

**BREWARRINA SUB-BRANCH RSL CLUB LIMITED  
CLASS 1 LOCAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
FOR THRESHOLD INCREASE APPLICATION  
FOR PREMISES AT 25 BOURKE STREET  
BREWARRINA**

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This class 1 Local Impact Assessment is lodged by the Brewarrina Sub-Branch RSL Club Limited ("**the Club**") in support and as part of an application to increase the gaming machine threshold ("**Threshold**") of its premises at 25 Bourke Street, Brewarrina ("**Premises**") by four (4).
- 1.2 The current Threshold of the Premises is 12, 12 poker machine entitlements are issued to the Premises, and 12 gaming machines are kept and operated at the Premises.
- 1.3 The Premises is located in the Brewarrina Shire Council Local Government Area. This Local Government Area has been classified as a Band 2 area by the Casino, Liquor and Gaming Control Authority ("**Authority**") for the purposes of section 33 of the *Gaming Machines Act*.
- 1.4 The remainder of this LIA contains the following sections:
  - (a) Information on the Club;
  - (b) Responsible conduct of gambling;
  - (c) The local community;
  - (d) Positive contribution;
  - (e) Conclusion.
- 1.5 The proposed increase in the Threshold, if granted, will result in positive contributions to the local community in the form of donations and contributions set out in Section 5 of this LIA.

## 2. THE CLUB

- 2.1 The Club was created in 1972 and has operated the licensed premises at 25 Bourke Street since 1972.
- 2.2 The floor space, as defined in the Gaming Machines Act and Regulation, of the Premises is 3900 square meters.
- 2.3 The Club now has over 730 members providing a restaurant, bar, lounge, and entertainment.
- 2.4 The Club offers various forms of community support and donations to local community groups in the local community.
- 2.5 The Club does not participate in the ClubsGrants Scheme. It is not eligible to do so as the revenue from gaming machines is less than the minimum threshold to participate in the scheme. However, the Club is the major source of sponsorship to the Brewarrina community. In the financial year to date the Club provided sponsorship and support worth \$19,900 in the following ways:
- (a) Brewarrina Golden Googars \$1,750.00;
  - (b) Brewarrina Gun Club \$1,000.00;
  - (c) Brewarrina Fishing Club \$6,000.00;
  - (d) Brewarrina Show Society \$2,000.00;
  - (e) Brewarrina Golf Club \$1,500.00;
  - (f) Brewarrina Jockey Club \$2,750.00;
  - (g) Brewarrina District Rugby League \$800.00;
  - (h) Brewarrina Field Day \$1,000.00;
  - (i) Drought Relief Event (Bowls and Banter) \$500.00;
  - (j) St Patricks Primary School \$1,500.00;
  - (k) Brewarrina Central School \$500.00;
  - (l) District FWA \$500.00;
  - (m) Legacy \$500.00;
  - (n) Cancer Council \$500.00.
- 2.6 The Club is applying to increase the threshold of the Premises to allow for the transfer of the poker machine entitlements from another registered club located outside of the Local Government Area. The Club is the only registered club in the Local Government Area and therefore will have to purchase entitlements from outside of that area.
- 2.7 The Club is a member of the local Liquor Accord.

### 3. RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING

- 3.1 The Club complies with all obligations imposed on it in relation to the responsible conduct of gambling by the *Gaming Machines Act* and *Gaming Machines Regulation*.
- 3.2 In accordance with the Guidelines produced by the Authority for Class 1 Local Impact Assessments, the Club does not set out these matters in this LIA.
- 3.3 However, in addition to the steps and actions required by the legislation, the Club undertakes the following measures:
- (a) The Club is a member of ClubsNSW and has agreed to, and adopted, the ClubsNSW Registered Clubs Responsible Conduct of Gambling Code of Practice – Best Practice Guidelines. This involves the following:
    - (i) Promotion of responsible gambling practices that conform to local community standards and expectations.
    - (ii) Providing a patron complaint resolution process.
    - (iii) Encouraging responsible practices in advertising and promotions related to gambling and ensure compliance with relevant legislation.
    - (iv) Providing policies which ensures all legislative requirements related to cheque cashing, payment of winnings and financial transactions are implemented and encourages patrons to develop responsible practices in the use of finances for gambling purposes.
    - (v) Providing procedures for handling personal information relating to gambling patrons in a club to protect their rights of privacy.
    - (vi) Providing a pleasant and safe gambling environment.
    - (vii) Informing and training staff on legislative requirements, harm minimisation issues, the risks of not complying with legislative requirements or not adopting and practising harm minimisation strategies and taking appropriate steps to promote patron and employee care.
    - (viii) Encouraging patrons to take responsibility for their gambling activity through an effective self-exclusion procedure or other mechanisms.
    - (ix) Informing patrons and staff of the Club's responsible gambling policy and program, the nature of gambling products and the availability of support services for problem gamblers.
    - (x) Developing links between the club and relevant community organisations that will provide support and advice for problem gamblers and their families.
  - (b) The Club is also a member of the Club Safe Program. Club Safe is a club industry responsible conduct of gambling program. The Club is an active member of Club Safe which helps the Club manage responsible gambling operations which meet legislative requirements and community expectations.

- (c) Club Safe provides guidance in the responsible provision of gambling services. The Club has adopted the Club Safe principles of:-
    - (i) Compliance;
    - (ii) Consumer Protection;
    - (iii) Harm Minimisation;
    - (iv) Risk Management; and
    - (v) Measurement of Effectiveness.
  - (d) The Club participates in patron and staff education in providing a responsible gambling program together with providing programs and policies on the prevention and intervention of problem gamblers.
- 3.4 It is the Club's position that these additional matters are appropriate for the Club to help prevent the misuse and abuse of gambling.

#### 4. LOCAL COMMUNITY

- 4.1 In order to demonstrate the positive benefits to the local community of the application, if it were to be granted, the Club has considered the definition of the "local community" for the Premises.
- 4.2 In broad terms, the Club considers its local community to consist of persons who use the services, amenities and facilities of the Club and/or who may be affected by its operations.
- 4.3 The Club is located in the town of Brewarrina itself. The Shire Council's website states that the Shire had a population of 1121 people in the 2007 census. The majority of the population lives within the main town itself.
- 4.4 Under the Club's Constitution and the *Registered Clubs Act*, a person whose residential address is in New South Wales and is within five (5) kilometres of the Club's premises cannot enter the Club as a Temporary member.
- 4.5 The area referred to in 4.4 provides a useful definition of the local community for the Premises, as this area incorporates the majority of the population of the Shire, being the township, and the overwhelming majority of the Club's members.
- 4.6 Accordingly, the Club's local community for the purposes of this LIA is the area within New South Wales within five kilometres of the Premises.

## 5. POSITIVE CONTRBUTION TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

- 5.1 If the application is granted, and the Threshold of the Premises is increased by four (4) so that sixteen (16) entitlements can be kept and operated at the Premises, the Club proposes to give to Brewarrina Shire Council \$20,000.00 for the Council to spend on the upgrade of community facilities for example toilets, tea room, kitchen, at the Geoff New Oval, Church Street, Brewarrina
- 5.2 If the application is granted, and the Club therefore makes the donation referred to in 5.1 above, it is very conscious of the fact that this body would best know how the additional resources could be spent for the above upgrade and renovations. Indeed, this is part of the reason why the Club proposes making this donation as opposed to spending the money on a project of its own choosing, as bodies directly involved in the provisions of services to the community know how best to provide this assistance.
- 5.3 Nevertheless, the Club would, if the application is granted, state, in communications with those bodies that the donations are given on the basis that the money is used on programs in the local community.

## 6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The Club complies with its responsible conduct of gambling obligations in the legislation and takes the additional steps set out in section 3 of this local impact assessment.
- 6.2 The approval of the local impact assessment, increase in the Threshold of the Premises and transfer of the entitlements to the Premises will result in a positive contribution to the local community as set out in section 5 of this local impact assessment.