**18/411: Gaming and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018**

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| **Summary of Impacts** |
| * There are no direct negative impacts on the ACT community as a result of reducing the number of gaming machine authorisations in the Territory to 4,000 or the proposed changes to the community contributions scheme. * There are positive impacts for the community through a potential reduction in gambling related harm, and access to wider range of services and alternative uses of club land, as well as an increase in the capacity of charitable, non-profit and community based organisations to seek and receive funding. * The requirement for a proportion of contributions to be directed to the Chief Minister’s Charitable Fund will provide additional funding for the community, and will provide a framework for a wider distribution of funding to areas of need within the community. The requirement for clubs to engage with the community will also guide the allocation of funds to areas of need. * Overall, the proposed reforms are expected to positively impact the community through reducing the number of gaming machine authorisations in the Territory, increasing collaboration between clubs and their local communities, increasing funding to a broader range of community organisations, improving diversification in clubs and improving community programs and facilities. * There may be a negative impact on the financial position of clubs though a reduction in gaming machine revenue and an increase in the quantum of funding from gaming machine revenue to the provided to the community, however there are mechanisms in place to support the ongoing viability of clubs despite the increased contribution rate. |

*Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue – neutral and Green - positive.*

**Social**

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| **Human Rights** | * Measures that support clubs to diversify their revenue streams away from gaming have the potential to positively impact on the protection of the family and children through reducing the harm caused by gambling. |
| **Community and Individual Health** | * Changes to the community contributions scheme may lead to an improvement in community and individual health. Retention of the ability of clubs to claim contributions to assist sporting organisations will have a beneficial effect on community health. * Additional funding of gambling harm mitigation will benefit public health outcomes and may assist in reducing costs. |
| **Access to Social Networks and Community Activities** | * Reducing the number of gaming machines operating in the Territory may lead to clubs providing a range of additional community activities in establishing alternative revenue streams. * Encouraging increased participation in community activities through the scheme will increase social inclusion, connectedness and participation of the broader community. * Increased transparency of the community contributions scheme will improve the visibility of the scheme and widen the range of community groups that can benefit from the scheme. * Changes to categories of community contributions claims may facilitate more funds going towards a wider range of community activities. |
| **Gender** | * Maintaining the ability of clubs to claim professional and semi-professional contributions for women’s sport will lead to an increase in funding of facilities and pathways for women. |
| **Disadvantaged and Vulnerable** | * Additional funding to gambling harm reduction and mitigation will reduce the impact of gambling harm on families. |

**Economic**

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| **ACT Government Budget** | * Club industry diversification support measures and financial incentives for voluntary surrender of authorisations will have a Budget impact. * It is anticipated that the surrender of gaming machine authorisations will result in some level of revenue reduction for the Territory. The exact impact on the Budget is unknown, given a number of machines are underutilised in ACT clubs. * It is anticipated that changes to the community contributions scheme are unlikely to impact on clubs’ capacity to maintain government facilities such as ovals. |
| **Employment** | * There is a risk that employment levels may reduce in some clubs as a result of the reduction to 4,000 gaming machine authorisations. Incentives for voluntary surrender and a staged compulsory surrender of authorisations will mitigate this risk, as will diversification support measures that assist with the establishment of alternative revenue sources and employment opportunities for clubs. |
| **Small Business Impact** | * Small clubs (those whose authorisation certificate authorises not more than 19 gaming machines at the premises) and hotels are proposed to be exempt from compulsory surrender of authorisations. These venues will also be eligible to access financial incentives for voluntary surrender of authorisations. * While clubs will be required to increase contributions to the community, the quantum of additional funding is not expected to significantly impact business operations, and it is therefore considered unlikely to have an impact on the facilities these clubs provide to the community. * The revised scheme will result in increased funding to a broader range of community organisations. |
| **Broader Economy** | * Depending on their level of dependence on gaming revenue, surrender of authorisations may financially impact some licensees. The financial incentives for voluntary surrender and diversification support measures are intended to address this potential impact. * Measures that support clubs to diversify their revenue streams away from gaming have the potential to positively impact on the broader economy through the provision by clubs of a wider range of services and alternative uses of club land. * Reforms to the community contributions scheme may see an increase in funding to a broader range of small organisations. * Clubs and the community may benefit from collaboration on community issues, benefits and events and provide a cohesive way forward for improvement of local areas. |

**Environmental**

Nil impact