

**Class 1
Local Impact Assessment**

**Westmead Tavern
24-26 Railway Parade
Westmead, NSW 2145**

**Licence Number: LIQH400121814
LGA: Parramatta City Council**

Suite 467, 317-321 Castlereagh Street Sydney NSW 2000
PO Box K1077 Haymarket NSW 1240

T: (02) 9280 4599 F: (02) 9281 6077 E: admin@laslawyers.com.au W: www.laslawyers.com.au

SHORT MINUTE OF VENUE AND APPLICATION PARTICULARS

Hotel Name	Westmead Tavern
Address	24-26 Railway Parade Westmead
Licence Number	LIQH400121814
Local Government Area	Parramatta City Council
Adjoining Local Government Area	Holroyd City Council
Business Owner	Westmead Investments Pty Limited
Business Owner Contacts	Telephone: Facsimile: Email:
Business Owner Representative	LAS Lawyers and Consultants
Business Owner Representative Contacts	Telephone: 9280 4599 Facsimile: 9281 6077 Email: j.sammut@laslawyers.com.au
Current Gaming Machine Threshold	20
Proposed Increase Sought	10

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The operators of the hotel seek to increase the gaming machine threshold of the hotel by 10, so that the total gaming machine threshold is 30.
- 1.2 The subject premises is situated at 24-26 Railway Parade, Westmead NSW 2145, and known as Westmead Tavern within the Parramatta City Council LGA.
- 1.3 The proposed increase is a low range increase and the hotel is located in the Parramatta LGA which is classified as a band 2 LGA.
- 1.5 The Act requires the Authority to be satisfied of the following in order to approve the subject gaming machine threshold increase application.
 - a. The LIA complies with the Act & Regulation requirements, and
 - b. the LIA has demonstrated that gambling activities will be conducted in a responsible manner, and
 - c. the proposed increase in the gaming machine threshold will provide a positive contribution towards the local community, and
 - d. the LIA has adequately addressed any community concerns arising out of the consultation.

2. Venue Information

- 2.1 The hotel is located at 24-26 Railway Parade Westmead NSW 2145, within close proximity to public transport facilities.
- 2.2 The name of the hotel is the Westmead Tavern, Liquor licence number LIQH400121814.
- 2.3 The hotel is located in the Parramatta LGA and is within a 5km radius of the boundary of Holroyd Council.
- 2.4 The primary purpose of the Hotel is for the sale of Liquor by retail. The keeping and operation of gaming machines at the Hotel will not detract unduly from the character of the Hotel or from the enjoyment of persons using the Hotel otherwise than for the purposes of gaming.
- 2.5 The hotel provides the following facilities for the benefit of its patrons; bar, bistro, dining area, TAB, gaming room and outdoor courtyard. The hotel also provides a separate bottle shop facility.
- 2.6 The owner of the business conducted under the authority of the licence is Westmead Investments Pty Limited of the Westmead Tavern 24-26 Railway Parade Westmead.

2.7



t

The following stakeholders have been located within a 1km radius of the venue:

- Parramatta Marist High School
- University of Western Sydney
- Catherine McAuley Westmead
- Westmead Public School
- Sacred Heart School
- St. Barnabas Anglican Church Westmead
- Hebron Chinese Alliance Church
- Westmead Hospital
- The Children's Hospital at Westmead

2.8 The premises operates during the following hours:

Consumption on Premises – Area: Beer Garden

DAY	START TIME	END TIME
Monday	05:00am	11:00pm
Tuesday	05:00am	11:00pm
Wednesday	05:00am	11:00pm
Thursday	05:00am	11:00pm
Friday	05:00am	11:00pm
Saturday	05:00am	11:00pm
Sunday	10:00am	11:00pm

Consumption on Premises – Area: Whole of Licensed Premises Except for Beer Garden

DAY	START TIME	END TIME
Monday	05:00am	03:00am
Tuesday	05:00am	03:00am
Wednesday	05:00am	03:00am
Thursday	05:00am	03:00am
Friday	05:00am	03:00am

Saturday	05:00am	03:00am
Sunday	10:00am	12:00 Midnight

Take Away Sales

Monday to Saturday	05:00am	10:00pm
Sunday	10:00am	10:00pm

- 2.9 A copy of the floorplan with respect to the hotel and the allocated gaming machine areas is attached.
- 2.10 There is no expected increase in patronage if the threshold increase application is approved, but the increase would allow the Hotel to better service and provide a greater variety of gaming machine choices for the current patrons attending the Hotel.

3. Responsible Conduct of Gambling

- 3.1 The Hotel's management and staff are supportive of and encourage responsible gaming practices and all staff engaged in the operation of gaming machines have completed the prescribed Responsible Gambling Course. A responsible gambling certificate for all staff is maintained in a register at the Hotel.
- 3.2 The hotel currently has 20 gaming machines. All gaming Machines are located within a gaming room as prescribed by Clause 9 of the Gaming Machines Regulation 2002, in that:
- a) The gaming room is located in a bar area of the hotel;
 - b) The gaming room is physically separated from the general bar area by walls and doors;
 - c) Patrons are not compelled to pass through the gaming room in order to enter or leave the hotel or in order to gain access to another part of the hotel;
 - d) Entry to the gaming room is free of charge;
 - e) The gaming machines cannot be seen from any place outside the hotel that is used by the public or to which the public has access;
 - f) All gaming machines are suitable spaced in order to facilitate access;
 - g) The gaming room is supervised at all times by way of electronic means and physical present of the licensee or an employee;
 - h) The gaming room has two (2) doorways that provide reasonable access to and from the gaming room to at least one operating bar and at least one toilet for each gender without the need for patrons to go on the a public street, or to any area not forming part of the hotel when moving from the gaming room to the other facilities; and
 - i) The gaming room cannot be accessed directly from a public street.
- 3.3 In addition to ensuring compliance with the relevant regulations relating to responsible conduct of gambling, the business owners of the hotel have implemented further initiatives in order to prevent problem gambling. Central to

this is the training of staff to identify signs of problem gambling within patrons. Signs that staff members are trained to be aware of in patrons include:

- persistent or unduly frequent gambling such as gambling every day
 - gambling for extended periods without a break;
 - avoiding contact with other persons while gambling;
 - communicating very little with anyone else;
 - barely reacting to events going on around them;
 - displaying aggressive, antisocial or emotional behaviour while gambling; and
 - making requests to borrow money from staff or other customers continuing to gamble with the proceeds of large wins.
- 3.4 Staff are trained to offer assistance when observations of above behaviors are made in relation to patrons, and staff members hold a reasonable belief that the patron is or may be developing into a problem gambler. Any approaches by staff members are to be tactful and respectful and can include:
- simple interaction with the customer to divert attention from gambling;
 - encouraging the patron to take advantage of other facilities of the hotel, such as the restaurant;
 - offering the patron non-alcoholic refreshments to be consumed outside of the gaming room
- 3.5 Any time a staff member makes an intervention on the basis that they consider that a patron may be exhibiting signs of problem gambling, they must record the intervention in an incident register.
- 3.6 Further responsible gambling initiatives implemented by the business owners in addition to compliance with the legal requirements include:
- no free or discounted alcohol provided to gaming patrons as an inducement to gamble;
 - no free credits are to be provided to gaming patrons;
 - every machine is to be located in a gaming room, with no machines to be placed in the general bar area or in a position where they are visible from a public place;
 - no promotion or marketing of the gaming room.
- 3.7 The Hotel is closed during the standard gaming machine shutdown period of 04:00am to 10:00am Monday to Sunday.
- 3.8 Patrons of the hotel are made aware of the AHA's counselling services and of the government funded "gambling HELP" counselling service.
- 3.9 Patrons will be made aware of the chances of winning and the problems associated with excessive gambling through the prescribed signage required to be located on each gaming machine and throughout the gaming room by way of the prescribed information notices on display.

- 3.10 The ATM located within the Hotel also displays the appropriate signage to notify patrons of the problems associated with gambling.
- 3.11 The Hotel does not offer prizes associated with the use of its gaming machines and the Hotel has a policy of not cashing cheques.
- 3.12 The Hotel will comply with advertising requirements in respect of gaming:
- a) The Hotel will not use the word "casino" in any description or promotion of the Hotel;
 - b) The Hotel will not permit gaming related advertising material to be displayed on the exterior or interior of the premises;
 - c) The Hotel will not promote irresponsible gaming or gaming practices;
 - d) The Hotel will display a clock, that is set to, or within 10 minutes of, the correct time and is in view of patrons in the gaming room;
 - e) The Hotel will not publish the details of any person who has won a prize in excess of \$1,000; and
 - f) The Hotel will display the prescribed signage with the gaming room, on all gaming machines, on the ATM any EFTPOS facilities.

4. Identification of Local Community

- 4.1 The local community is identified as constituting the suburb of Westmead and surrounding areas. The source of patrons are predominately from within the suburb of Westmead although some patrons include staff of the nearby hospital and police training college.
- 4.2 For the purposes of this application the local community has been identified as being the Parramatta LGA.
- 4.3 In the 2011 Census, there were 166,858 people in Parramatta (C) (Local Government Areas) of these 50.1% were male and 49.9% were female. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 0.8% of the population.
- 4.4 The median age of people in Parramatta (C) (Local Government Areas) was 33 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 18.9% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 11.8% of the population.
- 4.5 In Parramatta (C) (Local Government Areas), 48.6% of people were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth were India 8.1%, China (excludes SARs and Taiwan) 6.8%, Lebanon 3.8%, Korea, Republic of (South) 2.2% and New Zealand 1.6%.
- 4.6 There were 79,688 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in Parramatta (C) (Local Government Areas). Of these

- 62.6% were employed full time, 25.1% were employed part-time and 7.0% were unemployed.
- 4.7 The most common occupations in Parramatta (C) (Local Government Areas) included Professionals 25.9%, Clerical and Administrative Workers 17.3%, Technicians and Trades Workers 12.5%, Managers 10.6%, and Sales Workers 8.7%.
 - 4.8 Parramatta LGA has a SEIFA (2011 Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage) score of 996 with a decile range of 8 showing that a greater proportion of the population of 166,935 persons is more advantaged rather than disadvantaged.
 - 4.9 Of the families in Parramatta (C) (Local Government Areas), 49.7% were couple families with children, 32.7% were couple families without children and 15.3% were one parent families.
 - 4.10 Further it is located within the Parramatta LGA, the Hotel is also located within a 5km radius of the Holroyd LGA. Therefore, the gaming related statistics and social profile information must also be provided for the Holroyd LGA as follows.
 - 4.11 In the 2011 Census, there were 99,163 people in Holroyd (C) (Local Government Areas) of these 49.5% were male and 50.5% were female. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 0.8% of the population.
 - 4.12 The median age of people in Holroyd (C) (Local Government Areas) was 34 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 20.9% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 12.1% of the population.
 - 4.13 In Holroyd (C) (Local Government Areas), 50.4% of people were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth were India 7.5%, Lebanon 4.5%, China (excludes SARs and Taiwan) 2.8%, Sri Lanka 2.6% and Philippines 1.9%.
 - 4.14 There were 45,580 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in Holroyd (C) (Local Government Areas). Of these 62.8% were employed full time, 24.2% were employed part-time and 7.2% were unemployed.
 - 4.15 The most common occupations in Holroyd (C) (Local Government Areas) included Professionals 20.0%, Clerical and Administrative Workers 18.7%, Technicians and Trades Workers 14.4%, Managers 9.4%, and Labourers 9.3%.
 - 4.16 Holroyd LGA has a SEIFA (2011 Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage) score of 972 with a decile range of 6 showing that the majority of the population of 99,174 persons is more advantaged rather than disadvantaged.
 - 4.17 Of the families in Holroyd (C) (Local Government Areas), 50.7% were couple families with children, 29.5% were couple families without children and 17.6% were one parent families.

5. Beneficial Impact on Local Community

- 5.1 The business owner of the hotel proposes to continue to contribute to the local community in the same manner that it has done previously in the event that the application is approved.
- 5.2 The Hotel provides a safe and friendly environment for the local community to hold family oriented events.
- 5.2 The business owner of the hotel commits to donate an amount of \$17,600.00 for each additional machine that is able to be authorised as a result of the increase to the gaming machine threshold, resulting in a total contribution to charity of \$176,000.00 in the event that the LIA is approved as sought.
- 5.3. The proposed beneficiaries of the charitable donations are to be:
- University of Sydney Gambling Treatment Clinic;
 - Westmead Children's Hospital; and
 - Community organisations providing services to assist with drug, alcohol or gambling problems to residence in the Parramatta City Council LGA (to be identified through consultation with Parramatta City Council Community Grants officers).
- 5.4 The selected charitable donations are to include specifically targeted donations to organisations providing support to people suffering from gambling problems to offset any potential or perceived negative impacts.
- 5.5 There can be no doubt that the provision of financial contributions to organisations such as Westmead Children's Hospital is a positive contribution to the community.
- 5.6 The applicant will liaise with Parramatta City Council and its community grants team in order to identify worthy community projects which could be the subject of donations.

6. Negative Impact on the Local Community

- 6.1 There is a general potential negative impact that where additional gaming machines are available to play, there may be an increased risk for problem gambling to occur. The current operation of the machines at the hotel reveals that it is very rarely if at all, the case that all of the machines currently on the floor in the hotel are ever used by patrons at any one point in time. The presence of increased machines, are therefore not necessarily expected to result in increased numbers of patrons using the gaming machines.
- 6.2 The Hotel proposes to make a financial contribution in the sum of \$176,000.00 (calculated in accordance with the Birmingham analysis) to charitable organisations servicing the local community and significant proportions of the financial contributions are intended to be applied to assist with the provision of support to problem gamblers in the local community, therefore offsetting any potential negative impacts that could arise from the approval.

- 6.3 The positive contributions will benefit the local community and the operators will continue to review and implement new responsible gaming and harm minimisation strategies in order to negate any negative impacts on the local community.

7. Submissions from Stakeholders

- 7.1 The only submission received with respect to the consultation requirement was a letter from Parramatta City Council dated 29 July 2015 whereby council raises no objection to the application. A copy of the letter is attached herewith.

8. Conclusion

- 8.1 It is submitted that the foregoing information complies with the guidelines for a Class 1 Local Impact Assessment attaching to an application for an increase in the gaming machine threshold of the Hotel by addressing the responsible gambling and harm minimisation measures taken by the Hotel; identifying the local community of the Hotel; and providing information to show that a positive contribution will be made to the local community if the LIA and increase application are approved.
- 8.2 Approval of the gaming machine threshold to 30 will result in a direct positive impact by way of financial support and contributions to organisations that benefit the local community to the sum of \$176,000.00.
- 8.3 Based on the fact that the Hotel is located within a Band 2 Local Government Area and the application is for a low-range increase in the gaming machine threshold, having regard to the significant financial contribution proposed by the applicant, we submit that there are more positive impacts for the community if the threshold application is approved than any negative impact by the installation of an additional ten (10) gaming machines within the local government area. In addition, the installation of ten (10) gaming machines at the Hotel will also reduce the overall number of gaming machines state-wide due the forfeiture provisions that would apply upon transfer of any gaming machine entitlements acquired by the applicant.