



## Minister for Gaming Regulation

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Mr Bruce Thompson  
Acting Chairperson  
Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation  
49 Elizabeth Street  
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**25 MAR 2013**

Dear Mr Thompson

### **Reducing Red Tape Statement of Expectations for the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation**

I am pleased to provide you with this reducing red tape Statement of Expectations (SOE) for Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (Commission).

As Minister for Gaming Regulation, I am responsible for administering the *Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation Act 2011*, the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*, the *Casino Control Act 1991* and the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998*. This SOE should be read within the context of the objectives, obligations and functions outlined in these acts as amended.

This SOE identifies the key compliance and administrative activities of the regulator that impose significant administrative, compliance and delay costs on business and the broader community. Specific targets are set to reduce these costs as part of the regulator's contribution to the Government's 25 per cent red tape reduction target.

I acknowledge that this may involve work already being undertaken by the Commission, particularly given the recent creation of the Commission as an integrated regulator of both the gambling and liquor industries. As recognised by the Coalition's policy commitment, the creation of the new integrated regulator provides a unique opportunity to review and streamline administrative and regulatory processes to ensure they are efficient and impose the lowest costs necessary. It is my expectation that the Commission take this opportunity to review how it does business and to create a modern, efficient and effective regulator.

#### **Key compliance and administrative activities**

Following consultation with the Commission, I have identified some key compliance and administrative processes and activities that impose considerable costs on businesses and the broader Victorian community. The Commission is expected to identify opportunities to reduce these costs – for example, by applying a more risk-based, proportionate and targeted approach to deliver compliance outcomes at the lowest cost to the community. To focus these efforts the Commission is expected to achieve the following broad measures:

- Develop a comprehensive risk-based approach to regulation that properly takes into account the objectives of the legislation administered by the Commission.
- Reduce determination times and administrative costs by streamlining application processes, reducing discretionary application requirements and improving information provided to applicants.
- Reduce reporting requirements for those regulated by the Commission.
- Working with the Department of Justice, reduce determination times for liquor and gambling related applications by streamlining processes that intersect with the planning system, including addressing unnecessary duplication where possible.

Further, the Commission is expected to achieve the following specific measures:

- Reduce determination times for lower risk liquor licence applications and approvals by 15 per cent through streamlining the application process, reducing discretionary application requirements and improving information provided to applicants. Application types should include an application for:
  - temporary approval for unaccompanied minors to be on licensed premises;
  - a transfer of a licence; and
  - a new licence.
- Reduce determination times for lower risk minor gaming approvals and permits by 15 per cent through streamlining the application process, reducing discretionary application requirements and improving information provided to applicants. Application types should include trade promotion lotteries and raffles.
- Reduce the red tape on applicants and participants in gaming and liquor inquiries conducted by the Commission by streamlining procedures and reducing average hearing times by 25 per cent.

Each of these measures should be achieved by July 2014.

In developing actions to achieve these performance measures, the Commission is expected to consult with business and the broader community as appropriate.

The Commission is also encouraged to identify other areas that may impose considerable burden on the community and work towards reducing these costs where appropriate.

### **Reporting**

Reporting on your progress to deliver SOE performance measures should be undertaken in the context of annual financial year reporting to avoid dual reporting streams. As part of annual reporting, regulators are expected to report on:

- Current baseline levels (for example, 1 January 2011) for approval times/inspections etc. to measure performance against the agreed targets.
- Activities undertaken to reach the performance measures set out in this statement.
- Annual reductions in red tape achieved (where relevant).

I also expect that these SOE performance measures will be incorporated into the Commission's corporate plan.

This reducing red tape SOE should be published on the Commission's website upon receipt as this applies from the date of receipt until the end of this Parliamentary term, or until otherwise amended.

I expect that within three months of receipt of this letter, the Commission will indicate to me how it intends to achieve the performance measures set in this SOE. This response should include details on

the specific tasks that will be undertaken by the Commission to achieve each of the measures above, including both the broad measures and the specific measures.

I look forward to seeing the Commission continuously working towards applying an efficient level of regulatory intervention to achieve its outcomes.

Yours sincerely



**Andrew McIntosh MP**