

Class 1 Local Impact Assessment

Imperial Hotel

**Cnr. North Parade and Rooty Hill Road North
ROOTY HILL NSW 2766**

Licence No. LIQ400106831

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Executive Summary

Proposal

The Imperial Hotel at Rooty Hill (Licence No LIQ400106831) is seeking to increase its gaming machine threshold by four, from 22 to 26.

Imperial Hotel

The Imperial Hotel at Rooty Hill is an existing hotel located at the corner of North Parade and Rooty Hill Road North at Rooty Hill.

Rooty Hill is in the local council area of the City of Blacktown which is classified as a Band 2 by the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority.

The internal floor space of the hotel is approximately 800m².

Definition of Local Community

For the purpose of this application, the local community is defined to include Rooty Hill, Minchinbury, Mount Druitt, Plumpton, Glendenning and Doonside being the suburbs in close proximity to the hotel and from which the majority of the trade of the hotel is drawn.

Positive Contribution to Local Community

The applicant is able to demonstrate that the increase in the gaming machine threshold will provide a positive contribution towards the Local Community as the \$18,000 to be donated by the hotel to CatholicCare Social Services will benefit residents of the Local Community with gambling problems.

Responsible Gambling Measures

The venue operates its gambling activities in a responsible manner. These will continue to operate if this application is granted.

Proposal in Detail

Imperial Hotel (Licence No LIQ400106831)

The Imperial Hotel at Rooty Hill is seeking to increase its gaming machine threshold by 2, from the existing 22 to 26. This Class 1 LIA is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying Application for a gaming machine threshold increase.

The Imperial Hotel is an existing hotel located at the corner of North Parade and Rooty Hill Road North, Rooty Hill, in the local council area of the City of Blacktown. This local council area is classified as a Band 2 by Casino, Liquor & Gaming Control Authority.

The internal floor space of the hotel is 800 m².

The hotel has a Chinese restaurant and promotes functions. There are also facilities provided for patrons including a bar, pool tables and gaming machines. The operation of gaming machines at the hotel do not detract unduly from the character of the hotel or from the enjoyment of persons using the hotel otherwise than for the purposes of gambling.

The licensee is a member of the Mt Druitt Liquor Accord.

Definition of Local Community

For the purpose of this application, the local community is defined to include Rooty Hill, Minchinbury, Mount Druitt, Plumpton, Glendenning, Doonside and Minchinbury being the suburbs in close proximity to the hotel. It is from these communities that the majority of the patrons of the hotel emanate.

Positive Contribution to Local Community

The Manager, Community Services, Blacktown City Council indicated that there were no organisations with offices in Rooty Hill but there were organisations which serviced this area. The Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing further advised that CatholicCare Social Services, Blacktown, serviced the Local Community and was a recipient of funds from the Responsible Gambling Fund.

The Blacktown branch of CatholicCare Social Services is located 8.5 km from the hotel and provides problem gambling counselling and education for the residents of Rooty Hill and neighbouring areas – see letter attached dated 16 April 2013 from CatholicCare Social Services.

The Imperial Hotel will contribute \$18,000.00 (\$4,500.00 per machine) to CatholicCare Social Services.

CatholicCare Social Services, Blacktown, has indicated that the funds would be used to provide a focus on the treatment of problem gamblers and other individuals and families

affected by problem gambling in Rooty Hill and the neighbourhood. The agency has a long history of providing quality problem gambling counselling and education services to the community in Western Sydney and the donation will enable the agency to provide this service from their main branch in Blacktown and the Outreach service at Emerton.

This donation to CatholicCare Social Services will provide a positive contribution towards the Local Community as it directly provides assistance and support to people with gambling problems.

Responsible Gambling Measures

The venue operates gambling activities in a responsible manner. These will continue to operate if this application is granted, The responsible gambling measures undertaken by the hotel include:

- the gaming machines in the hotel do not operate for the purposes of gambling between 4 am and 10 am on each day of the week
- compliance with the prohibited publication of gaming machine advertising and signage requirements
- the gaming machines are not located in a manner that is designed to attract the attention of members of the public who are outside the hotel
- the prohibition on the offering of a promotional prize in the form of cash, a promotional prize that exceeds \$1,000 in value, on the exchange of a promotional prize for cash, or any bonus or reward points accumulated under a player reward scheme to be redeemed for cash (except where permitted by the legislation)
- problem gambling counselling services are available
- the refusal to accept prize winning cheques
- the prohibition on the issuing of prize winning cheques unless the patron is identified in accordance with the Gaming Machines Act
- no cash dispensing facility being offered which is capable of providing cash from a credit card account
- the limitations on the cashing of cheques being adhered to
- compliance with anti money laundering requirements
- compliance with the industry codes of practice – the hotel has adopted the AHA Gamecare Self-Exclusion Programme and the AHA Gambling Code of Conduct is displayed in the gaming room

- access by patrons to a self-exclusion scheme and the availability of and information about are published in the hotel
- minors are not permitted to operate gaming machines and are not permitted in the gaming machine areas
- availability of information, in specified languages, for patrons and the display of the chances of winning a major prize from the operation of any gaming machine in the hotel
- all gambling notices and signage as prescribed by the Gaming Machine Regulations being displayed in the hotel or on each gaming machine, as relevant
- a clock in good working order operating where the gaming machines are located
- no gambling inducements are provided
- all staff associated with gaming machines have completed the responsible gambling course and a copy of each certificate is kept in a register in the hotel

Community concerns

The hotel is unaware of any specific community concerns but these will be addressed if they arise following the advertising and notification requirements associated with this application.

Conclusion:

1. The hotel has demonstrated that gambling activities in the Imperial Hotel will be conducted in a responsible manner: and
2. By providing \$18,000.00 to the CatholicCare Social Service for the provision of problem gambling services in the local community, the increase in the gaming machine threshold will provide a positive contribution towards the local community.



 Licensee

Diocese of Parramatta



CATHOLIC CARE
Social Services

PO Box 2023
NORTH PARRAMATTA
NSW 1750

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www.ccss.org.au

Ms Angela Frost
The Imperial Hotel
Cnr Rooty Hill Rd North and North Pde
Rooty Hill NSW 2766

16th April 2013

Re: Donation by owner of the Imperial Hotel Rooty Hill to CatholicCare Social Services – Diocese of Parramatta

Dear Ms Frost

I would like to express our thanks for the interest expressed by the owner of the Imperial Hotel Rooty Hill in donating \$18,000.00 to assist our agency in providing problem gambling counselling and education for the residents in the Rooty Hill and neighbouring areas.

The proposed donation of \$18,000.00 will enable CatholicCare Social Services to provide a focus on the treatment of problem gamblers and other individuals and families affected by problem gambling in the area of Rooty Hill and neighbourhoods. Our agency has a long history of providing quality problem gambling counselling and education services to the community in Western Sydney and your generous donation will enable us to provide this service from our main branch in Blacktown and our Outreach service at Emerton.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Yours Sincerely



Mrs Ann O'Brien
Senior Manager
Counselling and Education Portfolio