

21 January 2012

CLUBSACT CONFIRMS RECEIPT OF AN OFFER FOR A TRIAL IN THE ACT

Chief Executive of ClubsACT Jeff House has confirmed that he met with Minister Jenny Macklin last night and at that meeting received a formal offer from the Commonwealth for the ACT to host a trial of Mandatory Pre-Commitment. "As I have always said, if the offer met a number of pre conditions then I would agree to provide that offer to the members of ClubsACT for their consideration" Mr House said.

"Having initially reviewed the offer I regard it as a serious and genuine offer and it does address the pre conditions that have been previously stated. As a result I will be forwarding that offer to the members of ClubsACT for their consideration. We will take our time to assess the proposal and form a view on its merits. Once the members have had a chance to review the offer ClubsACT will convene a special general meeting to discuss the trial with a view to providing a response to the Commonwealth."

ClubsACT's Constitution requires two weeks written notice to members prior to a special general meeting being held; therefore the meeting will not be convened prior to 4 February.

"It is important to state at this point that no agreement on a trial has been reached, only an agreement to discuss the offer put forward by the Commonwealth. The important work of continuing to reduce the already low rate of problem gambling will continue regardless of the outcome of these discussions. However, I restate my view that before Mandatory Pre-Commitment could be considered for any roll out across the country, a trial to determine its effectiveness and impact on the financial well-being of clubs is essential."

The terms of the offer will remain confidential until the members of ClubsACT have received it.

"I look forward to continuing to work with the Government and other stakeholders on this issue".

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