# **Gambling Harm Reference Card**

## General Signs

#### Length of play

- Gambles for long periods (three or more hours) without taking a break
- Gambles most days
- Finds it difficult to stop at closing time

#### Social behaviour

- Becomes angry at or stands over other players
- Rude to other gamblers or staff
- Complains to staff about losing

#### Money

- Puts large wins straight back into the machine
- Tries to withdraw money two or more times
- EFTPOS repeatedly declined
- Leaves venue to find more money to gamble

#### **Behaviour during play**

- Tries to play two or more machines
- Plays intensely without reacting to what's going on around them
- Plays very fast (high spend per line)
- Shows frustration (grunting/groaning, playing roughly)
- Shows some signs of distress (looks depressed, sweating, nervous/edgy)
- Has gambling rituals or superstitions (rubbing, talking to machine)

## **Strong Signs**

- Gambler tells staff that gambling is causing them problems
- Shows obvious signs of distress (crying, holding head in hands, shaking)
- Has an angry outburst towards staff, customer or machine (shouting/swearing, kicking/hitting machine)
- Appearance or hygiene deteriorates significantly
- Tries to borrow money from customers or staff
- Gambles from opening to closing
- Leaves children in car while gambling
- Friends or family raise concerns about the gambler
- Goes out of their way to avoid being seen at the venue (including asking staff to not let others know they are there)

## What to do

If you see any of these General Signs in a gambler, you should gently check-in on that person.

Make a note in your venue's incident register or log book.

If you have noticed three or more General Signs in a gambler, then it should be escalated to the Strong Signs approach below.

## What to do

If you see any of these Strong Signs in a gambler, decide which staff member is best to approach them. That staff member should:

- Approach the gambler sensitively and discreetly
- Provide them with a harm minimisation wallet leaflet
- Offer them support to contact a gambling support service, and
- Offer to help them self exclude or consider issuing a venue exclusion order.
- Make a note in your log book.

