

From: [Natalie Galea](#)
To: [LIA review](#)
Subject: Submission regarding the NSW Local Impacts Assessment
Date: Friday, 16 June 2017 4:21:53 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the review of the NSW Local Impacts Assessment (LIA) for poker machines.

My family continues to suffer from the addiction of poker machines. My parents are both addicted to poker machines and this addiction has resulted in emotional withdrawal, disconnection from their children and the community and of course, financial loss. Poker machines are a drug and I hate how this drug has ruined my family. Worse still, that the government profits from this destruction.

The Local Impact Assessment needs to be strengthened by;

- The objective of the LIA process should be to prevent and minimise harm, not to grow the gambling industry or create dependency on gambling venues for community services;
- Communities need to be more proactively consulted and provided with transparent data on gambling in their local area and any associated political gifts or donations disclosed;
- The Authority needs to take a more comprehensive role in application process and managing consultation;
- The LIA process should be updated to include all measures of harm and detriment to communities. For example, there is new research that shows the majority of health harm from gambling is caused to people previously categorised as low or moderate risk;
- There should be no exceptions to the LIA process; and
- Further discussion and consultation is required for the review and amendment of the LIA process.

It's crazy that if a community wants to oppose a poker machine application, councils aren't allowed to include the devastating social impacts in their case against the proposal.

I look forward to hearing recommendations for much more rigorous assessment of applications for more poker machines, so that their devastating impacts on the community and MY FAMILY are at least considered.

Yours sincerely, Natalie Galea [REDACTED] Australia

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Please reply to Natalie Galea at [REDACTED]

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