

Unit 5, 13-15 Stokes St,  
Lane Cove North 2066  
0434 715.861  
[scribepj@bigpond.com](mailto:scribepj@bigpond.com)

14 December 2025

Ms Caroline Lamb [office@ilga.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@ilga.nsw.gov.au)  
[caroline.lamb@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au](mailto:caroline.lamb@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au)  
Chairperson of NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Mr Chris Honey [office@ilga.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@ilga.nsw.gov.au) [chris.honey@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au](mailto:chris.honey@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au)  
Deputy Chairperson of NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority  
GPO Box 7060, Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms. Lamb and Mr Honey

**I seek data of gross revenue/takings (on a qtrly or 6 monthly basis since the June Qtr. 2017) from poker machines in NSW clubs and separately gross revenue/takings from poker machines in NSW hotels (two separate aggregate amounts) in a simple [Table of Information](#) on [NSW Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority](#) website; and**

**I also seek a separate [‘line chart’ in Excel](#) from NSW clubs and a separate [‘line chart’ in Excel](#) from NSW hotels of revenue/takings that evidences increases/decreases in the amount of money lost from gambling on poker machines in clubs and hotels. I seek these two simple charts for each qtr. or 6 months since the June Qtr. 2017 to enable interested folk to readily understand if our regulators are now better protecting vulnerable citizens**

**[REFERENCE ARTICLES, REPORTS, LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS](#)** is a bibliography of well over 100 documents that this writer has reviewed over recent years/months due to his concern over the damage caused by Electronic Gaming Machines in NSW clubs and hotels. I created an htm file and **colour background pertinent information** for many of the 100+ documents, so that I would better absorb their content.

Above embedded thread evidences that in my retirement from a career at CBA, I have taken an interest in Wesley Mission (and recently NSW Greens Party) efforts to reduce the –

- I. ghastly number of poker machines in NSW compared with the rest of Australia and in o’s seas countries,
- II. access hours each day to them, and
- III. bizarre addiction of many vulnerable citizens in southern and western Sydney and some rural areas of NSW to losing large amounts of money in front of those EGMs, compared with monetary losses in –
  - a) Australia’s remaining five States and two Territories; and
  - b) other countries in the Western world.

Last Thurs I attended via Microsoft Teams software an on-line presentation from 12:30pm for 60 mins by Wesley Mission Advocacy Team (Kate da Costa and Mary Jo Costache) of recent developments seeking to reduce poker machine losses in NSW.

I note that:

**ILGA is an independent statutory decision-maker responsible for liquor, registered club and gaming machine regulatory functions.**

I am aware that there is an array of detailed poker machine data at [Gaming Machine Data Reports](#) since the June Qtr. 2017:

- **Clubs** report (since 2024) on quarters ending in February, May, August and November.
- **Hotels** are taxed quarterly - the reporting periods end in March, June, Sept and Dec.

I seek to access simpler comparative summary data on [NSW Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority](#) website on a summary [Table of Information](#) that lists –

- aggregate amount of gross revenue/takings (not 'net profit') from all poker machines (on a qtrly or six monthly basis since June 2017) in **NSW clubs**; and
- separate aggregate amount of gross revenue/takings (not 'net profit') from all poker machines at **NSW hotels**.

The summary [Table of Information](#) to be added within [Gaming Machine Data Reports](#) should provide an embedded thread to an Excel worksheet that calculates the \$ amounts and percentage movements in a) and b) above. The Table might only have four columns and a row for each Qtr or half year results. One column in the Table would display the percentage change in revenues/takings from the previous reporting period. The column in the Table to the right of that calculation would display the percentage change/movement from the reporting start date – ideally 2017.

I also seek an accompanying ['line chart' using Excel](#) that readily evidences increases/decreases in the amount of money gambled on poker machines in NSW each qtr. or each 6 months.

Below are a few extracts from an article [Pubs have only a quarter of pokies in NSW. But they pocket almost half the profits](#) - 8 Jan 2024 by a diligent journalist at SMH, [Harriet Aleixander](#) that piqued my interest.

“The latest quarterly data released by NSW Liquor and Gaming shows that pubs reaped 45 per cent of the total gaming revenue in NSW, despite owning a quarter of the poker machines. Most machines are owned by registered clubs.

Liquor and Gaming does not break down the gambling revenue by venue. The total amount lost by punters on poker machines in hotels hit \$946 million for the 92 days to September 30, 2023, which was a slight increase on the same period in 2022.

But the five-year trend shows a marked increase in revenue among pubs. A Wesley Mission analysis of government figures indicates that the proportion of gamblers' losses in pubs rose from 40 per cent in 2019 to 43.36 per cent in the first three quarters of 2023.”

Below is extracted from [Pokies taking more than \\$1 million from NSW gamblers every hour](#) [ABC](#) - Hannah Ross - 2 Sept 2025

#### ***Poker machine losses April-June 2025***

- Mounties Mount Pritchard \$22.2 million
- Bankstown Sports Club \$20 million
- Wentworthville Leagues Club \$17.8 million

**Heaviest losses by LGA: metropolitan**

- Canterbury-Bankstown \$193 million, 4,925 machines
- Fairfield \$176 million, 3,814 machines
- Cumberland \$123.3 million, 2,719 machines

**Heaviest losses by LGA: regional**

- Central Coast \$86 million, 4,450 machines
- Wollongong \$50.8 million, 2,682 machines
- Newcastle \$50.3 million, 2,739 machines

Methods to reduce losses on poker machines in NSW are not limited to:

- Reduce revenues/takings/losses from poker machines
- Reduce number of poker machine 'entitlements'.
- Reduce poker machine operating hours
- Higher Return to Player Ratio than 85%

**Summary**

I seek from the independent statutory decision-maker responsible for gaming machines in NSW the aforementioned summary comparative gross revenue/takings amounts (on a qtrly or 6 monthly basis up to end Aug or end Sept 2025 and then into the future) to be displayed in a simple [Table of Information](#) at [Gaming Machine Data Reports](#) from poker machines in NSW clubs and separately from NSW hotels – also to be displayed in a separate [‘line chart’ using Excel](#) for aggregate hotels and aggregate clubs gross revenues/takings.

**Postscript:**

If I haven't explained the rudimentary summary quarterly gross revenue data that I request herein, I welcome an email or letter written response seeking clarification of any aspect of [Table of Information](#) or a [‘line chart’ using Excel](#)

Yours sincerely



Philip James Johnston

c.c. Wesley Mission Advocacy Team - [wesley.mission@wesleymission.org.au](mailto:wesley.mission@wesleymission.org.au)  
 Kate da Costa [kate.dacosta@wesleymission.org.au](mailto:kate.dacosta@wesleymission.org.au)  
 Mary Jo Costache [mary.jo.costache@wesleymission.org.au](mailto:mary.jo.costache@wesleymission.org.au)