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Ms Caroline Lamb **office@ilga.nsw.gov.au**   caroline.lamb@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au
Chairperson of NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Mr Chris Honey   **office@ilga.nsw.gov.au**   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, and others, seek separate data of gross revenue/takings (on a qtly or 6 monthly basis since the June Qtr. 2017) from poker machines in -
*   NSW clubs; and
*   NSW hotels
(two separate aggregate amounts) displayed in a simple Table of Information on NSW Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority at Gaming Machines Data Reports.

We also seek a 'stacked line chart' using Excel of NSW clubs and hotels comparative gross revenue/takings – that evidences in two horizontal line graphs increases/decreases (over the recorded dates) of the amount of money lost from gambling on poker machines. Stacked_Line Graph Poker machine revenue on Y axis. Record dates on the X axis. One line shows cumulative EGM revenues from NSW clubs. Another line shows cumulative EGM revenues from NSW hotels.

We seek this Stacked_Line Graph chart covering each qtr. or 6 months since end June 2017, to enable interested folk to easily understand if our regulators are now better protecting hundreds of thousands of vulnerable citizens across NSW from the pillages of poker machines - programmed to retain $150 of every $1,000 played.

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 (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'seas countries,
 II.   access hours each day to them, and
III.   bizarre addiction of many vulnerable citizens particularly 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***.

NSW Govt does not levy gaming machine tax if quarterly profit from gaming machines is
- less than $250,000 for a Club
- less than $50,000 for a Hotel.

Quarterly tax rates for NSW Clubs presently vary –
- from 28.05% for quarterly takings between $260.000 and $450,000
- reduced marginally to 26.55% for quarterly takings over $5 minion.

Quarterly tax rates for NSW Hotels presently vary–
- from 33% for quarterly takings between $50.000 and $250,000
- to 50% for takings over $1.25 minion.

There is an array of detailed poker machine data at **Gaming Machine Data Reports** since the June Qtr. 2017 that might be required under regulations:
- **Clubs** report (since 2024) on quarters ending in February, May, August and November.
- **Hotels** are taxed quarterly - the reporting periods end in Mar, June, Sept, Dec.

I, and others, seek to access simpler comparative summary data on
Gaming Machine Data Reports of a summary **Table of Information** that lists –
a) aggregate gross revenue/takings (not 'Net Profit') from all poker machines (on a qtly or six monthly basis since June 2017) in **NSW clubs**; and
b) separate aggregate 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 for aggregate revenues/takings from NSW Clubs (and separate worksheet for revenues/takings from NSW hotels) that calculates the $ amounts and percentage movements in a) and b) above. The Table might have as few as four columns:.
1st column: Starting with record period for 'end Dec 2016 to June 2017'
2nd column: Half year or Qtr. aggregate revenues/takings
3rd column: Percentage change in revenues/takings from the previous reporting period.
4th column: Percentage change in revenues/takings from the reporting start date –
ideally Dec 2016 to June 2017.

I also seek an accompanying **'stacked line chart' using Excel** that readily evidences in two horizontal line increases/decreases in the amount of money separately lost on poker machines in NSW clubs and NSW hotels each time period.. My attached Excel file **LossesNSWClubsHotels2017.xlsx** might assist understand my above paragraph.

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 Aleiexander** 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 <mark>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."</mark>

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 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** <mark></mark> the aforementioned summary comparative gross revenue/takings amounts (on a qtly or 6 monthly basis from 2017 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 one **'stacked lline chart' using Excel** that **displays both aggregate hotels and aggregate clubs gross revenues/takings** in the same Stacked Line Chart. Attached jpg might assist.

Postscript:

If I haven't explained the rudimentary summary quarterly gross revenue data that I request herein, I welcome an email or letter response seeking clarification of any aspect of **Table of Information** or a **'stacked line chart' using Excel** - two horizontal lines in the same chart that display increases or decreases in revenues/takings over recent years.

Yours sincerely

Philip James Johnston

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