

**Lotteries Commission —**

Ms R.S. Stephens, Chair.

Mr M. McGowan, Premier.

Mr J.S. Hubble, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Lotterywest and Healthway.

Ms L. Pritchard, General Manager, Grants and Community Development.

Mr I.P. Gerothanasis, General Manager, Lotteries.

[Witnesses introduced.]

**The CHAIR:** This estimates committee will be reported by Hansard. The daily proof *Hansard* will be available the following day. Members may raise questions about matters relating to the operations and budget of the off-budget authority. Off-budget authority officers are recognised as ministerial advisers. It is the intention of the chair to ensure that as many questions as possible are asked and answered and that both questions and answers are short and to the point.

The minister may agree to provide supplementary information to the committee, rather than asking that the question be put on notice for the next sitting week. I ask the minister to clearly indicate what supplementary information he agrees to provide and I will then allocate a reference number. If supplementary information is to be provided, I seek the minister's cooperation in ensuring that it is delivered to the principal clerk by close of business Friday, 1 October 2021. I caution members that if a minister asks that a matter be put on notice, it is up to the member to lodge the question on notice through the online questions system.

I give the call to the member for Moore.

**Mr R.S. LOVE:** I refer to page 578 of budget paper No 2, volume 2, the section on the Lotteries Commission. Paragraph 1.1 states —

\$2.6 million developing business operating systems, \$2.1 million in maintaining and enhancing gaming products and services, and \$15 million on renewal of the central gaming system;

When investing in these gaming products, does Lotterywest ever consider some degree of possible harm to community members who may become overly addicted to its products? Does it employ a harm minimisation strategy?

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I will let Mr Hubble comment on the member's question.

**Mr J.S. Hubble:** Mr Ioannis Gerothanasis, the head of Lotteries, is pretty well placed to answer that. The short answer is yes; it is a core part of our consideration. We take responsible gambling very seriously. We are very keen to maintain the integrity and reputation of Lotterywest; but, in terms of a specific answer, if the Premier is happy, I will ask Ioannis to reply.

[5.00 pm]

**Mr I.P. Gerothanasis:** Thank you very much. We have a program dedicated to responsible gambling. We support our players to engage with our lottery games safely and we allow them to opt out. We act responsibly in the design and promotion of lottery games using internationally accredited products to do that. We hold the highest level of responsible gambling certification under the World Lottery Association framework, which is independent. We make considerable investment into that. We have ongoing, continuous improvement in this space with player behaviour research to inform our gambling safety program, and, just recently, we updated our responsibility webpages. In 2020, we were certified with the highest level of accreditation in the world by the responsible gaming framework in a record time of 12 months.

All our staff, our suppliers and our partners undertake mandatory gambling safety training. All our retailers undertake mandatory safety training when they enter the network and then every six and 12 months or as we deem fit. The retailers have to commit to gambling safety under the Lotterywest gaming safety charter. We have a game design policy with risk profiling for all our games, and it is assessed using an independent product for that, to minimise community exposure. Our online and app players are subject to mandatory spending limits. We most probably have the lowest ones in the world. They may self-exclude and they can ask us to cease any direct marketing to them. We publish all our information on the odds on all our games. We also have an independent responsible gambling advisory committee, which comprises representatives from academia, Centrecare and Lotterywest Healthway. It meets every six months to ensure that our gaming safety program continues to reflect best practice.

**The CHAIR:** That completes the examination of the Lotteries Commission.