

# Future of Gaming in Tasmania

Stage two public consultation,  
July 2021

## Introduction

The Tasmanian Government is committed to providing opportunities for community involvement in Government policy and is seeking your input on the implementation of the *Future of Gaming in Tasmania* policy (the Policy).

As part of the the Policy, announced during the 2018 State election, the exclusivity arrangements under the Deed of Agreement (the Deed) with the Federal Group to conduct casino operations, operate electronic gaming machines (EGMs) and conduct games of keno in Tasmania will end in 2023.

The aim of the Policy is to:

- create a sustainable industry;
- provide the highest standards of probity;
- ensure returns from the gaming industry are shared appropriately among the industry, players and the Government representing the community; and
- continue to minimise harm caused by problem gambling.

There are a number of reforms for the gaming industry in Tasmania under the Future Gaming Market model, including:

- a decrease in the State-wide cap for EGMs of 150;
- the creation of individual venue licences to operate EGMs in hotels and clubs;
- two new high-roller non-resident casino licences;
- more appropriate distribution of returns;
- tender of the rights to operate the monitoring of the hotel and club EGM network; and
- increased future funding to improve harm minimisation.

Legislative amendments will be required to the *Gaming Control Act 1993* to implement the Policy. The Policy does not envisage changes to the *Responsible Gambling Mandatory Code of Practice for Tasmania*.

Stage one of public consultation was conducted in February 2020 and responses have been published at [www.gaming.tas.gov.au](http://www.gaming.tas.gov.au). Stage two of public consultation includes the release of the exposure draft of the *Gaming Control Amendment (Future Gaming Market) Bill 2021* (the Bill) and a suite of associated sector-specific explanatory papers on the proposed amendments.

# Purpose of consultation paper(s)

When the Government announced the Policy during the 2018 State election, it provided an overview of how the Tasmanian gaming industry will be restructured. The consultation undertaken in February 2020 provided details of the regulatory model that will implement that policy.

This regulatory model has now been reflected in draft amendments to the *Gaming Control Act 1993*. This suite of explanatory papers has been produced to assist you in understanding the sector-specific proposed amendments to the Act, and include:

- Paper 1 - proposed Future Gaming Market legislative provisions - general amendments;
- Paper 2 - proposed Future Gaming Market legislative provisions - general casino and high-roller casino;
- Paper 3 - proposed Future Gaming Market legislative provisions - hotel and club;
- Paper 4 - proposed Future Gaming Market legislative provisions - keno; and
- Paper 5 - proposed Future Gaming Market legislative provisions - licensed monitoring operator.

This suite of explanatory papers provide detail of the major proposed amendments to the Gaming Control Act that will implement the Policy. These papers should be read in conjunction with the exposure draft of the Bill and the Gaming Control Act.

The release of the exposure draft of the Bill provides an opportunity for you to consider and provide feedback on the proposed amendments to the Gaming Control Act prior to the Bill's introduction to Parliament, which is expected in the first half of 2021.

## Submissions

Submissions are invited from interested parties addressing the implementation of the Government's policy through the intended legislative amendments. Matters specific to the Policy itself are out of scope of this consultation process.

All written submissions on the draft *Gaming Control Amendment (Future Gaming Market) Bill 2021* must be received by **5pm on Monday 9 August 2021**.

### How to make a submission

Submissions can be forwarded to:

**Email:** [future.gaming@treasury.tas.gov.au](mailto:future.gaming@treasury.tas.gov.au)

**Mail:** The Secretary  
Department of Treasury and Finance  
GPO Box 147  
HOBART TAS 7001  
Attention: Future Gaming Market Project

Other than indicated below, submissions will be treated as public information and will be published on our website at [www.gaming.tas.gov.au](http://www.gaming.tas.gov.au). Submissions will be published once consideration of the submissions has concluded.

**No personal information, other than an individual's name or the name of an organisation making a submission, will be published.**

# Accessibility of submissions

The Government recognises that not all individuals or groups are equally placed to access and understand information. We are therefore committed to ensuring Government information is accessible and easily understood by people with diverse communication needs.

Where possible, please consider typing your submission in plain English and providing it in a format such as Microsoft Word or equivalent.

The Government cannot, however, take responsibility for the accessibility of documents provided by third parties.

## Important information to note

Your name (or the name of the organisation) will be published unless you request otherwise.

In the absence of a clear indication that a submission (or parts of the submission) is intended to be treated as confidential, the Department will treat the submission as public.

If you would like your submission to be treated as confidential, whether in whole or in part, please indicate this in writing at the time of making your submission by clearly identifying the parts of your submission you wish to remain confidential and the reason why. In this case, your submission will not be published to the extent of that request.

Copyright in submissions remain with the author(s), not with the Tasmanian Government.

The Department will not publish, in whole or in part, submissions containing defamatory or offensive material. If your submission includes information that could enable the identification of other individuals, then all or parts of the submission will not be published.

## The *Right to Information Act 2009* and confidentiality

Information provided to the Government may be provided to an applicant under the provisions of the *Right to Information Act 2009* (RTI). If you have indicated that you wish all or part of your submission to be treated as confidential, your statement detailing the reasons why may be taken into account when determining whether or not to release the information in the event of an RTI application for assessed disclosure. You may also be contacted to provide any further comment.

**Department of Treasury and Finance**  
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