

15 May 2012

Alex Harris

Via email: fyi-request-171-46981a22@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Sir

REQUEST TO GAMBLING COMMISSION

1. We refer to your email dated 20 April 2012 under the Official Information Act 1982. You requested the following:

For each casino:

- the dates of all reports filed on their Host Responsibility Programme (“HRP”);
- the dates of all reviews of the HRPs by the Gambling Commission.

We respond as follows.

2. SKYCITY provided reports on the HRP for the Auckland casino for the six months to June 2008, December 2008, June 2009, December 2009, June 2010, December 2010, and for the 12 months to December 2011. Please note that the Commission permitted SkyCity to submit one report for 2011.
3. In response to the remainder of your request, we respond as follows:
 - (a) The Commission undertook a full review of SkyCity’s licence conditions in 2005/6 and a full review of its HRP in 2007, when it introduced a new HRP for the Auckland casino. This was the result of almost two years research and development, and involved the benefit of international expert advice in its creation.
 - (b) When the Commission reviewed SkyCity’s licence conditions, it imposed a requirement on itself to review the HRP every two years. It also imposed a requirement on SkyCity to report to the Commission on its HRP every six months. This was let out to an annual report recently on the grounds that the programme was progressing well.
 - (c) The six-monthly reports by SkyCity were to allow the Commission to track closely the effectiveness of the HRP particularly in its early days of implementation.
 - (d) These reports were found by the Commission to be very thorough and provided valuable information and learnings.
 - (e) In fact, the effectiveness of the six-monthly reporting system was such that the Commission decided that the two-yearly review approach it had originally contemplated was unnecessary and need not proceed simply to have the

Commission to comply with its own requirement. The two-yearly review provision had been proposed prior to realising the effectiveness of the six-monthly system. It should be noted that the six-monthly reports involve both written and verbal aspects.

- (f) A regular full review is, of course, essential, but not at a two-year frequency. The Commission has already flagged that it will be undertaking such a review of the HRP next year – at the five year point since its introduction.
- (g) The Commission is very satisfied with the quality of the HRP and the way it has been implemented since 2007.
- (h) Since that time, SkyCity introduced many of the elements of the HRP into its Hamilton and Queenstown casinos as they proved to be effective. This process is now largely complete and the programme has been formalised into HRPs that have been prepared for each of Hamilton and Queenstown. These are soon to be released. Reports will then be expected from these casinos on their HRPs.
- (i) The Commission will shortly commence the same process for the Christchurch, Dunedin and Wharf casinos' HRPs, again formalising improvements that have taken place in recent years. Reports will then be expected from these casinos on their HRPs.
- (j) Once released, all casinos will have fully operational, modern and well tested HRPs.

Yours faithfully



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