

2.2 **GAMBLING SPONSORSHIP IN MONASH** (KJ)

Responsible Director: Russell Hopkins

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the further information requested at its meeting in August 2022 regarding electronic gambling machine (EGM) venue operators with a club licence and their level of sponsorship within the City of Monash. This report summarises the findings of officer research and presents options to Council as to how Monash can support community organisations, groups and clubs to prevent harm from gambling.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS/ISSUES

Officers conducted an online survey and undertook desktop research to better understand the types of sponsorship arrangements and level of community sponsorship EGM operators with a club licence provide Monash sporting clubs and community organisations. Information was sought through:

1. Sporting clubs, grant recipients and hall users gambling sponsorship survey
2. Review of community group / club communication channels and websites
3. Review of Community Benefit Statements (CBS) submitted between 2017-2022 by club licenced EGM venue operators.

The survey results and other investigation and analysis show that it is not possible to accurately and objectively ascertain the degree of financial or in-kind support provided by not-for-profit gaming machine operators to sporting clubs and community groups. It also shows that there are many groups that operate successfully without support from EGM venues which hold either 'hotel' or 'club' licences.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Initiatives proposed within this report can be undertaken through existing resources.

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATION

The recently endorsed Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm Policy sends a strong message to our community that Council is committed to gambling harm prevention. It demonstrates that we will work in partnership with our community to make real and significant improvements to the way in which our community lives, plays and recreates free from gambling harm. The recently endorsed Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm Policy provides a proactive and practical framework for delivering gambling harm prevention initiatives.

GAMBLING SPONSORSHIP IN MONASH

(KJ)

Responsible Director: Russell Hopkins

RECOMMENDATION

That Council officers provide in-kind support to sporting clubs and community groups to support the implementation of the Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm Policy.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the further information requested at its meeting of August 2022 regarding electronic gambling machine (EGM) venue operators with a club licence and their level of sponsorship within the City of Monash. This report summarises the findings of officer research and presents options to Council as to how Monash can support community organisations, groups and clubs to prevent harm from gambling.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of August 2022, Council considered a report on the Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm Policy and resolved (in part) that it:

- 3) Directs officers to consider and present to Council advice on options for Council to offer a financial incentive to all community groups which have received a grant from a not-for-profit gaming machine operator in the past two financial years in exchange for the group or club committing to:*
- a. not accept any further grants from any gaming machine operator for the next five years;*
 - b. display posters in their club facilities (if applicable and, if so, to be supplied by Council) highlighting that the club disavows the promotion of all gaming machine operators and venues;*
 - c. send an email or letter to all members and participants of the club explaining that the club disavows its past association with the gaming machine operator and providing relevant information about why; and*
 - d. not hold any club or group events at a venue operated by a gaming machine operator.*

Officers conducted a survey and undertook desktop research to better understand the types of sponsorship arrangements and level of community sponsorship EGM operators with a club licence provide to Monash sporting clubs and community organisations. The survey that was conducted was

sent to all sporting clubs, Monash Community Grant Program recipients and users of Monash Halls and facilities. (**Attachment 1**).

DISCUSSION

As discussed in detail below, officers sought to quantify the support provided to community groups and clubs by EGM venue operators via:

- An analysis of support provided by not-for-profit gambling venues holding a 'club' licence via their Community Benefit Statements lodged with the Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (VGCCC).
- A survey sent to all Monash sporting clubs (98), grants recipients (147) and all Halls users (180).
- A review of the website and Facebook pages of all sporting clubs located in Monash, all service organisations that receive a Monash Community Grant, neighbourhood houses and a randomised selection of community groups that receive a grant via the Monash Community Grant program.

While the Council resolution is specific to support provided by not-for-profit gambling machine operators, the survey and analysis sought information on support received by community groups from any gambling machine operators in the municipality for completeness.

The City of Monash has a total of 15 EGM venues within the municipality which accommodate 955 EGMs. Of those venues, 10 hold 'hotel' licences meaning they are required to pay a higher tax rate to the Victorian Government, which is placed into a trust - the Community Support Fund. The Victorian Government allocates money from this Fund to a range of initiatives including, but not limited to, gambling harm prevention programs, such as the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation.

'Hotel' licensed venues are not required to 'give back' to the community; however, officers anecdotally are aware that these venues do provide some level of sponsorship, such as free venue hire and encourage sporting clubs to attend their venue. This is, however, not able to be quantified due to the venue not having to complete a Community Benefit Statement or disclose their sponsorship.

The remaining five EGM venues in Monash hold a 'club' licence, meaning they are required to contribute at least 8.33% of their net gambling revenue to the community under the Community Benefit program. These venues in Monash are:

- Clayton RSL
- Mulgrave Country Club
- Melbourne Victoria Racing Club Leighoak (known as Leighoak)
- Vegas at Waverley Gardens
- Waverley RSL

Historically, the Community Benefit program has been criticised for the types of items EGM operators with a club licence are able to claim as providing ‘benefit’ to the community, including staff wages and superannuation, venue refurbishment, operating costs, etc.

EGM operators with a club license must submit an audited Community Benefit Statement (CBS) each financial year detailing the funds they have contributed to the community under three classes:

- **Class A:** gifts, donations and sponsorships, cost of providing/maintaining sporting facilities used by club members, function room or food subsidy, volunteer services provided to ex-service personnel
- **Class B:** capital expenditure, operating costs
- **Class C:** audit expenses, costs of providing responsible gambling measures

Officers have reviewed the CBS of the above five venues for the past five financial years (**Attachment 2**). Officers determined that it was important to inform Council of what a ‘normal year’ of revenue and sponsorship looked like as opposed to only reviewing the last two years given that both years have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 due to lockdowns and venue closures. For example, in 2018/19, prior to the pandemic, Mulgrave Country Club declared \$964,398 of Class A benefits in comparison to 2020/21, a year impacted significantly by COVID, in which the venue declared \$361,980 of Class A benefits.

The CBS for these venues demonstrated that much of their ‘benefit’ is in fact going towards operational costs including staff wages, superannuation, and work cover for all staff (e.g. bar, restaurant, gaming, security, administration etc).

Mulgrave Country Club was consistently noted as the highest sponsor/donor to organisations, contributing a minimum of \$200,000 in donations/sponsorship in non-COVID impacted years.

Clayton and Waverley RSLs typically declared \$0 for donations to community groups/clubs, noting that their focus is particularly on ex-service personnel.

During the years that Hawthorn Football Club owned Vegas at Waverley Gardens, an average of \$292k was attributed to Class A (xii) - *any sporting or recreational purpose, excluding any club that holds a venue operator’s licence*. In the spot check of Monash sports club communications, Vegas at Waverley Gardens was not identified as a sponsor of any local clubs. It is difficult to identify exactly how these funds were allocated but as Hawthorn Football Club was the owner, it may be that funds went back to the club or their associated talent feeder clubs.

Whilst venue operators are required to complete a CBS it does not necessarily tell the whole story. For example, the CBS statement discloses that the venues offer subsidised seniors' meals; however, it does not disclose how many meals and to how many people. The statement also states that they provide a nominal value of room hire, again it does not disclose how many functions or to whom this room hire was provided. Within its CBS, Mulgrave Country Club does regularly list the clubs and organisations that it has provided cash donations to; however, their CBS does not capture if any other forms of support were given in the form of meal vouchers for sporting achievements, etc. When conducting the desktop analysis, officers noted instances of sporting clubs promoting on Facebook a 'member deal' especially for players/club members at Mulgrave Country Club as a means to attract patronage to this particular venue.

It is important to note that legislation does not require EGM operators to sponsor or provide in-kind support specifically to groups from within their local government area. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that the sponsorship listed in their CBS is all related to clubs/groups from the Monash municipality. For example, Mulgrave Country Club has listed on its CBS 2019/20 that they supported the Springvale Districts Football and Netball Club, Knox United Soccer Club and Rowville Netball Club, etc. In the most recent CBS statement, for the first time in five years Mulgrave Country Club did not list which organisations they sponsored.

Despite the disparities between reporting and the ambiguity on where cash sponsorship/donations are directed, the main finding from the CBS review was:

- In the two financial years examined that were not impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns and venue closures (2017-18 and 2018-19), an average of \$946k cash was donated to organisations / groups by club licenced EGM operators. In addition to this, \$618k was provided as in-kind room hire or food subsidy.
- In the two financial years examined that were impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns and venue closures (2020-21 and 2021-22), an average of \$192k cash was donated to organisations / groups by EGM operators, with \$256k provided as in-kind room hire or food subsidy.

Please refer to **Attachment 2** for the Community Benefit Statement raw data for the last five financial years.

As another means to try to ascertain the level of sponsorship provided by club licenced EGM venues officers also reviewed websites and Facebook pages for any indication of gambling sponsorship for all 98 sporting clubs located in Monash, all service organisations that receive a Monash Community Grant, neighbourhood houses and a randomised selection of community groups that receive a grant via the Monash Community Grant program.

Of the sport club websites reviewed, 24 of 98 (24.5%) acknowledged an EGM venue as a sponsor of their club by listing their logo on their website under 'sponsors'. Mulgrave Country Club was the venue most often recognised on club websites (17). Other venues acknowledged as sponsors include Oakleigh Junction Hotel, The Clayton Hotel, Foresters Arms, Waverley RSL and venues outside of Monash including The Rosstown, Frezia Azzura Club and The Burvale Hotel. It should be noted that not all clubs had a website and not all clubs had a sponsor section of their website. The websites also did not display the club uniforms clearly and not all images depicted current apparel; therefore, it was difficult to determine how many clubs had EGM venue logos on their sporting attire, i.e. football jerseys, cricket tops, netball uniforms.

The review of community group/grant recipient websites found one organisation (Wavecare) advertised Mulgrave Country Club as a sponsor on their website, and this was also noted in Mulgrave Country Club's CBS across the last five years.

A review of sport club Facebook pages found 22 of 98 clubs had advertised a venue either as a sponsor or by hosting an event at an EGM venue. The most common venue promoted on the clubs/groups' Facebook page was Mulgrave Country Club. Other EGM venues mentioned on sports club Facebook pages include Oakleigh Junction, Village Green Hotel, Matthew Flinders Hotel plus the Wantirna Club and Southern Golf Club. It should be noted that this analysis focussed on identifying instances of clubs endorsing EGM venues; however, there were many instances of clubs hosting events within club rooms, non-EGM venues and schools.

Most community sporting clubs and groups are run by volunteers and often use various methods of communication, and these channels can change year on year depending on who is leading the club/group. Officers were able to collate information from the clubs' website and/or Facebook page but are aware that some clubs would utilise other forms of communication, such as Stack Team App, WeChat, emails, WhatsApp, etc, and officers were unable to access these to determine if any sponsorship or promotion of EGM venues to their members has taken place.

Officers were requested to identify options for Council to offer a financial incentive to clubs and community groups which relied on sponsorship from EGM venues. However, the work that officers have completed up to this point has demonstrated that it is not possible to quantify the exact amount of money and in-kind sponsorship that groups and clubs within Monash receive from EGM venues due to the lack of transparency and consistency across the gambling sector. Similarly, while Council's resolution is specific to not-for-profit operators, community organisations receive support from a range of EGM operators both within and beyond the City of Monash.

Accordingly, officers do not believe that it is feasible for Council to offer a financial incentive to all community groups which have received a grant from a not-for-profit gaming machine operator in the past two financial years in exchange for a range of commitments. It is also noted that this would only benefit community groups associated with not-for-profit EGM operators while many groups receive support from the holders of 'hotel' licences.

Similarly, Council would be incentivising those clubs that have been reliant on funds from EGM venues at the expense of the many clubs and groups within Monash who have chosen to not seek or accept sponsorship from gambling venues. There are many examples within Monash of successful and sustainable clubs that do not seek or accept sponsorship from EGM venues.

There are several in-kind and low-cost initiatives that Council can implement to support clubs and groups with their financial sustainability beyond EGM sponsorship, such as:

- Officers are supportive of a values-based education poster that can be displayed in all Council facilities and pavilions. The poster can focus on why this club/group does not endorse gambling and the importance for our community to have opportunities that are free from gambling harm, especially for young people. This initiative will have financial implications and has been costed at approximately \$3,300 based on the printing and postage of 200x A3 posters, noting that not all sports clubs/groups may opt in for the posters and some groups may be co-located reducing the number needed or costs of postage.
- Officers are committed to offering in-kind support to clubs and groups to assist them in creating environments that are free from gambling harm including:
 - Providing education sessions for committees/volunteers/clubs/members on the current gambling harm issues and ways they can prevent harm (in collaboration with Gamblers Help).
 - Communication to all club /groups/organisations regarding the updated Policy and their responsibilities under the Policy.
 - A forum for community clubs/groups to share learnings regarding healthy sponsorships, fundraising and event planning that does not rely on gambling revenue/spaces.

The Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm policy that was adopted by Council in November 2022 enables Council to remain firm on its commitment to preventing harm from gambling and encourages clubs and groups to consider the harm that gambling, or the promotion of gambling is causing their members. The policy clearly articulates that Council will advocate for environments free from gambling harm and will also educate not only our clubs and community groups but our whole community on the

harm that is caused by gambling and utilise a range of harm minimisation strategies.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This paper relates to the recently endorsed Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm policy, in particular;

3.4 Council does not provide support (including use of its facilities), funding, publicity or promotion for community groups/organisations/sports clubs that promote or advertise gambling, particularly EGMs, sports betting, and online gambling. This excludes commemorative events such as ANZAC Day that are held by approved RSL clubs. All relevant Council policies and guidelines will align with this policy position.

This paper also relates to the *Monash Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025*. Gambling harm prevention is specifically identified within Priority Three: Harm Prevention and indirectly through Pillar Two: Engaged, Confident and Connected.

CONSULTATION

A Gambling Sponsorship & Support online survey was sent to all sports clubs (98), grants recipients (147) and all Halls users (180). The survey was open for three weeks from 10 October – 31 October. The survey was sent to all groups as an optional survey for one representative per group / club to complete. To reduce barriers to participation the survey was kept to five questions and an option for any other comments.

The survey received 44 responses out of 425 potential respondents (10% response rate) (**Attachment 1**). The number of people that clicked through to the survey from the email that they received was 65. The survey asked the clubs, groups, and organisations to respond to a number of questions regarding whether they accept sponsorship from EGM venues.

- Eight of the 44 respondents answered ‘yes’ to receiving sponsorship or in-kind support from a gambling venue.
- A further one respondent stated within the comments that they receive funding from a weekly raffle at a Monash EGM venue.

The results indicated that majority of clubs/groups choose not to accept gambling sponsorship or in-kind support due to moral reasons or the group being sufficiently resourced without corporate sponsorship. Of the small number of clubs/groups that responded that do accept sponsorship or in-kind support from gambling venues (n=8), one provided comment that these funds were ‘vital’ for the continuation of their club/group, all other respondents either did not quantify their club/group’s choice to accept gambling sponsorship or were not morally opposed to sponsorship e.g. ‘We allow fiscal support from all organisations regardless of values and morals.’

The optional survey received a relatively low response rate; therefore, response bias may be present; that is, the clubs/groups that responded to the survey may have a differing attitude towards harm from gambling than those that chose not to respond. Results should be considered with caution and acknowledge that responses are not necessarily representative of the wider cohort of community groups/clubs in Monash.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The *Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm Policy* supports Council's agenda for a healthy and engaged Monash community, with a focus on prevention of harm from gambling.

The recommendations within this report provide opportunities for life-long learning and community education regarding gambling harm.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The *Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm Policy* recognises that gambling is a legal form of recreation; all community members have a right to choose to participate in gambling. Council's stance towards gambling harm prevention within the Policy does not restrict a person's choice to gamble; the focus of the Policy is preventing harm from gambling.

GENDER EQUITY ASSESSMENT

A gender impact assessment was not undertaken on this report as a Gender Impact Assessment has occurred for the Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm Policy to which this report is linked.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Print and postage costs of values-based message posters on gambling harm prevention are approximately \$3,300 based on 200 x A3 posters, noting that some may be co-located reducing the number needed or costs of postage. This initiative can be undertaken through existing resources.

CONCLUSION

The sponsorship arrangements within Monash is not able to be accurately quantified due to the lack of transparency and consistency across the gambling sector. Officers do not believe that it is feasible for Council to offer a financial incentive to all community groups which have received a grant from club licenced EGM venue in the past two financial years. It is also noted that this would only benefit community groups associated with club licenced EGM operators while many groups receive support from the holders of 'hotel' licences.

The recently endorsed Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm Policy sends a strong message to our community that Council is committed to

gambling harm prevention. It demonstrates that we will work in partnership with our community to make real and significant improvements to the way in which our community lives, plays, and recreates free from gambling harm. The recently endorsed Public Health Approach to Gambling Harm Policy provides a proactive and practical framework for delivering gambling harm prevention initiatives.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Gambling Sponsorship Consultation Report

Attachment 2 – Community Benefit Statements – 5-year raw data

Gambling sponsorship survey

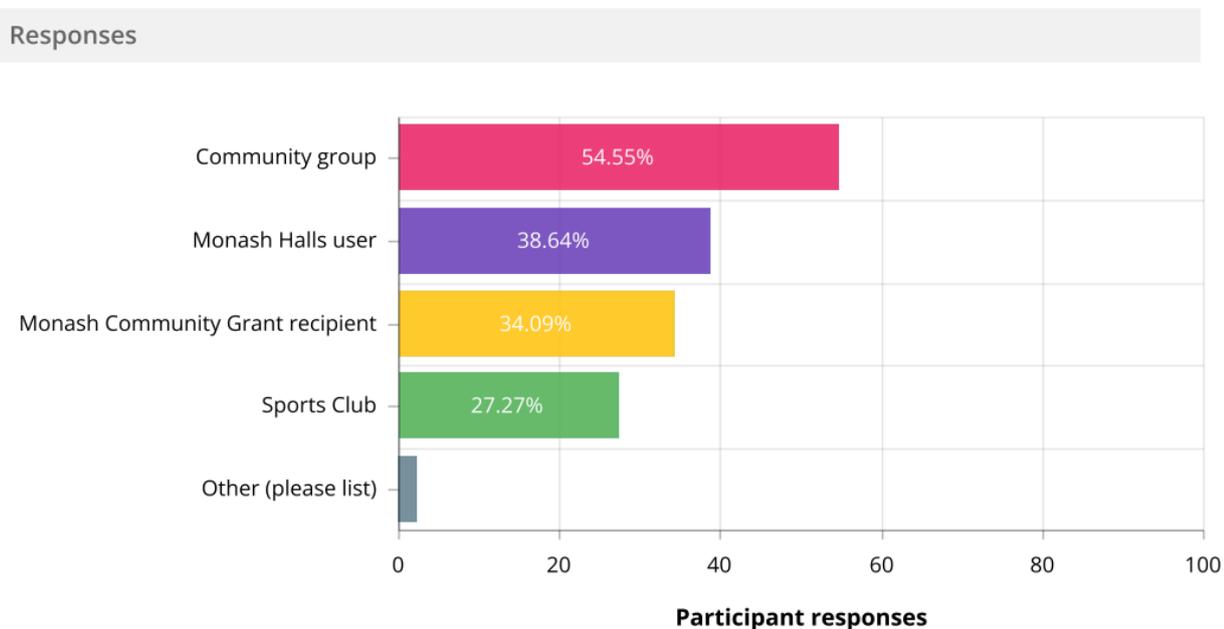
Participation

An online survey was sent via email to all Monash sporting clubs (98), grants recipients (147) and all Halls users (180). The survey was open for three weeks from 10 October – 31 October. The survey was sent to all groups as an optional survey for one representative per group / club to complete. To reduce barriers to participation the survey was kept to 5 questions and an option for any other comments. 44 responses were received, the results are summarised below.

Participants

The only demographic data that was necessary to collect was type of organisation the respondent was representing. Majority of respondents were representing a community group (24), some also utilised Monash Halls (17) and/or received grant funding (15) through the Monash Community Grants program. 12 respondents were representing sports clubs. Please note, respondents selected all that applied.

1 What kind of organisation or group are you representing for this survey?



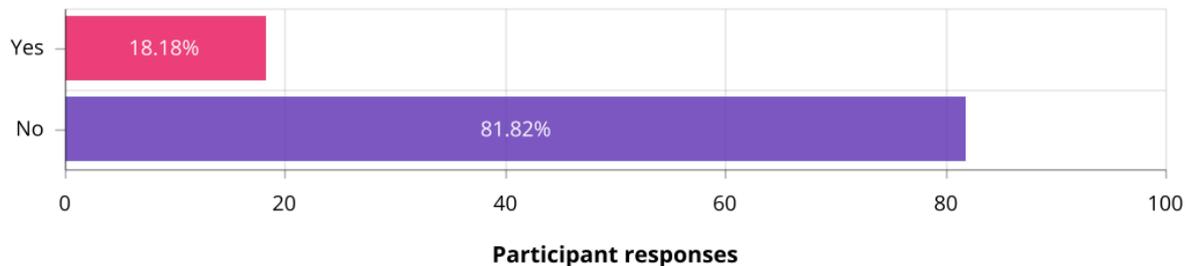
Organisation type	Number
Community Group	24
Monash Halls user	17
Monash Community Grant recipient	15
Sports club	12
Other ('club')	1

Survey Results

Majority of the groups/clubs that respondents represented did not receive gambling sponsorship or in-kind support (such as free or subsidised function rooms or meal vouchers).

2 Does your organisation/group receive sponsorship and / or in-kind support from any gambling venue?

Responses



Response	Number	Percent
Yes	8	18.18%
No	36	81.82%
Total	44	100%

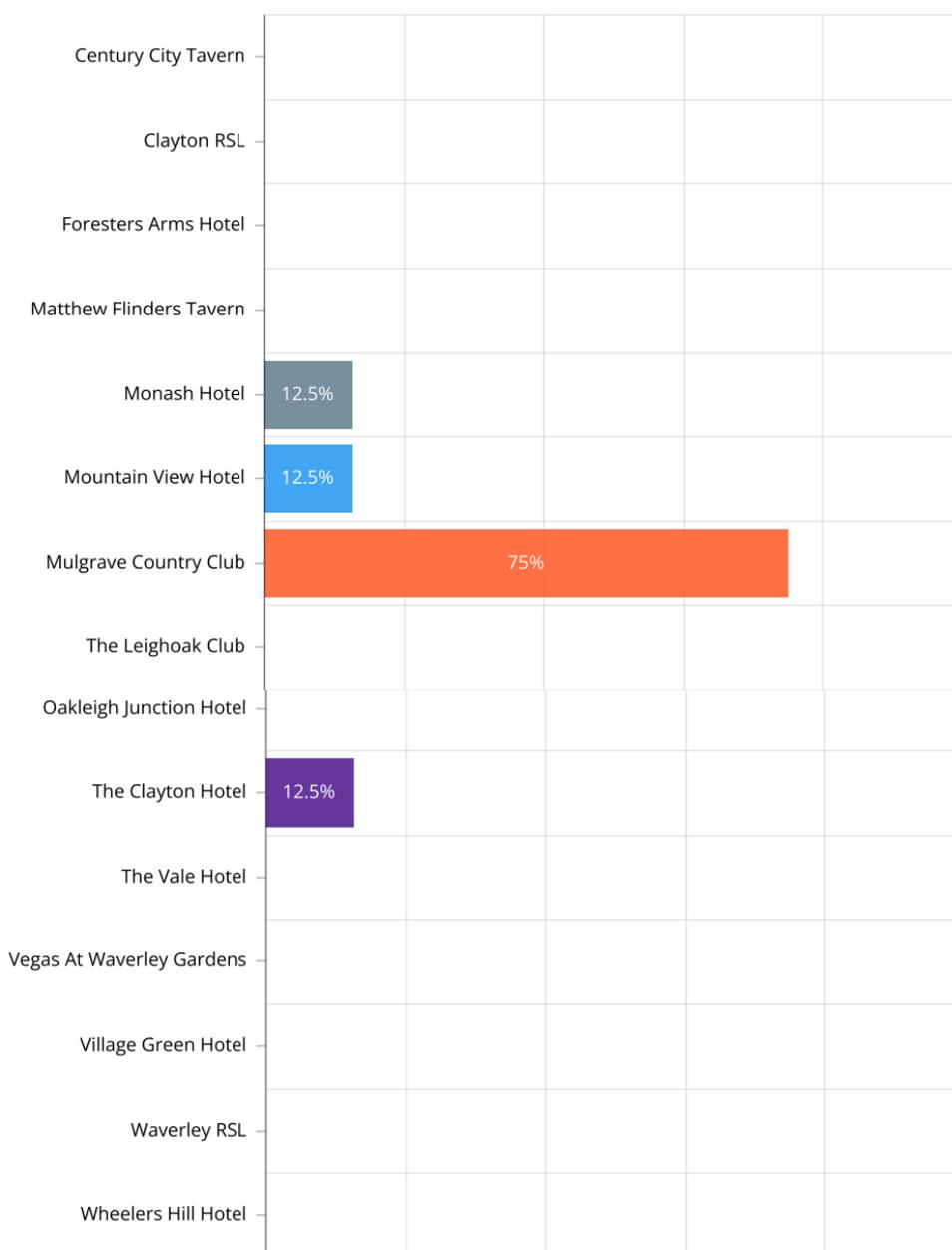
Please note one club did not identify that they receive sponsorship / in-kind support from EGM venues in this question, however did comment in response to question 5 that they have a weekly fundraiser at the Junction Hotel. Pending the nature of this arrangement it could be viewed as 9 respondents receive funding from gambling venues.

Of the 8 groups/clubs that responded 'yes' to receiving sponsorship or in-kind support from gambling venues, 4 were sport clubs, 4 were community groups.

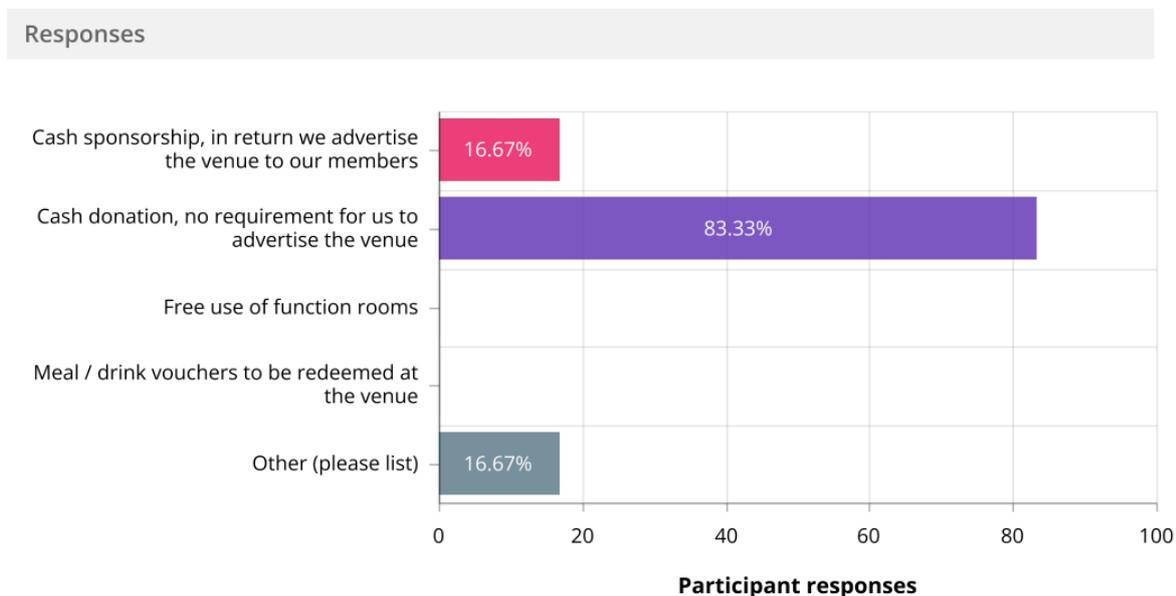
If respondents answered 'yes' to receiving sponsorship or in-kind support from gambling venues, questions 3 and 4 were asked to understand more about the type of sponsorship received.

Mulgrave Country Club was the venue identified most often as a sponsor. One group identified they received sponsorship / support from two venues: Monash Hotel and Mountain View Hotel. The most common form of sponsorship identified was cash sponsorship (5 responses).

3 If you answered yes, which venue(s) provide sponsorship or in-kind support to your group / club? (select all that apply)



4 What kind of support or sponsorship does your organisation/group receive? (select all that apply)



Response	Number	Percent
Cash sponsorship, in return we advertise the venue to our members	1	16.67%
Cash donation, no requirement for us to advertise the venue	5	83.33%
Free use of function rooms	0	0%
Meal / drink vouchers to be redeemed at the venue	0	0%
Other (please list)	1	16.67%
<i>"There is a commitment that our club use the venue for our functions"</i>	1	16.67%

Question 5 encouraged all respondents regardless of whether they receive gambling sponsorship to explain what governs their decision making regarding sponsorship and in-kind support accepted by the group/club. 36 comments were received for this question, all are listed in Appendix A, key themes are grouped here:

Club / group is against gambling sponsorship due to moral or religious reasons:

2022-10-18

We do not view gambling as within our charter of purposes as a community organization and have no reason to approach such organizations for sponsorship. We are not philosophically opposed to gambling, but see no reason to associate ourselves with it.

2022-10-18

No, not interested in a gambling venue funding. We are a family friendly organisation.

2022-10-10

We do not accept gambling venue funding as it doesn't align with our rules and values as a sporting club.

2022-10-11

As our faith (Islam) forbids gambling, we do not encourage gambling in any of our meeting.

Some respondents felt sponsorship, particularly gambling sponsorship was not needed as their activities were already well resourced:

2022-10-15

As a Group, we do not receive funding from anywhere other than a Grant from Monash for the use of the Hall - gratefully received.

2022-10-13

We don't require funding at all.



2022-10-13

The Club is funded from membership fees only. There is no sponsorship from any source



2022-10-12

We are a prospecting club & have no affiliation with any gambling facilities.



Some respondents described the decision-making process regarding sponsorships:



2022-10-10

Decision making for sponsorship opportunities is handled by the committee, but it is a poorly driven process - 1) always hard to get volunteers to actively seek out sponsors, and 2) identify and agree how much and what we would use the money for.

We don't currently have any sponsors and I don't believe we can afford to be too selective.

We have no policy regarding the ethics, but would want something that benefits the club (and community), as well as the sponsor.

We would want to be viewed favourably by both the club members (and broader community) - In my opinion I can't see our membership objecting to gambling venue funding, but it would be something for the committee to take to the membership base.



2022-10-12

As a not for profit we seek only funding from Philanthropic Organisations and Governments. Commercial sponsorship is considered by our Committee of Management. Commercial considerations are only made with companies whose ideals and intentions clearly match the purpose of our organisation.



Other respondents identified the reason they do or they may accept sponsorship or in-kind support from gambling venues.



2022-10-11

There is a requirement for our club to hold a function at the Mulgrave Country club in return for the sponsorship.

We use the venue for our Presentation night



2022-10-11

We receive no funding other than Council support for our annual exhibition. We are badly in need of larger premises and would be happy to accept grants from any legal organization, including from gambling venue funding, to achieve our long term needs for our club.



2022-10-10

This is the first year that we have accepted a cash donation from the Clayton hotel to provide alternatives to gambling within our community.

While we do not support these venues and feel personally a little uncomfortable with assisting them with their tax savings, however, we are grateful for the additional funding that enables us to run events and activities that can provide alternatives to gambling at our neighbourhood house.



Please note, this comment was received from a Neighbourhood House that has accepted funding from an EGM venue to run recreational activities as an alternative to gambling for the community. This was as a result of a Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) hearing in 2013 when The Clayton Hotel applied for more machines at their venue and Council opposed the application. The ruling was made by VCGLR to grant the additional machines; however, the venue was required to give approximately thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) per annum to local community organisations to run programs and activities that focus on gambling harm prevention strategies. Previously fifteen thousand (\$15,000) of this money was given to LinkHealth and Community however LinkHealth and Community recently indicated that they were unable to accept these funds as they are no longer running their gambling harm prevention program (the Drumming Circle). An alternative organisation was sought by The Clayton Hotel and this resulted in a Neighbourhood House accepting these funds.

2022-10-10

We have never looked for such sponsorship, preferring Club-based sponsors or local businesses.
We do run a twice-weekly meat tray raffle at the Junction Hotel as an fund-raising income source.

”

The final question on the survey provided respondents with the opportunity to provide any further comments. Six responses were received, majority of which were supportive of Council’s efforts to reduce harm from gambling and noted the excessive gambling advertising on TV / radio:

2022-10-27

We consider that gambling venues are predatory in their impact on both young and old people and are particularly concerned at the increasing association between gambling and sport. We are startled and very concerned to learn that gambling advertising has increased by 250% over the past 5 years.

”

2022-10-11

Seriously, blow up the pokies!

”

2022-10-11

Although our Association does not encourage gambling, we have members in our community who does. Very happy that the Council is organizing a Gamblers forum. Hope to attend to get more information.

”

2022-10-10

It is always shocking to see the way gambling/sports betting/pokies are being advertised on television normalising betting and losing money among friends. We would like to support Monash Council in any way we can to shift the current attitude towards pokies and provide alternative activities for those affected.

”

2022-10-11

The biggest problem aspect with Gambling, is the exorbitant and damaging level of advertising and subsequent normalising of it, through the media. It is a disease. Gambling advertising should be treated the same as alcohol and tobacco advertising.

99

2022-10-10

I suspect it is always a battle to balance its rate payment income and expenditure on maintenance of community club facilities and sports grounds. Contributions to maintain Shared User Paths, Pavillion Facilities , parks and gardens i.e. local livability, from Pokie venues would have a positive benefit and should be supported. e.g. Skink Link has been funded by XXX hotel etc. Update kitchen at the xx pavillion has been funded byetc

99

Appendix A: All comments received in response to question 5: **Please tell us about your decision-making regarding sponsorship and in-kind support accepted by your group/club. For example, have you considered alternatives to gambling venue funding? Or is there a reason you do not accept this funding?**



2022-10-18

we don't approach them at all



2022-10-18

We do not view gambling as within our charter of purposes as a community organization and have no reason to approach such organizations for sponsorship. We are not philosophically opposed to gambling, but see no reason to associate ourselves with it.



2022-10-18

We are a church and find gambling to be against our values and beliefs as based on the Bible.



2022-10-18

Mulgrave Country Club is only venue that has ever donated to our club.

The funds are vital to keep us going.



2022-10-27

We receive support only from the City of Monash and do not seek or accept support from or endorse any other company or product. In particular, we would not accept gambling venue funding for the reasons stated in Question 4.



2022-10-20

I support venue funding



2022-10-18

No reason for not accepting this funding, but it does not really relate to our club.



2022-10-18

We have not asked any venue for support



2022-10-18
We mainly look for sponsorship from businesses related to our activities (patchwork/quilting)

99

2022-10-18
No, not interested in a gambling venue funding. We are a family friendly organisation.

99

2022-10-18
We do not have much need for funding and we have not considered any alternatives./

99

2022-10-15
As a Group, we do not receive funding from anywhere other than a Grant from Monash for the use of the Hall - gratefully received.

99

2022-10-14
We do not support any sponsorship of any gambling activity and will not receive any funding for sponsoring any gambling activity as we all recognize its harmful consequences to our community.

99

2022-10-13
We don't require funding at all.

99

2022-10-13
We do not use gambling venues for any of our classes or activities!

99

2022-10-13
The Club is funded from membership fees only. There is no sponsorship from any source

99

“ ... believes that funding should not be accepted via gambling industry funding. Gambling continues to have negative health and wellbeing consequences for Victorians and may result in significant harm to vulnerable individuals and communities.

”

“ 2022-10-12

As a not for profit we seek only funding from Philanthropic Organisations and Governments. Commercial sponsorship is considered by our Committee of Management. Commercial considerations are only made with companies whose ideals and intentions clearly match the purpose of our organisation.

”

“ 2022-10-12

We are a prospecting club & have no affiliation with any gambling facilities.

”

“ 2022-10-11

We generate funds to make our club viable by running events which are relevant to our core goals and activities, rather than sucking the life out of the poor unfortunate members of our community who are addicted to gambling.

”

“ 2022-10-11

There is a requirement for our club to hold a function at the Mulgrave Country club in return for the sponsorship.

We use the venue for our Presentation night

”

“ 2022-10-11

do not receive funding through gambling sponsors

”

“ 2022-10-11

We receive no funding other than Council support for our annual exhibition. We are badly in need of larger premises and would be happy to accept grants from any legal organization, including from gambling venue funding, to achieve our long term needs for our club.

”

2022-10-11

As our faith (Islam) forbids gambling, we do not encourage gambling in any of our meeting.

”

2022-10-11

Our club's decision -making regarding sponsorship and in-kind support for community programs, such as senior wellbeing activities and traditional cultural festival events, etc., in a multi-cultural environment.

”

2022-10-10

we don't have any contact with such gambling organisations/venue etc.

”

2022-10-10

Our club never ever requested gambling venue funding.

”

2022-10-10

We have no gambling and no support for it.
Council said no gambling, so we have a no gambling policy.

We are still aiming to find a sponsor but our two recent approaches have proven to be unsuccessful.
Nothing to do with gambling.

99

2022-10-10

This is the first year that we have accepted a cash donation from the Clayton hotel to provide alternatives to gambling within our community.
While we do not support these venues and feel personally a little uncomfortable with assisting them with their tax savings, however, we are grateful for the additional funding that enables us to run events and activities that can provide alternatives to gambling at our neighbourhood house.

99

2022-10-10

We have not had any connection or discussions with Gambling, so we have not had to consider any Gambling revenue.

99



2022-10-10

Yes but unknown where to go for once off requests.



2022-10-10

We have never looked for such sponsorship, preferring Club-based sponsors or local businesses.

We do run a twice-weekly meat tray raffle at the Junction Hotel as a fund-raising income source.



2022-10-10

Decision making for sponsorship opportunities is handled by the committee, but it is a poorly driven process - 1) always hard to get volunteers to actively seek out sponsors, and 2) identify and agree how much and what we would use the money for.

We don't currently have any sponsors and I don't believe we can afford to be too selective.

We have no policy regarding the ethics, but would want something that benefits the club (and community), as well as the sponsor.

We would want to be viewed favourably by both the club members (and broader community) - In my opinion I can't see our membership objecting to gambling venue funding, but it would be something for the committee to take to the membership base.



2022-10-10

We do not accept any funding from gambling venue/clubs, the reason is that we do not support any gambling activity or related events which would harm people's livelihood.



2022-10-10

We allow fiscal support from all organisations regardless of values and morals. We no longer offer no external organisation advertising within our organisation in any form.



2022-10-10

We do not accept gambling venue funding as it doesn't align with our rules and values as a sporting club.



Community Benefit Statement summary 2021-2022

EGM venue	Total Class A benefits claimed	Donations / gifts / sponsorships	Room hire	Meal subsidies (seniors / members)	Organisations listed as receiving donations	Total Community Benefit claimed	Total revenue	Community benefit %	Class A Community benefit %	\$ given back to community as donation % of revenue	Notes
Mulgrave Country Club	\$582,952	\$127,000	\$14,940	\$180,982	Not listed	\$2,577,838	\$9,057,977.00	28.46	6.44	1.40	
Clayton RSL	\$188,191	\$0	\$0	\$0	Not listed	\$493,334	\$3,547,808	13.91	5.30	0.00	
MVRC Leighoak	\$980,423	\$17,736	\$200	\$4,531	Not listed	\$1,167,966	\$4,761,186.17	24.53	20.59	0.37	\$320k Rates and taxes declared as Class A benefit (cost relating to providing and maintaining sports facilities for use by members) - other venues typically claim rates and taxes under Class B - operating costs. Class A totals will be inflated due to this.
Vegas at Waverley Gardens	\$307,206	\$0	\$0	\$0	Not listed	\$1,585,771	\$6,846,962	23.16	4.49	0.00	
Waverley RSL	\$159,925	\$4,278	\$17	\$111,428	Not listed	\$1,405,780	\$3,185,013.11	44.14	5.02	0.13	
TOTAL	\$2,218,697	\$149,014	\$15,157	\$296,941							
Grand total - community benefit inc room hire, meal subsidy, donations/ sponsorships				\$461,112							

Source: <https://apps.vgccc.vic.gov.au/CA256F650009C886/wCBSbyVenue?OpenView&RestrictToCategory=cbs2022&Count=1000&Year=2022>

Community Benefit Statement summary 2020-2021

EGM venue	Total Class A benefits claimed	Donations / gifts / sponsorships	Room hire	Meal subsidies (seniors / members)	Organisations listed as receiving donations	Total Community Benefit claimed	Total revenue	Community benefit %	Class A Community benefit %	\$ given back to community as donation % of revenue	Notes
Mulgrave Country Club	\$361,980	\$63,006	\$16,600	\$108,653	Ronald McDonald House (\$7.5k) Cerebral Palsy Education Centre (\$5k) Wavecare (\$6k) Make a Wish Foundation (\$2k) Eastern Lions Cricket Club (\$4k) Waverley Blue Football Club (\$3k) Mazenod Panthers Football Club (\$2.5k) Waverley Baseball Club (\$2.5k)	\$2,691,530	\$6,165,437.21	43.66	5.87	1.02	\$1.5m declared in operating costs ie. Staff hours, superannuation, security for gaming, cleaning fees, staff loyalty etc. \$1,570,271
Clayton RSL	\$142,103	\$0	\$0	\$0	NA	\$410,315	\$2,999,707	13.68	4.74	0.00	\$0 given to assistance or support of ex-service personnel. Class A benefits declared include repairs / maintenance, committee expenses
MVRC Leighoak	\$732,403	\$12,330	\$1,000	\$5,558	Not listed	\$907,466	\$3,475,820.99	26.11	21.07	0.35	Majority of Class A \$ declared for wages (\$400k) and rates and taxes (\$200k) a further \$60k declared as 'rent'. \$12,330 was given back to community.
Vegas at Waverley Gardens	\$157,654	\$157,654	\$0	\$0	NA	\$1,343,771	\$4,973,755	27.02	3.17	3.17	Hawthorn FC state they gave back \$157,654 to 'any sporting or recreational purpose' no local clubs have recognised Hawthorn FC as a sponsor. \$1.1m claimed in wages as part of operating costs
Waverley RSL	\$110,104	\$2,062	\$3,023	\$66,307	Not listed	\$1,508,578	\$2,310,293.92	65.30	4.77	0.09	\$1m declared for salaries / wages / superannuation
TOTAL	\$1,504,244	\$235,052	\$20,623	\$180,518							
Grand total - community benefit inc room hire, meal subsidy, donations/ sponsorships				\$390,831							

Source:

<https://apps.vgccc.vic.gov.au/CA256F650009C886/wCBSbyVenue?OpenView&RestrictToCategory=cbs2021&Count=1000&Year=2021>

Community Benefit Statement summary 2019-2020

EGM venue	Total Class A benefits claimed	Donations / gifts / sponsorships	Room hire	Meal subsidies (seniors / members)	Organisations listed as receiving donations	Total Community Benefit claimed	Total revenue	Community benefit %	Class A Community benefit %	\$ given back to community as donation % of revenue	Notes
Mulgrave Country Club	\$775,570	\$271,024	\$69,275	\$161,953	School Scholarships (\$26k) Monash Special Development School (\$3k) Cerebral Palsy (\$25.9k) Camp Quality (\$5k) Ronald McDonald House (\$8.9k) Waverley Benevolent Society (\$21.4k) Wavecare (\$20k) Oakleigh Chargers (\$16.8k) Eastern Lions Soccer Club (\$5.5k) Rowville Netball Club (\$4.5k) Springvale District Football and Netball Club (\$5k) Knox United Soccer Club (\$4k) Sth Belgrave Football and Netball Club (\$3k) Waverley Park Hawks Junior Football Club (\$5k) Glen Waverley Hawks Football Club (\$4k)	\$4,286,122	Data not available				\$3.5m declared in operating costs
Clayton RSL	\$192,554	\$0	\$0	\$0	NA	\$471,119	Data not available				
MVRC Leighoak	\$894,770	\$44,354	\$2,650	\$65,283	Not listed	\$1,088,590	Data not available				
Vegas at Waverley Gardens	\$305,916	\$305,916	\$0	\$0	Not listed	\$1,262,367	Data not available				
Waverley RSL	\$173,196	\$16,553	\$13,300	\$93,718	Not listed	\$1,420,874	Data not available				
TOTAL	\$2,342,006	\$637,847	\$85,225	\$320,954							
Grand total - community benefit inc room hire, meal subsidy, donations/sponsorships				\$1,044,026							

Source: <https://apps.vgccc.vic.gov.au/CA256F650009C886/wCBSbyVenue?OpenView&RestrictToCategory=cbs2020&Count=1000&Year=2020>

Community Benefit Statement summary 2018-19

EGM venue	Total Class A benefits claimed	Donations / gifts / sponsorships	Room hire	Meal subsidies (seniors / members)	Organisations listed as receiving donations	Total Community Benefit claimed	Total revenue	Community benefit %	Class A Community benefit %	\$ given back to community as donation % of revenue	Notes
Mulgrave Country Club	\$964,398	\$310,856	\$91,235	\$234,326	Celebral Palsey Education Centre (\$23k) Ronald McDonald House (\$7.5k) Monash Special Development (\$3k) Waverley Benevolent Society (\$36k) Wavecare (\$20k) Squash Victoria (\$15k) Waverley Park Junior Football Club (\$7k) Eastern Lions Soccer Club (\$5k) Rowville Netball Club (\$4.5k) Glen Waverley Hawks Football Netball Club (\$4k) Springvale Districts Football/Netball Club (\$4k) Knox United Soccer Club (\$4k) Waverley Blues Football Club (\$3k) Sandown Cobras Football Netball Club (\$3k)	\$5,178,354	\$11,606,742	44.62	8.31	2.68	
Clayton RSL	\$252,503	\$0	Not listed	\$179,729	NA	\$512,930	\$3,731,487	13.75	6.77	0.00	
MVRC Leighoak	\$1,271,281	\$86,272	\$7,290	\$27,558	Not listed	\$1,516,016	\$7,738,947	19.59	16.43	1.11	Note ownership of Leighoak changed from Melbourne Football Club to Moonee Valley Racing Club in 2018-19. Data has been combined of two separate Community Benefit Statements for the purpose of this report.
Vegas at Waverley Gardens	\$301,011	\$301,011	\$0	\$0	NA	\$1,249,582	\$10,755,520	11.62	2.80	2.80	Hawthorn FC state they gave back \$300k to 'any sporting or recreational purpose'. No local clubs have recognised Hawthorn FC as a sponsor. \$900k claimed in wages / super as part of operating costs
Waverley RSL	\$252,396	\$20,535	\$32,464	\$134,185	Not listed	\$1,513,963	\$4,887,881	30.97	5.16	0.42	
TOTAL	\$3,041,589	\$718,674	\$130,989	\$575,798							
GRAND TOTAL - community benefit inc room hire, meal subsidy, donations/sponsorships				\$1,425,461							

Source: <https://apps.vgccc.vic.gov.au/CA256F650009C886/wCBSbyVenue?OpenView&RestrictToCategory=cbs2019&Count=1000&Year=2019>

Community Benefit Statement summary – 2017-2018

EGM venue	Total Class A benefits claimed	Donations / gifts / sponsorships	Room hire	Meal subsidies (seniors / members)	Organisations listed as receiving donations	Total Community Benefit claimed	Total revenue	Community benefit %	Class A Community benefit %	\$ given back to community as donation % of revenue	Notes
Mulgrave Country Club	\$890,728	\$272,100	\$82,437	\$208,602	School scholarships (\$26k) Monash Special Development School (\$3k) Celebral Palsey Education Centre (\$15k) Ronald McDonald House (\$7.5k) Make a Wish Foundation (\$3k) Waverley Benevolent Society (\$36k) Wavecare (\$17k) Squash Victoria (\$15k) Oakleigh Chargers (\$8k) Waverley Park Hawks Junior Football Club (\$7k) Eastern Lions Soccer Club (\$5.5k) Waverley Blues Football Netball Club (\$5k) Rowville Netball club (\$4.5k) Knox United Soccer Club (\$4k) Glen Waverley Hawks Football Club (\$4k) Greater Dandenong Warriors Hockey Club (\$3k) Mulgrave Football Club (\$3k) Springvale District Football Club (\$3k) Narre Warren Football Netball Club (\$3k) Sandown Cobras (\$3k) Narre Warren Foxes Football Club (\$2.5k) Mazenod Panthers Football Club (\$2.5k) Glen Waverley Cricket Club (\$2.5k)	\$4,713,562	\$12,306,356	38.30	7.24	2.21	
Clayton RSL	\$178,118	0	\$48,040	0	NA	\$525,681	\$3,311,686	15.87	5.38	0	
Leighoak	\$563,611	\$480,431	\$9,300	\$21,528	Not listed	\$901,638	\$7,704,884	11.70	7.31	6.24	Note Melbourne Football Club owned Leighoak at this time.
Vegas at Waverley Gardens	\$405,719	\$405,719	0	0	Not listed	\$1,169,494	\$10,949,743	10.68	3.71	3.71	
Waverley RSL	\$247,977	\$15,137	\$24,386	\$134,031	Not listed	\$1,382,441	\$5,086,984	27.18	4.87	0.30	
TOTAL	\$2,286,153	\$1,173,387	\$164,163	\$364,161							
GRAND TOTAL - community benefit inc room hire, meal subsidy, donations/ sponsorships				\$1,701,711							
Source: https://apps.vgccc.vic.gov.au/CA256F650009C886/wCBSbyVenue?OpenView&RestrictToCategory=cbs2018&Count=1000&Year=2018											