### Media Release



26 September 2019 / Media contact: Rose O'Leary 0430 921 908

### **Community Information Session: Hogans Hotel Application for Additional Poker Machines**

Earlier this year the application for an extra 20 poker machines at Hogans Hotel, Wallan was heard at the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR). Disappointingly the Commission approved the 20 in addition to the Hotels existing 45 poker machines.

Mitchell Shire Council has appealed the decision made by the Commission for the approval of the additional 20 poker machines at the Hotel to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

A community led information session will be facilitated by the Victorian Local Governance Association, in partnership with Wallan Gateway Church.

The Victorian Local Governance Association will share information about the appeal and take you through the process of making a submission, should you wish to do so.

There will also be an opportunity to learn more about the impacts of gambling harm on individuals, families and communities.

The session All community members are welcome to attend, no RSVP required. Light refreshments provided.

#### **ENDS:**

#### **Quotes Attributable to Wallan Gateway Church Senior Pastor Milton Oliver**

"This meeting is about people being heard. Our concerns about the application are simply: when is enough enough? The time has come to stand up as a community and have our voices heard," he said.

"The community meeting is open to all members of the public – no matter what they think of the application. I believe 20 more machines is unrealistic and our local economy might not be able to afford that."

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# **Quotes Attributable to Victorian Local Governance Association Community Engagement Officer Rose O'Leary**

"It is critical people have their say about applications for poker machines in their communities. This information session is an opportunity for everyone, with all views, to discover how to have their say to the decision makers (VCAT)."

Media Enquiries: Rose O'Leary 0430 921 908

WHEN:

Thursday 10 October at 7pm - 8pm

WHERE:

Wallan Multipurpose Community Centre

42-80 Bentinck Street, Wallan VIC

All welcome