

Question on Notice

No. 854

Asked on 18 August 2022

MR M BERKMAN ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND MINISTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON S FENTIMAN) –

QUESTION:

With reference to Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) in Queensland—

Will the Attorney-General advise (a) monthly figures for EGM losses in casinos in 2022, as reported for EGMs in clubs and hotels, (b) if those figures are not available, how will the government ensure losses from EGMs at casinos, including the new Queens Wharf Casino, are publicly reported, (c) if the government has identified an unacceptable level of losses on Queensland EGMs that would trigger a change to the existing caps on numbers of EGMs in clubs and hotels and (d) if the government will introduce a cap on the number of EGMs allowed in casinos?

ANSWER:

I am advised that aggregated electronic gaming machine (EGM) expenditure at Queensland's casinos in 2022 totalled \$35.4 million in January; \$33.3 million in February; \$40 million in March; \$46.4 million in April; \$44.5 million in May; and \$40.6 million in June.

Total monthly expenditure from all casino gambling back to 2004 is published by the Queensland Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation on the Queensland Open Data portal.

The Government has not identified a figure at which losses on Queensland EGMs would trigger a change to the existing caps on EGM numbers in clubs and hotels.

The *Casino Control Act 1982* provides that the Minister may, by written notice to the casino operator, fix a limit on the number of gaming machines to be permitted in a casino. Limits exist for all Queensland casinos and are generally first applied when a casino licence is issued.

The EGM limits applied to all existing Queensland casinos are independent of the prescribed cap on club and hotel gaming machine numbers and may be amended by the Minister from time to time.