Gambling Harm

• Up to 550,000 people in Victoria likely to have been harmed by their gambling
• A further 120,000 people likely to have experienced harm due to someone else’s gambling in a year
• Pokies account for around 75 – 80% of people with gambling problems
• People with gambling problems are 30 times more likely to use the pokies than other gamblers
Gambling and Life’s Problems

- People severely harmed by gambling were significantly more likely to have experienced:
  – The death of someone close to them;
  – A divorce;
  – Legal difficulties;
  – A major injury or illness to either themselves or someone close;
  – Trouble with work, boss or superiors; or
  – A major change to their financial situation

- People harmed by gambling reported significantly higher rates of depression and anxiety disorders.
Existing Pokie Reforms

• Ban on ATMs in venues
• Ban on public pokie advertising
• Smoking ban in venues
• Local area caps on the number of pokies
• State wide cap of 27,500 pokies in pubs and clubs
• Non-enforceable limit setting
• $5 bet limit
• Self exclusion program
• Ban on pokies with head phones
Further measures to curb pokies harm

- Restrict operating hours to between 10 am and midnight
- Introduce a duty of care
- Staff intervention
- Introduce a $1 bet limit
- Allow gamblers to set enforceable limits
- Remove linked jackpots
- Give local communities the final say on gambling in their area
- Prohibit political donations by the pokies industry
Online gambling reforms

• Self Exclusion
• Opt out limit setting on losses
• Ban on gambling corporations providing credit to gamble
• Advertising restrictions
• Restricting inducements
• Activity statements
• Staff training
• Ban on links to payday lenders