

Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform

Inquiry into the National Gambling Reform Bill 2012 and other related bills

Public hearing Tuesday 13 November 2012 – Question on notice

Proof Transcript of Evidence, page 44:

Senator XENOPHON: "In New Zealand, where it is a \$2.50 maximum bet spend for pub and club machines ... Can you give us an idea of what those changes actually cost to implement, because there is a lower jackpot in those machines as well. If you could just give us some bare bones details about what the actual features are, when it was implemented and how much it actually cost to roll out? ... the machines were changed to \$2.50"

The last time the maximum bet changed in New Zealand's pubs and clubs was in the late 1990s when it was increased from \$1.00 to \$2.50 and the maximum payout was also increased, from \$100 to \$500.

In 2008 a Player Information Display (PID) was required on each machine, along with connectivity with a new monitoring system. The efficacy of PIDs is a topic of spirited discussion among stakeholders and is the subject of a Ministry of Health study which is expected to report mid-2013. The cost of implementing PIDs and monitoring connectivity has been estimated at NZ\$60 million, but this is complicated by a wide range of factors.