

Risk Factors

- Co existing addictive behaviour
- Personal or family history of gambling
- History of anxiety or depression
- Learning difficulties
- Past abuse or trauma
- Vulnerable and at risk groups including offender population

Signs of a Problem Gambler

- Uncontrollable spending and possible financial difficulties
- Excessive time spent on gambling activity
- Hiding or lying about gambling
- Gambling is affecting relationships with significant others and friends
- Withdrawing from family and social activities
- Excessive time spent on the computer
- Interests become less significant
- Absence from work or educational establishments
- Impulsive behaviour

Possible Underlying Issues

- Need for spectacular success
- Anger and rebelliousness
- Freedom from dependency
- Social Acceptance
- Escape from painful or intolerable feelings
- Competitiveness
- Debt
- Depression
- Intimacy and personal relationship difficulties\