

REVIEW OF OUR GAMBLING POLICIES:

The Class 4 Gambling Venues Policy

The Board (TAB) Venues Gambling Policy

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

The Invercargill City Council is reviewing two Gambling Policies, the Class 4 Gambling Venues Policy and the Board (TAB) Venues Gambling Policy. These Policies provide guidelines and regulations for private providers of gaming machines, and ensures a safe environment for public participation, in relation to the Gambling Act 2003. Proposed changes to the Policies include:

- Confining the areas where venues can relocate to if moving (to specific areas defined in the District Plan as the Business 2 Zone, as well as the CBD).
- Capping the number of pokie machines (Class Four Machines) to a total of 247, a reduction of 37 machines.
- Any relocated venues must be at least 100 metres from an ATM.
- A rule which means patrons can “self-ban” from all ILT Foundation sites, rather than just going to each venue one at a time.
- Operators who are relocating their venue must also provide a social impact assessment as part of their application.

WHY ARE THE CHANGES BEING MADE?

Council is keenly aware of gambling-related harm and its impact on the community, but also acknowledges the positive impact which results from gambling-related revenue being provided back to the community. Council is mindful of the health and well-being of participants and aims to make sure the operators of gambling venues follow consistent rules to ensure the well-being of patrons. There have been a number of operators who have decided to not renew their gaming licences. This has meant a reduction in the number of machines. Council seeks to cap the number of existing machines, which will help control the growth of gambling and also help minimise harm from problem gambling.

By promoting a defined area for licensees and their venues, Council will be able to ensure vendors are demonstrating host responsibility through staff training. This may help with

identifying patrons who are problem gambling, and enable them to self-ban from all sites.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

The review of these policies depends on community involvement, this ensures that all communities in the Invercargill District are represented in a culturally appropriate manner. The current policies can be viewed on the council website at www.icc.govt.nz/public-documents/consultation

HOW CAN I HAVE MY SAY?

If you would like to make a Submission on the proposed reviews, you can do so by writing to Council. Submissions must be received by 5pm Friday 26 July 2019. Please indicate if you would like to speak to your Submission at a hearing. Feedback is appreciated and verbal submissions will be heard at Council’s Finance and Policy Committee Meeting, held on the first floor of the Civic Administration Building, Invercargill City Council Chambers, from 4pm, 17 September 2019.

You can provide your feedback through completing a submission form or writing to:

Manager – Strategy and Policy
Invercargill City Council
Private Bag 90104
Invercargill 9840

By emailing: policy@icc.govt.nz

Or by filling out an online submission form at www.icc.govt.nz/public-documents/consultation

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Information relating to the policies can be found on the Invercargill City Council website or you can contact the Manager – Strategy and Policy on 03 211 1777 or email policy@icc.govt.nz for more information.