

**Submission on application by Christchurch Casinos Limited for  
Renewal of Casino Venue Licence under section 134 Gambling Act 2003**

To: The Gambling Commission

From: ChristchurchNZ

1. The management of ChristchurchNZ **support** the application by Christchurch Casinos Limited to renew their Casino Venue Licence.
2. The reasons for our **support** to the application are:

The Casino forms part of the visitor experience in Christchurch and it is especially popular with visitors from Asia, a fast-growing visitor segment.

Casino's are a key driver for Chinese travel. They provide an offering that supports longer length of stay and higher visitation from the Chinese visitor market. The Casino cements Christchurch as the South Island "capital" shifting the perception of Christchurch for Chinese visitors from a gateway to the South Island to a destination city.

All major cities have a Casino. Our domestic competitor cites such as Dunedin, Auckland, Hamilton & Queenstown all have attractions such as the Casino as do our Australian city competitors.

To deliver the goals of the Christchurch Visitor Strategy we need to increase the number of year-round visitor attractions not decrease them.

In our dealings with the casino they have always been professional and supportive of our efforts to recover the tourism sector for the city and region. The Casino has used its resources to help us profile the city as an exciting destination The Casino is also a sponsor of major events in the city such as cup and show week. These events have a significant economic and social wellbeing impact.

In our observations the Casino places a heavy focus on reducing problem gambling and takes active technology-led harm mitigation measures. In our observation it also takes seriously its host obligations in relation to the sale of alcohol.

3. We **would not** like to attend and be heard at the public hearing of the application.



Signature of submitter

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