**Directorate: Justice and Community Safety**

**18/160 Reducing the Number of Electronic Gaming Machine Authorisations**

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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. * The submission seeks approval for an independent senior expert to consider available options to incentivise the voluntary early surrender of Electronic Gaming Machine authorisations while providing diversification support to assist the ongoing viability of clubs in line with clubs’ contributions as community organisations. * There are positive impacts for the community through a potential reduction in gambling related harm. * There may be a negative impact on the financial position of clubs where the surrender of authorisations results in a reduction in gaming machine revenue. |

*Key to impacts: Red - negative, Amber - 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. |
| **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. |

**Economic**

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| **ACT Government Budget** | * It is anticipated that the compulsory 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. * Funding for incentives for early surrender and diversification support may directly impact on the Territory Budget. |
| **Employment** | * There is a risk that employment levels may reduce in some clubs. It is proposed that this risk will be minimised by a staged introduction to compulsory surrender. The establishment of alternative revenue sources by clubs has the potential to provide new employment opportunities for staff. |
| **Broader Economy** | * Depending on their level of dependence on gaming revenue, compulsory surrender may financially impact some licensees. This may be mitigated by the development of alternative revenue streams and the provision of diversification assistance to support a more sustainable clubs sector. * 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. |
| **Small Business Impact** | * The Government has committed to ensure that small and medium clubs are not unfairly impacted by the reduction in gaming machine authorisations. |

**Environmental**

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| **Climate Change** | * No direct climate change impacts have been identified arising from this Submission. |
| **Energy** | * A lower number of gaming machines operating following compulsory surrender will reduce energy consumption in the Territory. |