



# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

## BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES



13 OCTOBER 2018

The NSW Liberals and Nationals Government is committed to strengthening the State's economy, growing jobs and building strong communities.

The Government recognises clubs are often a key point of connection in communities. Clubs provide a place to socialise as well as a refuge in times of emergency. Clubs in NSW also employ 43,000 people including about 23,000 in regional communities and provide strong levels of community support.

The NSW Liberals and Nationals are committed to policies for the clubs sector that ensure stable operating conditions, benefits for the community and employment.

### 1. Taxation

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will maintain the current clubs gaming tax regime and recognises the importance of operating certainty for clubs in their provision of services to the community. Clubs are expected to contribute \$3.4 billion over the next four years to state revenue.

### 2. ClubGRANTS

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will continue to recognise the club industry's contribution to the community through the ClubGRANTS scheme and maintain the ClubGRANTS contribution rebate, which will result in clubs putting more than \$348 million into community projects over the next four years. In addition it will seek to:

- Make it easier for community groups to apply for ClubGRANTS;
- Improve transparency, governance and reporting through mandated use of ClubGRANTS Online;
- Review ClubGRANTS guidelines with a view to reducing red tape and ensure decisions are driven by local priorities.

### 3. Support in Times of Drought, Disaster and Emergency

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to working with the club industry to:

- Expand Category 1 and 2 ClubGRANTS in Local Government Areas impacted by drought to include drought support measures. Funding guidelines would include but not be limited to purchase and freight of water, counselling and mental health initiatives and specific funds and appeals nominated by the Government in consultation with ClubsNSW;
- Provide timely and effective advice and assistance in managing the threat of terrorism or other mass-casualty events in their venues.

### 4. Job Creation

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to working with the club industry to drive regional job creation by:

- Establishing a regional club trainee employment program with ClubsNSW, to support job creation in regional NSW.

### 5. Skills Delivery

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to formalising the role clubs play in providing spaces for training and education and consider how clubs can be used to improve access to training facilities and provide hands-on experience for trainees in their local communities. This includes:

- Facilitating a partnership between clubs, TAFE and other educational/training organisations;
- Promoting the use of club facilities by TAFE or other educational/training organisations for the education of students.

### 6. Responsible Service of Alcohol

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government acknowledges clubs are safe, family-friendly venues. The Government will seek to streamline the principal regulatory arrangements while maintaining a strong focus on compliance obligations and responsible service of alcohol.

### 7. Modernising Club Membership

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to working with ClubsNSW to modernise the club sign-in and membership process using digital technology.

### 8. Update of Registered Clubs Act

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to modernising outdated provisions in the *Registered Clubs Act 1976* with a view to reducing red tape and bringing it into line with contemporary legislation.

### 9. Responsible Gambling

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to a gambling policy environment informed by research and evidence and a strong commitment to harm minimisation. It will work with clubs to:

- Introduce a new range of gambling harm minimisation measures including more effective exclusion schemes including third-party and prize and jackpot forfeitures for excluded gamblers;
- Reducing the cash input limit from \$7500 to \$5000;
- Introduce advanced staff training programs in responsible gambling;
- Continue roll-out of venue-based voluntary pre-commitment.

### 10. Gaming Policy

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to exploring how changing technologies can be responsibly adopted by club operators in the gaming space using evidence-based research. It will:

- Continue exploring via the technology working group how modern gaming features can be introduced in a responsible manner and how harm minimisation can be enhanced;
- Explore modern payment technologies including how it could be used by players to set pre-commitment limits, while maintaining the existing ban on credit card use;
- Work towards achieving a nationally consistent approach to gaming machine approvals in NSW based on the Gaming Machine National Standards, noting NSW has its own regulatory regime;
- Maintain the existing regulatory regime for gaming with proposed changes subject to rigorous assessment, evaluation and stakeholder consultation.

### 11. Working Together

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to working with the club industry to drive regional job creation and broader access for the community to government initiatives. It will:

- Work with clubs to promote, trial and deliver government priorities in all portfolios including community health and safety programs, disability inclusion, multicultural engagement, construction and maintenance of social infrastructure; the Regional Growth Fund, and Jobs for NSW;
- Consider options for Service NSW kiosks in clubs in isolated communities.

### 12. Supporting New Clubs

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government recognises the important role clubs play in communities particularly through the provision of jobs and local sporting and social infrastructure. The Government supports the establishment of new clubs so that new communities have access to an important social hub.

### TERM OF AGREEMENT

The Agreement binds the parties until the end of the term of the NSW Government to be elected in 2019.

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government and ClubsNSW will jointly undertake a full review of the terms of the Agreement before the end of that term of government, with a view to reaching further understanding in relation to matters concerning clubs which would cover the following term.

Gladys Berejiklian MP  
Premier of NSW  
Leader of the Liberal Party, NSW

John Barilaro MP  
Deputy Premier of NSW  
Leader of the Nationals, NSW

Paul Toole MP  
Minister for Lands and Forestry,  
and Minister for Racing

Peter Newell OAM  
Chairman, ClubsNSW

Local NSW Liberals & Nationals  
Representative

Local Club Representative