



Andrew Wilkie MP

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR DENISON

21 November 2016

NEW POKER MACHINE VENUE - THIS TIME IN MOONAH

The operator of The Moonah Hotel ("The Pot") has applied to operate 20 poker machines in that venue. In my opinion this is a bad idea.

This application follows the bid to put 20 poker machines into the new Paddy Wagon hotel in Glenorchy. That application caused outrage in sections of the local community and resulted in a record 180 public submissions to the Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission. Whether or not the Paddy Wagon gets its poker machines remains to be seen, but at least the public furore prompted the State Government to get moving on its promise to introduce a public interest test as part of the licensing process.

Glenorchy City, which includes Moonah, already suffers the highest pokies losses of anywhere in the State. Indeed the Glenorchy community is losing close to \$2 million a month on the pokies, almost half of which is known to be gouged from gambling addicts. The social and economic cost of this is enormous.

This most recent application is now before the Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission and the community only has until Monday 28 November 2016 to respond.

If you don't want to see more pokies in Glenorchy, including Moonah, then please write to the Commission at GPO Box 1374 Hobart 7001 or gaming@treasury.tas.gov.au to voice your disapproval. You may also like to consider contacting Premier Will Hodgman or other state parliamentarians to let them know what you think of more poker machines in our community.

Feel free to contact me regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Wilkie MP

Independent Member for Denison

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