

**From:** [Stafford Sanders](#)  
**To:** [LIA review](#)  
**Subject:** Submission on NSW Local Impacts Assessment  
**Date:** Thursday, 15 June 2017 10:26:08 AM

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Thanks for the chance to make a personal submission to the review of the NSW Local Impacts Assessment (LIA) for poker machines.

I'm a citizen, a parent and a longtime supporter of an active, engaged civil society. I have spoken to people directly and indirectly affected by poor control of poker machines. This is not about any attempt to deny personal choices. It's about responsible control, fair trading and transparency.

In my view the Local Impact Assessment should be strengthened as follows:

- There should be more proactive consultation with communities – they should be provided with accessible, transparent data on gambling in their local area and there should be full disclosure of any associated political gifts or donations;
- The objective of the LIA process should be simply to prevent and reduce harm from poker machine impacts, not to boost the gambling industry or to create a dependency on gambling venues for the provision of community services;
- The LIA process should be updated to include measurement of all indications of harm and community detriment – for example, new research showing that most health harm from gambling is inflicted on people previously categorised as low-moderate risk;
- The LIA process should apply with no exceptions; and
- The Authority should take a more comprehensive role in the application process and in managing consultation; and
- More discussion and consultation is needed for the review and the process of amendment of the LIA.

It's simply unacceptable that if a community wants to oppose a pokie application, councils aren't allowed to include the disastrous social impacts in their argument against the application. This should be amended immediately.

Thanks again – I look forward to hearing recommendations for more effective, rigorous assessment of pokie applications, so that their often disastrous impacts on the community are properly taken into account.

Yours sincerely, Stafford Sanders [REDACTED], Australia

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Please reply to Stafford Sanders at [REDACTED]

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