

FACT SHEET # 1

COMMUNITY SUPPORT LEVY

What is the Community Support Levy?

The Community Support Levy (CSL) is required to be paid by venues to the Tasmanian Government for the funding of activities aimed at reducing the risk of harm from problem gambling.

It is established under the *Gaming Control Act 1993* (the Act) and funded from the gross profit of electronic gaming machines (EGMs).

Current arrangements

AMOUNT

Hotels and clubs pay four per cent of gross profits from EGMs to the CSL.

In 2018–19 \$4.18 million of CSL was collected.

EXPENDITURE

The Act allocates the CSL as follows:

- 25 per cent for sport and recreation clubs;
- 25 per cent for charitable organisations; and
- 50 per cent for problem gambling, for:
 - research into gambling;
 - services for the prevention of compulsive gambling;
 - treatment or rehabilitation of compulsive gamblers;
 - community education concerning gambling; and
 - other health services.

The recipients of grants from the CSL are published by the Department of Communities Tasmania, <https://www.communities.tas.gov.au/disability-community-services/gambling>.

Within the Communities Tasmania website; the Gambling Support Program webpage includes grants to charitable organisations and the Communities, Sport and Recreation webpage lists CSL funded major and minor grants.

Who decides what the money is spent on?

The Minister is responsible for approving CSL allocations to Departments in accordance with the Act for distribution to individual projects and grants.

The Department of Communities Tasmania, where the Gambling Support Program and Communities, Sport and Recreation are located, is responsible for individual project allocation, monitoring and expenditure.

GRANTS FOR CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS

The Gambling Support Program recommends to the Minister: expenditure of the 25 per cent of the CSL for charitable organisations; and the 50 per cent for gambling research, community education, gambling rehabilitation and treatment, and other health services.

GRANTS FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

Communities, Sport and Recreation recommends to the Minister: expenditure of the 25 per cent of the CSL for sporting organisations.

What will change?

The Government has committed to double the CSL and extend its application to casino EGMs. This is also an opportunity to review how the CSL is spent.

Any changes will take effect from 1 July 2023.

HOTELS AND CLUBS

The CSL on the gross profit of hotel EGMs will increase from four per cent to five per cent.

The CSL on EGMs in clubs will remain at four per cent of gross profit.

CASINOS

The CSL will be applied to the gross profit of EGMs in casinos for the first time at three per cent.

EXPENDITURE

The use of the increased pool of CSL funding is subject to further consideration. This will include how it can be best targeted to achieve its objective, and whether the current funding allocation model is the most appropriate for the new gaming environment.

It has been suggested that the future model should retain a CSL funding allocation model under the Act, but broaden the categories and revise the allocations to promote flexibility and responsiveness to changes in priorities. This may include moving the allocations to regulations to provide a greater ability to respond to future needs.

The aim of any change to the arrangements for allocation of the CSL is to ensure its continued relevance and greater effectiveness. The objective of the CSL to improve harm minimisation and address issues of problem gambling in our community will not change.

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