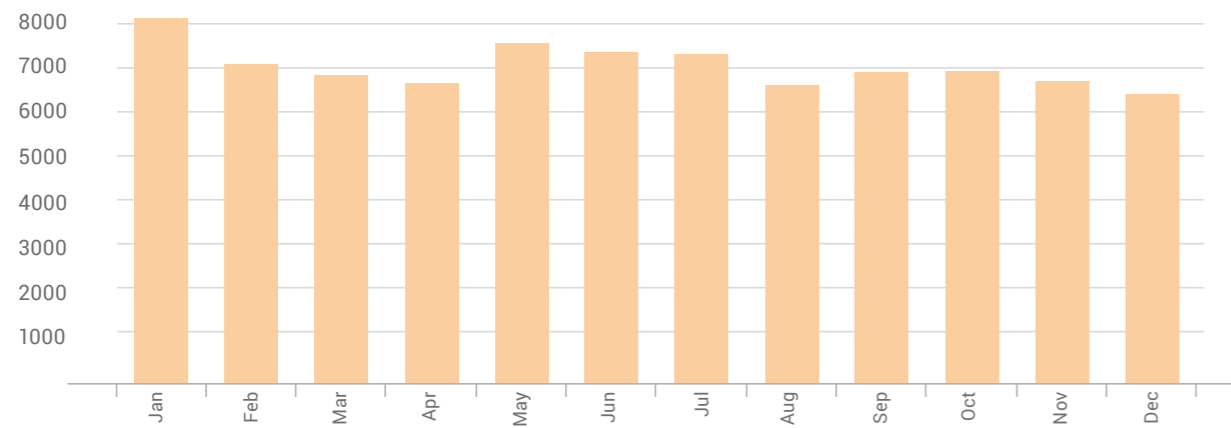
Fiona Palmer, CEO

## Impact Assessment

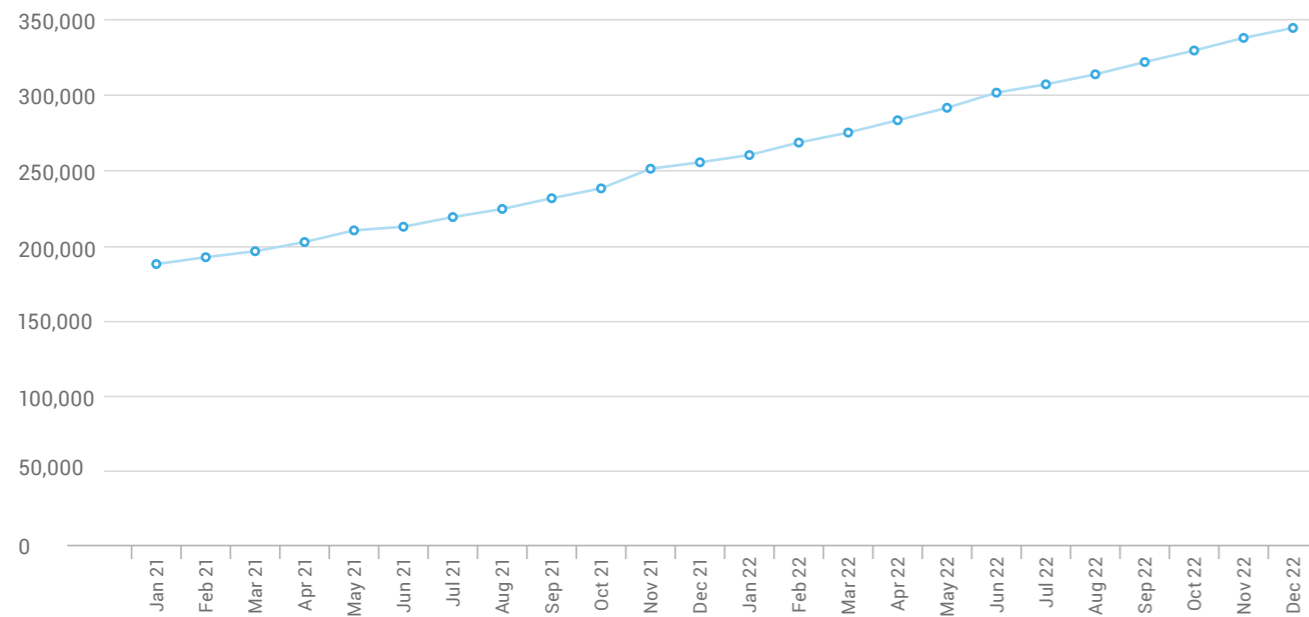
# Overview

2022 was another record-breaking year for new registrations, with a 7% year on year increase, bringing the overall number of people who have joined GAMSTOP to 341,365 by the end of December. On July 1st 371 people registered with GAMSTOP which was the highest daily registration figure for over 3 years. The fact that this was during the summer months was also unusual. The demographic splits continued to reflect nationally recognised problem gambling prevalence data.

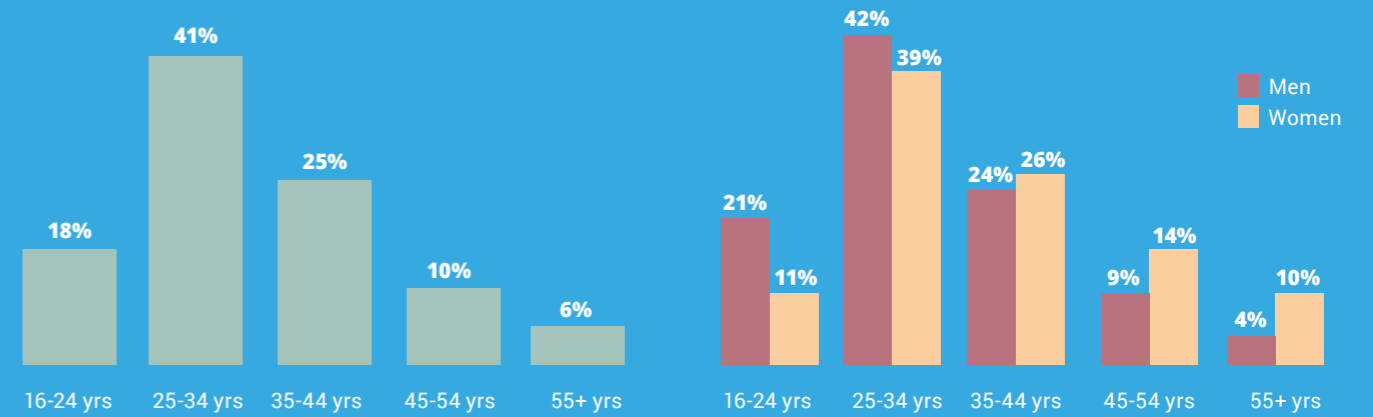
### GAMSTOP Total Monthly Registrations 2022



### GAMSTOP Cumulative Registrations to 31 Dec 2022



### Age profile of consumers at registration



**84,123**  
Total registrations during 2022

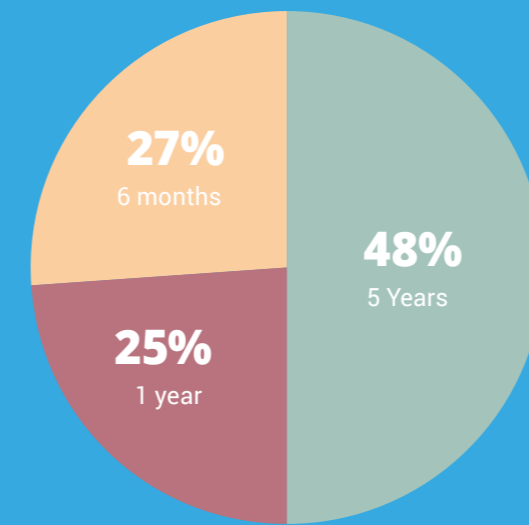


**309,046**  
Active exclusions on 31 Dec 2022

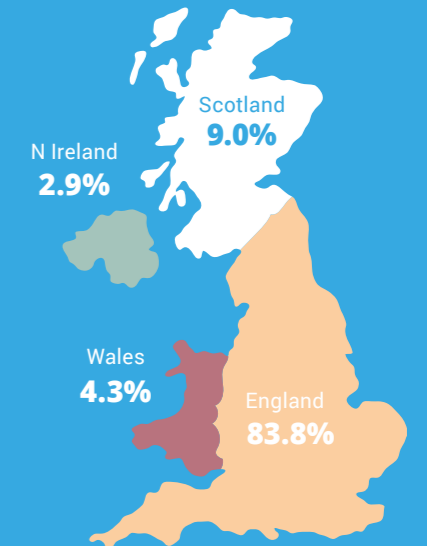


**27,033**  
Removed their registration during 2022

### Exclusion period selected



### Total registrations by region



Note: Data sourced from GAMSTOP system, between 1 January to 31 December 2022

## Impact Assessment

# Case Study

Jack, 27 from Staffordshire began gambling back in 2012 and registered with GAMSTOP in 2020 after his addiction began to spiral out of control. He was losing over 75% of his wage as a steel worker each month to gambling sites, but after two years of self-exclusion he has successfully overcome his issues. He discovered a passion for professional ultra-marathon running and recently finished second in the toughest long distance run on the planet, the Montane Spine race.

"I started gambling when I turned 18. I think the combination of alcohol and the ability to gamble proved to be dangerous for me, and I quickly found myself burning through most of my money each month. By the time I was 19, I had self-excluded from my local betting shop which helped for a brief time, but eventually drove me towards gambling online.

I found it incredibly difficult to remain in control while gambling online as it was easier to not think about the consequences compared to going to a bookmaker and physically signing the betting slip. Before long I was completely out of my depth and had lost any control over my gambling. It's sad to say now, but I would look in the mirror and not recognise who I was. On a few occasions I thought this was who I was going to be for the rest of my life.



My addiction to gambling lasted for six years. I gambled on multiple sports including horses, tennis, and football. Even if I won, I would spend the winnings in the space of a few minutes. During this time, I was being paid a weekly wage on a Monday afternoon, however, often by Tuesday morning most of my pay packet would have been spent on gambling, leaving me struggling to get through the week. By the end of each week, I would decide to stop gambling, but by the following Monday I would start again. I was so consumed by it I couldn't see a way out or how to help myself.

Around this time, I had started to get into ultra-running and was eager to pursue some ambitious runs and trails. I knew that if I was going to achieve these goals, I first had to tackle something even bigger; my gambling addiction. In 2020 I signed up to GAMSTOP. I think that it was a combination of signing up to GAMSTOP and asking my wife to marry me which helped me to finally put my gambling behind me.

Since then, life has improved significantly and so has my running. I now want to reach out to those who are suffering with their gambling. I hope that by telling my story, I can encourage others to speak out and get help. I am also passionate about raising awareness of the practical tools that are available for those struggling. Having been registered with GAMSTOP for a considerable amount of time, I can speak confidently about the benefits that the service can provide to anyone who needs it".

“  
**It was two years ago when I registered with GAMSTOP and cut myself off from gambling. Life has improved dramatically since then and so has my running**

## Corporate Governance

The Board of Directors provide challenge and expertise in key areas to support the operational team. This, in turn, ensures that the scheme is well placed to develop and continue to grow.

“

**I used GAMSTOP. Best thing I ever did - a few months down the line and it's no longer the first thing that enters my mind when I wake up**

— GAMSTOP service user



**Jenny Watson, CBE – Chair**

Jenny brings a wealth of experience in social responsibility projects and regulation in the public interest. A former Chair of the Electoral Commission, her current portfolio includes roles as chair of a social purpose business, House of St Barnabas, and as a board member at the Enforcement Conduct Board.



**Dr Jo Watts**

Jo is a specialist within the data and analytics sector, having spent much of the last 20 years working in data-related roles within financial services. She now runs a data solutions company, Effini, supporting SMEs, charities and startups to drive growth through the effective use of their data. Her insight and experience provide the technical operational team with a strong independent input and challenge.



**Kevin Beerling FCA\***

Kevin has a strong financial and commercial background with over 20 years board level experience, most recently as Group Finance Director of the Prospects Group. His wider Board level responsibilities have included legal services, risk management and HR. Kevin is also non-executive Chairman of 3BM Ltd, an employee owned company.

*\*Senior Independent Director*



**Simon Reynolds**

Simon is the most recent Operator Board Director, replacing Roger Parkes in September 2021. Simon joins the board with over 30 years' experience of compliance and regulatory affairs within the gambling industry, most recently as Chief Compliance Officer at Buzz Bingo and before that UK Compliance Director for the Entain Group. Simon brings knowledge and experience of Safer Gambling related policies and procedures from the industry and across all sectors within it.



**Mike Dixon**

Mike Dixon is the CEO of the Liberal Democrats having previously been the Chief Executive of Addaction and the Assistant Chief Executive of Citizens Advice. His depth of experience within the voluntary sector brings focus on the needs of the GAMSTOP service users.

## Directors' Report

The directors present their report and the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2022.

### Directors

The directors who served the company during the year were as follows:

Ms J Watson CBE  
Dr J Watts  
Mr K M Beerling  
Mr M Dixon  
Mr S Reynolds

### Directors' responsibilities statement

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and the profit or loss of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### Auditor

Each of the persons who is a director at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

### Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

This report was approved by the board of directors on 13 June 2023 and signed on behalf of the board by:

Ms J Watson CBE  
Chair

Registered office:  
3 Greengate  
Cardale Park  
Harrogate  
England  
HG3 1GY



## **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of The National Online Self Exclusion Scheme Limited (the 'company') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the statement of income and retained earnings, statement of financial position and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its result for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. 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 company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and 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.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

## Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors 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 directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## 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 (UK) 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Enquiry of management around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of entity staff in compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with chapter 3 of part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Andrew Wild BA FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of  
TLP Consulting Limited  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor  
3 Greengate  
Cardale Park  
Harrogate  
HG3 1GY

13 June 2023

**The National Online Self Exclusion Scheme Limited  
Annual Report and Accounts**

## Statement of Income and Retained Earnings

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
Note	£	£
<b>Turnover</b>	<b>5,642,117</b>	5,041,663
Cost of sales	<b>(2,697,286)</b>	(2,178,406)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>2,944,831</b>	2,863,257
Administrative expenses	<b>(2,952,877)</b>	(2,863,671)
<b>Operating loss</b>	<b>(8,046)</b>	(414)
Other interest receivable and similar income	<b>8,046</b>	414
<b>Profit before taxation</b>	6	–
Tax on profit	–	–
<b>Result for the financial year and total comprehensive income</b>	–	–
<b>Retained earnings at the start of the year</b>	–	–

All the activities of the company are from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 24 to 29 form part of these financial statements

**The National Online Self Exclusion Scheme Limited  
Annual Report and Accounts**

## Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
Note	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Intangible assets	7	1,904,881
Tangible assets	8	31,113
	<b>1,551,693</b>	1,935,994
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	9	279,453
Cash at bank and in hand	<b>3,210,939</b>	2,840,624
	<b>3,462,363</b>	3,120,077
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	(5,056,071)
<b>Net current liabilities</b>	<b>(1,551,693)</b>	(1,935,994)
<b>Net assets</b>	–	–

The notes on pages 24 to 29 form part of these financial statements

## **Statement of Financial Position**

As at 31 December 2022

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with Section 1A of FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 13 June 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Ms J Watson CBE  
Chair  
Company registration number: 10504973

The notes on pages 24 to 29 form part of these financial statements

“

**Signing up for GAMSTOP for 5 years was the best choice I ever made. I was chasing winnings and losing money, but now I'm able to focus on other things in my life. This service will help millions of people and it's great to see more and more people using it**

– GAMSTOP service user

## Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2022

### 1. General information

The company is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 3 Greengate, Cardale Park, Harrogate, HG3 1GY, England.

### 2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Section 1A of FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland'.

### 3. Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

#### Going concern

The Directors confirm that, after reviewing expenditure commitments, expected cash flows and borrowing facilities, they have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the next financial year and the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

#### Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised to the extent the company has rendered services under an agreement, the amount of revenue can be measured reliably and it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the company. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration receivable, exclusive of sales taxes and discounts.

The company principally obtains revenue from providing operators access to its online database, for which it charges a one off registration fee and an annual licence (access) fee. Revenue from registration fees are recognised at the time of receipt. Revenue from annual licences is deferred and recognised over the period in which services are expected to be provided to the customer.

#### Income tax

Current tax is recognised on taxable profit for the current and past periods. Current tax is measured at the amounts of tax expected to pay or recover using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date.

#### Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

#### Intangible assets

Intangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and are subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Any intangible assets carried at revalued amounts, are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation, as determined by reference to an active market, less any subsequent accumulated amortisation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired as part of a business combination are only recognised separately from goodwill when they arise from contractual or other legal rights, are separable, the expected future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value can be measured reliably.

#### Amortisation

Amortisation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful life of that asset as follows:

Software - 3 years Straight line

If there is an indication that there has been a significant change in amortisation rate, useful life or residual value of an intangible asset, the amortisation is revised prospectively to reflect the new estimates.

## Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in equity in respect of that asset. Where a revaluation decrease exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains accumulated in equity in respect of that asset, the excess shall be recognised in profit or loss.

### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment - 20% reducing balance

## Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the company are assigned to those units.

## Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary shares or preference shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in profit or loss. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in profit or loss, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised in profit or loss immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

### Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in profit or loss in the period in which it arises.

### 4. Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee of members and does not have a share capital. The liability of members is limited to £1.

### 5. Employee numbers

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year amounted to 14 (2021: 12).

## 6. Profit before taxation

Profit before taxation is stated after charging:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amortisation of intangible assets	1,317,101	1,713,902
Depreciation of tangible assets	6,961	5,722

## 7. Intangible assets

### Cost

	Software
At 1 January 2022	4,719,241
Additions	929,935
Disposals	(55,005)

### At 31 December 2022

5,594,171

### Amortisation

At 1 January 2022	2,814,360
Charge for the year	1,317,101
Disposals	(55,005)

### At 31 December 2022

4,076,456

### Carrying amount

At 31 December 2022 1,517,715

At 31 December 2021 1,904,881

## 8. Tangible assets

### Cost

	Equipment
At 1 January 2022	43,323
Additions	9,826

### At 31 December 2022

53,149

### Depreciation

At 1 January 2022	12,210
Charge for the year	6,961

### At 31 December 2022

19,171

### Carrying amount

At 31 December 2022 33,978

At 31 December 2021 31,113

## 9. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	373	3,402
Prepayments and accrued income	102,463	104,619
Other debtors	148,588	171,432

251,424 279,453

## 10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	148,219	55,530
Accruals and deferred income	4,808,867	4,138,008
Social security and other taxes	49,658	39,923
Other creditors	7,312	822,610

5,014,056 5,056,071

## 11. Operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	9,665	11,348

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## GAMSTOP

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