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1 October 2025

The Honourable David Harris, MP   media@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au

Responsible for Liquor and Gaming in NSW **office@ilga.nsw.gov.au**

GPO Box 7060, Sydney NSW 2001 wyong@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr. Harris

**Four questions for the Minister re NSW clubs and hotels compliance with the minimum 85% ‘return to player’ ratio across the 87,500 approx. Electronic Gaming Machines in NSW**

Attached is my letter to Mr. Bola Oyetunji, Auditor General of NSW dated 17 Sept 2025 [1 pg] that sought answers to my four questions listed therein.

Below is an extract from an email response from Vanessa Gill on behalf of the Auditor General of NSW**:**

**From:** Mail [mailto:mail@audit.nsw.gov.au]
**Sent:** Monday, 29 September 2025 11:34 AM
**To:** scribepj@bigpond.com
**Subject:** Four Questions to the Auditor General of NSW re which NSW Govt. Dept audits
compliance with the minimum 85% 'return to player' ratio across 87,500 EGMs in 2000 *circa*
NSW clubs and hotels?

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Mr Johnston

Thank you for your letter regarding compliance with the required ‘return to player’ ratio for electronic gaming machines in NSW.

As you noted, the performance audit report *Regulation of gaming machines* (June 2025) referred to the minimum ‘return to player’ ratio of 85%. This was included in the Introduction chapter of the report as contextual information, but the scope of the audit did not include a detailed examination of this matter.

The Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority (ILGA) is the NSW Government agency that is responsible for ensuring compliance with technical standards for electronic gaming machines, including the minimum ‘return to player’ ratio. ILGA staff may be able to assist with answering your questions on this topic. Contact details can be found on the ‘About us’ section of the ILGA website: [NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority](https://www.ilga.nsw.gov.au/about-us).

Kind regards

**Vanessa Gill, Executive Officer - Corporate, Experience and Strategy**

I welcome answers from ILGA (or yourself) to my four questions listed in my attached letter to the Auditor General of NSW dated 17 Sept 2025, not just to satisfy my interest, but those of tens of thousands of NSW people that are preyed upon by [**gimmicky machines with flashing lights and sharp sounds provided by most clubs and some hotels as ‘entertainment**’](https://www.gambleaware.nsw.gov.au/learn-about-gambling/how-gambling-works/poker-machines).

Yours sincerely

Philip James Johnston