

GAMBLING RISK IN YOUR WORKPLACE

REDUCING HARM FROM GAMBLING

HARM FROM GAMBLING IS
SERIOUS + PREVALENT + PREVENTABLE



Under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*, employers in Victoria have a duty of care towards their employees to:

1. Provide a safe and healthy work environment
2. Monitor health and safety conditions and consult with employees

These obligations are well understood with regards to alcohol and smoking. **Council responsibility regarding gambling needs to be the same.**



GAMBLING IS A PRODUCTIVITY RISK AND AN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RISK

70% Around 70 per cent of Victorians gamble.

18% 18 per cent experience some harm from this, some of this will impact how they are in the workplace.



1. Is it on your compliance and risk registers?
2. Is it part of your induction process?

NO

If your answer is NO then **your organisation is at risk.**

3. Does your organization hold functions in gambling venues, pubs or clubs?
4. Does your organization allow staff to gamble online or on the phones during work hours?

YES

If your answer is YES then **your organisation is at risk.**

TAKE ACTION

THERE ARE SEVERAL ACTIONS THE ORGANISATION CAN TAKE TO ENSURE GAMBLING DOESN'T LEAD TO NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON THE WORKFORCE.

Council must recognise that gambling is a health issue and harm is avoidable. It is incumbent on council to ensure staff are informed on the harms of gambling and what supports is offered by the organisation.

Council must recognise the rights and risks to a council officer who is asked to take an activity group to a venue that has poker machines. **Council will not always know if an officer could be experiencing gambling harm.**

By addressing workplace gambling your organization will benefit the community as employees with gambling problems affect family, friends and colleagues.

MAKE HARM PREVENTION PART OF



Council's healthy lifestyle program



the organisation's risk register



the whole organisation

A proactive response from your organization will help reduce the negative impact of gambling in your workforce.

GAMBLING CAN CAUSE SERIOUS PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL AND FINANCIAL HARMS

THE FACTS

\$2.6
billion

In the 2015-2016 year pokies were responsible for \$2.6 billion in losses in Victoria.

\$64.6
billion

Since their legalization in 1992, they have been responsible for \$64.6 billion in losses to the state.

29,165

There are 29,165 machines in the state of Victoria. Of these 2,608 are in Crown Casino, with the remainder in Melbourne's communities.

\$1.8
billion

\$1.8 billion is lost at Crown Casino, \$490 million is lost at the TAB, and \$480 million in lotteries.



For assistance and further information contact the VLGA
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