

Media Release

2 August, 2019

Re-examination of issues relating to Crown

Quotes attributable to Catherine Myers, Chief Executive Officer, VCGLR

Following the announcement by the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation (the Minister), the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) has committed to re-examining the issues relating to Crown Melbourne Limited (Crown) that have been reported in the media recently.

Many of the issues reported were carefully examined by the VCGLR as part of its detailed investigation into the suitability of Crown as the casino licence holder in the Sixth Review of the Casino Operator and Licence (the Review) which was finalised in 2018. If there is any further action that needs to be taken as a result of the re-examination, the VCGLR will act.

Crown is regulated by a wide range of state and federal government regulators and law enforcement agencies. The VCGLR's main regulatory functions are the regulation of gaming and liquor. A variety of other agencies regulate other areas of Crown's operations.

As part of the Review, the VCGLR engaged with other enforcement agencies and regulators on relevant issues such as money laundering and junket operators. The VCGLR has ongoing relationships with various agencies and regulators and will engage with those agencies about matters that relate to their jurisdiction to see if there is any new data or evidence that is relevant to Crown's obligations under Victorian gambling legislation.

The VCGLR has a dedicated casino team that operates at the casino 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition to this team, the VCGLR have dedicated auditors and investigators that conduct regular audits of casino operations related to high risk activities, including ensuring that Crown conducts ongoing probity checks and assessments regarding junket operators. If any matters come to our attention that fall outside the VCGLR's regulatory remit, they are referred to the relevant agency.

Under the *Casino Control Act 1991* the casino operator is required to ensure that an approved system of internal controls is implemented. The VCGLR monitors the casino operator's implementation of these systems and controls through an active audit program. The VCGLR takes seriously any failure by the casino operator to implement these controls – and has taken disciplinary action and issued fines in this area.

The Minister also requested a review of the regulatory oversight of junket operators in Victoria. The VCGLR will assist the Department of Justice and Community Safety to review the regulatory arrangements in this area.

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