

# Office of the Mayor



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Tēna koe Blair,

## **DCC SUBMISSION ON REVIEW OF CHARITABLE TRUST LICENCE CONDITIONS FOR CASINOS**

### **Introduction**

1. The Dunedin City Council (DCC) welcomes the opportunity to submit feedback on the Gambling Commission review of charitable trust licence conditions for casinos, including Dunedin Casino.

### **Submission**

2. The DCC supports the review of casino charitable trust licence conditions and would like that review to bring better alignment of casino charitable trust licence conditions with the purposes of the Gambling Act, specifically to:
  - control the growth of gambling
  - prevent and minimise harm from gambling, including problem gambling
  - authorise some gambling and prohibit the rest
  - facilitate responsible gambling
  - ensure the integrity and fairness of games
  - limit opportunities for crime or dishonesty associated with gambling and the conduct of gambling
  - ensure that money from gambling benefits the community and to
  - facilitate community involvement in decisions about the provision of gambling
3. The DCC supports a more consistent approach to the level of community funding provided by casinos. It agrees with a consistent percentage applied across casinos but notes the difficulty of identifying what a fair percentage might be without greater understanding of casino finances. Applying a consistent percentage across casinos would bring greater consistency to

the level of community funding and would also align better with requirements for the proceeds of other gambling forms under the Act and Gambling Regulations.

4. The DCC also submits that licence conditions should require contribution to trusts that are fully independent from the licence holders, rather than allow licence holders to exercise control over significant aspects of the trusts.
5. The DCC supports a stronger and more equitable alignment between the distribution of funding provided by casinos and communities' social, cultural and environmental wellbeing.
6. In making this submission, the DCC notes its recent review of its Gambling and TAB Venue Policy. Key themes from submitters were concern at gambling related harm in the community and also the reliance of community organisations on the proceeds from gambling.
7. As part of the Gambling and TAB Venue Policy review, the Council resolved to lobby central government, through Local Government New Zealand, for a more sustainable model of funding for community organisations to replace the reliance on gambling proceeds. While this is the Council's preference, in the meantime the Council supports a more consistent and transparent approach to proceeds from gambling at casinos, as outlined in this submission.
8. Greater consistency and alignment with the purposes of the Gambling Act also aligns well with the priority of healthy and safe people set out in the DCC Social Wellbeing Strategy.

Yours sincerely,



Aaron Hawkins  
**MAYOR OF DUNEDIN**