

## Media Release

Tuesday 15 October 2013

### Transformation of liquor and gambling regulator

The Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation's (VCGLR) 2012-13 Annual Report highlights the transformation the organisation and the industries it regulates have experienced over the past year.

VCGLR CEO Jane Brockington said the VCGLR's first full year as an integrated liquor and gambling regulator showed substantial progress on a journey to greater efficiencies, streamlining its business, reducing red tape and rolling out a new compliance and enforcement model.

"In gambling, the key focus for 2012-13 was on implementing significant changes to the structure of the gaming industry, in particular the transition from a duopoly of two companies owning and operating all gaming machines in the state, to a model where individual venues are responsible for this," Ms Brockington said.

"This task involved transferring ownership and operations of about 25,000 gaming machines to 500 different venues, and then connecting these machines to the new electronic monitoring system to guard the legality and integrity of gaming in Victoria."

Another milestone for the new VCGLR was completing the five-year review of the Melbourne Casino.

"The most significant change in this - the fifth review of the casino licensee - was to examine the operator's commitment to harm minimisation, and six of the 10 recommendations made in the review related to this," Ms Brockington said.

During 2012-13, the VCGLR has moved to greater intelligence-led, risk-based compliance activities. Building a stronger relationship with Victoria Police has also been a priority, with an emphasis on joint operations, sharing resources and sharing intelligence.

"This means cracking down on venues where the risk of harm to people and property is greater; but it also means less focus on venues that consistently do the right thing," Ms Brockington said.

While this transformation of the VCGLR has continued, the industries it regulates remain vibrant.

There were 19,978 active liquor licences in Victoria in 2012-13 across 14 different types - ranging from late-night licences to special events to cafes and restaurants.

For further information please visit [www.vcglr.vic.gov.au](http://www.vcglr.vic.gov.au)

---

**Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation**

**Media contact: John Smith on telephone (03) 9098 5133 [www.vcglr.vic.gov.au](http://www.vcglr.vic.gov.au)**