

Question on Notice

No. 447

Asked on Tuesday, 31 July 2012

MRS SCOTT asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice (MR BLEIJIE)–

QUESTION:

With reference to poker machine licences in Queensland, will the Attorney-General outline the (a) maximum number of gaming machine operating authorities that are currently available statewide to be issued in clubs and hotels (listed separately), (b) current number of gaming machine operating authorities that are issued in clubs and hotels statewide (listed separately), (c) number of gaming machine operating authorities that have been sold or transferred in the financial years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 (listed separately by financial year) and (d) number of gaming machine operating authorities that have been returned to the government for the past five financial years (listed separately by financial year)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Woodridge for her question.

- (a) The total State-wide maximum number or cap on hotel gaming machine authorities is 19,500. This cap was set as a result of decisions of the previous Government. Following the expiry of the previous Government's moratorium on the release for sale of any further hotel gaming machine authorities, 190 authorities became available under the cap. These remaining unreleased authorities were proposed to be sold at scheduled authorised tenders in two tranches. At the last authorised sale which was finalised in June 2012, 100 authorities were released and 90 authorities are proposed for release at the next authorised sale currently proposed for November 2012.

The total State-wide maximum number or cap on club gaming machine entitlements is 24,705. This cap was set by the previous Government. As at 8 August 2012, there were 200 entitlements previously unreleased for sale under this cap with 100 of these entitlements proposed for release for sale at the next authorised sale currently proposed for September 2012. Again, this incremental release is consistent with the former Government's approach.

- (b) As at 8 August 2012, the number of hotel industry-owned gaming machine operating authorities was 19,313.

The current number of club industry owned gaming machine entitlements is 24,307.

- (c) The number of gaming machine operating authorities and entitlements that have been sold or transferred in the financial years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 (listed separately by financial year):

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Hotels					
Authorities sold*	315	266	172	59	363
Clubs					
Entitlements sold* (tender)	Prior to scheme commencement	Prior to scheme commencement	90	89	46
Entitlements traded between venues	Prior to scheme commencement	Prior to scheme commencement	245	338	316

*Given that they are tradeable, it is possible that an individual authority or an individual entitlement could be sold more than once in any given period of time.

- (d) The following table provides the number of hotel authorities and club entitlements returned to the Government as a result of cancellation of a licence; or lapsing of an approval before installation of gaming machines; or the lapsing of club entitlements as a result of a failure to transfer entitlements within 12 months of a notification of a licence surrender or an approved decrease in gaming machines:

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Hotels	8	0	13	0	0
Clubs	Prior to scheme commencement	Prior to scheme commencement	0	46	12