

PGF Research Projects 2009-2010

Philip Townshend
Research Director
Problem Gambling Foundation
Email ptownshend@pgfnz.org.nz

Territorial Local Authority (TLA) Project

The pokie trusts contribute large sums of money to the community; however, the process of distributing these funds lacks transparency and is allocated on the basis of the individual trust deeds. This, in turn, is based on the particular interests of the original trustees rather than on any assessment of community needs.

There are two questions that this project aims to answer. The first question is to what extent the current distribution of pokie funds matches the perceived community needs as assessed by TLA staff.

The second question is this: what information do TLA policy analysts require when developing draft policy for the TLA?

No previous research has been undertaken attempting to establish a local body's preference of pokie fund distribution in their areas. In this project the policy departments of the 75 TLA's in New Zealand were contacted and asked for their assessment of the primary areas of need for community funding. This was compared to actual nationwide distribution by the pokie trusts. The policy staff were also asked a question aimed at determining the information they would find helpful in developing gambling policy.