

From: [Angus Witherby](#)
To: [LIA review](#)
Subject: Submission regarding the NSW Local Impacts Assessment
Date: Saturday, 17 June 2017 12:56:23 PM

I have some knowledge of this area through work done at UNE on gambling and have also seen and support the work done by Victorian councils and communities including Riddells Creek. Please note that this is not a pro-forma submission.

The Local Impact Assessment is the key framework and needs to have clear objectives around harm minimisation – and this needs to be done in a much more thorough way than is currently done for liquor licensing where I have professional knowledge.

Potential harm assessments need to be based on rigorous and fully independent third party studies. I have consistently found with studies in both these areas that typical industry generated studies lack merit and rigour. They cherry-pick, extrapolate and fall prey to many classic social science errors. A multi-factoral approach is needed that does not look at gambling in isolation but which also considers other key vulnerabilities in potential host communities.

Local community views need to be engaged at a much deeper level than mere consultation. These views, properly researched, should in fact be definitive. Local communities have the right to say no to forms of gambling they disagree with.

The process needs to be independently run and be in accordance with strict guidelines so that over time comparable bodies of data are developed. Further, there needs to be explicit and thorough post-implementation review requirements put in place to verify – or otherwise- the predictive impact work.

Based on the above I am of the view that significant further consultation is required. I would appreciate acknowledgement of my submission together with advice on any further opportunities for input.

Yours sincerely, Angus Witherby [REDACTED] Australia

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