

Dear [REDACTED],

Hope you are well?

We've recently read your article titled [One in 40 Brits could be a problem gambler, eight times more than previously thought, report suggests](#)

I appreciate the effort put into discussing the topic, but it is vital that as a regulator our statistics are not misrepresented. This is why we [published guidance on how this data can be interpreted](#) and highlighted this guidance in [our press release](#).

Your copy features two examples of misrepresentation of our statistics.

Firstly, the headline states: One in 40 Brits could be a problem gambler, eight times more than previously thought, report suggests

This is repeated in par three:

The survey of 10,000 people revealed the number of adults that may have a gambling problem has risen to 2.5 per cent — eight times higher than previous surveys.

Our guidance states the GSGB should not be used to provide direct comparisons with results from prior gambling or health surveys, for methodological reasons.

The guidance also states Due to differences in the way data for the GSGB is collected in comparison to prior gambling or health surveys, the GSGB is not directly comparable with results from previous surveys and direct comparisons should not be used to assess trends over time.

Secondly, your copy states:

This figure, if replicated nationally, is equivalent to 1.6million Brits.

Again, for methodological reasons, our guidance states that the GSGB should not be used to gross up the prevalence of problem gambling or the consequences of gambling to whole population (until further work is completed).

Please may we request a correction as I'm sure you appreciate how important it is that only scientifically sound information informs the public debate on gambling in society.