

# HAVE YOUR SAY

How to make a submission on the proposed changes to Hamilton casino

## ***What is a submission and why should I make one?***

SKYCITY's application to replace three gaming tables with 60 gaming machines (pokies) at Hamilton casino will be specially considered by the New Zealand Gambling Commission.

As part of that process, the Gambling Commission has invited the public to give their opinions on SKYCITY's proposal.

Your submission is a way to tell the Gambling Commission how the addition of 60 pokie machines at Hamilton casino will affect you and your community. By writing a submission, you have a chance to influence the Gambling Commission's final decision.

## ***How do I make a submission on this application?***

### **Hard Copy**

If you would like to make a submission in writing directly to the Gambling Commission, please post two copies to: [New Zealand Gambling Commission, PO Box 137295, Parnell, Auckland 1052](#)

### **Email**

If you would like to make an email submission, please send it to: [info@gamblingcom.govt.nz](mailto:info@gamblingcom.govt.nz)

### **Online**

To make an online submission through us, visit: [surveymonkey.com/r/YN76J8P](https://surveymonkey.com/r/YN76J8P)

*All submissions need to be received by 5pm Friday 17 May*

## ***What should I include in my submission?***

Your submission should be an argument for or against SKYCITY's proposal. To support your argument, you may wish to share some of the following:

- Whether or not you think **the addition of 60 pokie machines** to the casino is likely to lead to **gambling harm**, and why.
- Whether or not you think **swapping three Blackjack tables for 60 pokie machines** is an **equivalent exchange**, and why.
- **Your personal experience with Hamilton casino**. This may include details of any harm which you or your whānau, friends, or workmates may have experienced.
- **Your professional background (if relevant) and how it has shaped your perspective**. For example, maybe you are a health or social services professional who has witnessed the impact of gambling on families.
- **Any legal issues you wish to raise**, such as whether you think SKYCITY's proposal complies with the purposes of the Gambling Act 2003.

Submissions stating only "I support the application" or "I oppose the application" are much less likely to persuade the Gambling Commission of your position than submissions that provide strong evidence or reasoning as to why you support or oppose.

### ***How should I format my submission?***

Submissions can be as long or as short as you like.

While there is no set format, checking your work for spelling, grammar, and clarity is always a good idea. If you mention things like research, news articles, or laws, you should provide details of where the information can be found. It is also common practice to thank the Gambling Commission for considering your views.

### ***Applying to be heard at the public hearing***

If you have written a substantive submission, you can also apply to be heard at the public hearing for this application. The date of the hearing is yet to be confirmed.

If you wish to speak at the hearing, you will need to send the Gambling Commission a separate submission stating the reasons why you wish to be heard in person, rather than by written submission only.

*All applications need to be received by 5pm Friday 17 May*

### ***More information***

- Go to <https://www.salvationarmy.org.nz/get-help/gambling-support> to find our factsheet and other resources on the changes proposed by SKYCITY.
- To read more about the proposed changes to Hamilton casino, including the Gambling Commission's public notice, please visit [http://www.gamblingcommission.govt.nz/gcwebsite.nsf/wpg\\_URL/Casino-Licence-Conditions-Application-by-Skycity-to-substitute-gaming-machines-for-gaming-tables-at-the-Hamilton-casino!OpenDocument](http://www.gamblingcommission.govt.nz/gcwebsite.nsf/wpg_URL/Casino-Licence-Conditions-Application-by-Skycity-to-substitute-gaming-machines-for-gaming-tables-at-the-Hamilton-casino!OpenDocument).
- The Salvation Army Oasis provides free and confidential support for anyone affected by gambling harm, from gamblers themselves to whānau and loved ones affected by someone else's gambling. If you or someone you know is affected, please give us a call on the number below.
- The Salvation Army Oasis can also help you have your say. Please get in touch if you would like to learn more about SKYCITY's application and how you or your organisation can make a difference.

Phone: **(07) 839 6871** (Waikato) / **0800 53 00 00** (Nationwide)

Email: [waikato.oasis@salvationarmy.org.nz](mailto:waikato.oasis@salvationarmy.org.nz)



Te Ope Whakaora

**Oasis**  
Reducing Gambling Harm