



TASMANIAN GAMING COMMISSION

OPERATING STATEMENT

OVERVIEW

The Tasmanian Gaming Commission's key role is to be the independent regulator of gaming in Tasmania. The Commission's operating statement provides a clear, public declaration of the Commission's responsibilities and current strategic priorities.

**Peter Hoult Chairman TGC
February 2008**

REGULATORY RESPONSIBILITY

In exercising its functions the Commission is not performing its functions independently of the State, rather it is a vehicle through which the State operates to control and regulate gaming. The activities of the Commission are the activities of the State.

The Commission is subject to the direction of the Treasurer in the performance of its functions (s127) but directions cannot be given which interfere with the Commission's statutory functions such as the granting or cancellation of any licence.

As a result of the Treasurer's September 2006 Community Support Levy direction the Commission is responsible for recommending an annual budget and monitoring expenditure against the budget approved by the Treasurer.

The Department of Treasury and Finance has responsibility for the administration of the Gaming Control Act but is not responsible for any of the functions of the Gaming Commission. The Department's role is to ensure that the Commission is and remains properly constituted and otherwise able to carry out its statutory functions.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

The functions of the Commission are outlined in Section 125 of the Gaming Control Act 1993.

The Commission has identified core responsibilities that are critical to the performance of the prescribed functions.

(a) to regulate and control gaming to ensure that it is conducted honestly and free from criminal influence and exploitation

The Commission will ensure appropriate due diligence is undertaken to meet the requirements of the Act.

(b) to investigate and make recommendations to the Minister on matters relating to gaming policy

The Commission will:

- be aware of contemporary gaming issues and new and emerging gaming industry trends
- take a proactive role in relation to the development and implementation of consumer protection and harm minimisation initiatives
- seek to advise the Treasurer on matters it deems to be pertinent to the current and ongoing development of gaming policy in Tasmania.



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(c) to research and investigate matters relating to the control of gaming including the probity and financial security of persons involved in the management of gaming operations

The Commission will ensure that there are appropriate operational policies and procedures in place for the control of gambling.

(d) to liaise with authorities or persons responsible for the regulation and control of the conduct of gaming

The Commission will regularly liaise with identified key stakeholders responsible for the regulation and control of the conduct of gaming.

(e) to review and determine complaints relating to the conduct of gaming

The Commission will establish and promulgate a complaint procedure that meets the requirements of the Act and the Commission's obligations in relation to natural justice.

(ea) to foster responsible gambling and minimise the harm from problem gambling

The Commission will encourage responsible gambling and ensure appropriate procedures are in place to minimise the harm from problem gambling.

(f) to perform such other functions as are imposed on it by this Act or any other Act or as are prescribed

The Commission will undertake an annual strategic planning process that will ensure that the immediate and longer-term objectives and responsibilities of the Commission are fulfilled.

CONTACT DETAILS

The Tasmanian Gaming Commission

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THE COMMISSIONERS

Mr Peter Hoult, Chairman

Peter Hoult was previously the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (2007) and the Secretary of the Department of Justice (2004-2007). Prior to taking up his role as Secretary of the Department of Justice, Peter served in senior positions in the Departments of Justice and Health in Tasmania and as a consultant to Commonwealth and State Departments of Health.

Professor Kate Warner

Professor Warner has been a member of the Commission since 2002. Kate is a Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania and Director of the Tasmanian Law Reform Institute. Professor Warner brings to the Commission an awareness and sensitivity to issues of social justice. As an academic, Kate also has a particular interest in the role of the law in regulating gaming in Tasmania and proscribing and regulating potentially harmful behaviour.

Mr Stuart Barry

Stuart Barry owns a Tasmanian based financial advisory firm and has extensive experience in the finance industry, having worked in the global investment markets in both Asia and Australia for the past 27 years. His previous senior management roles include head of both Japan and Korean country operations for ING investments. In addition to his investment knowledge, he also has expertise in regulatory compliance, corporate governance and strategic planning. Stuart has a particular interest in the Commission's role in developing and implementing harm minimisation initiatives.