

# INTRODUCTION

The DIA are currently consulting on the introduction of further harm minimisation measures.

25 proposals are being canvassed which cover areas of operation, machine/game design and offences.

New Zealand already has an extremely wide and effective set of harm minimisation measures in place. We also have one of the lowest bet and prize limits in the world. Further restrictions will increase compliance costs significantly and reduce player enjoyment. The changes also have the potential to reduce gaming revenue considerably and therefore reduce community funding.



# THE PROPOSALS

- Venues could be required to monitor the gambling area at set intervals (regular sweeps) to ensure patrons are not displaying signs of gambling harm
- Venue staff could be required to talk to a person who has been gambling for a specified period of time (e.g. two hours)
- Class 4 venues could be required to record a specified range of harm-related events and signs
- Societies could be required to keep records of their use of Management Service Providers (MSPs) to deliver services on behalf of the society.
- There could be no access to ATMs from inside a venue, only from outside.
- Opportunities to increase people's awareness of self-exclusion from venues.
- Excluded gamblers could be required to complete treatment before they can return to a venue.
- Venue design could be considered in how gambling harm could be prevented or minimised.
- All gamblers could be required to pre-commit to the amount of money or time they intend to spend prior to gambling.
- Standardised content for harmful gambling awareness training could be established.
- All staff who supervise gambling could be required to be trained.

# THE PROPOSALS CONT.

- Pokie machines could be required to display more information, such as the return to player ratio of games, volatility of games, harm minimisation messaging.
- Gaming machines should provide information on true losses (as opposed to presenting losses as wins).
- Prevent or limit the ability to make multi-row bets.
- The maximum stake of \$2.50 could be reduced.
- Prevent or limit the number of “free spins”
- Pokie machines could be required to have a maximum number of games that could be played in an hour.
- Potential measures to minimise the harm from jackpots such as:
  - Pokie machines could be required to provide information about how much of any stake is being used for jackpots
  - Maximum jackpot size could be reduced.
- Signage showing jackpot levels could be prohibited.

# THE PROPOSALS CONT.

- Offence for societies/venue operators/venue managers of “failing to meet requirements in regard to restrictions on jackpot advertising and/or branding at Class 4 Venues” (an existing requirement) – with an infringement fee of \$1,000
- Offence of “failing to meet requirements in regard to...providing information about problem gambling to patrons and where to get help” (an existing requirement) – with an infringement fee of \$1,000
- Offence for societies of “failing to meet requirements in regard to...required components of problem gambling awareness training to staff who supervise gambling” (an existing requirement) – with an infringement fee of \$1,000.
- Offence for venue operators/venue managers of “failing to meet requirements in regard to monitoring and recording harm minimisation actions” (a proposed new requirement) – with an infringement fee of \$1,000
- Offence for venue operators/venue managers of “failing to meet requirements in regard to harm minimisation machine features” (a proposed new requirement) – with an infringement fee of \$1,000.



# MAKE A SUBMISSION

The closing date for submissions is Thursday 28 April 2022.

Submissions can be emailed to [pokiesconsultation@dia.govt.nz](mailto:pokiesconsultation@dia.govt.nz)

Clubs New Zealand is preparing a template for clubs to use.

Clubs are encouraged to talk to grant recipients and members on making a submission.