

THE POKIES PLAY YOU

Tim Costello calls for public inquiry into Crown Resorts revelations

Monday 29 July 2019

The Alliance for Gambling Reform today called for public hearings to be held into the suitability of Crown Resorts to continue holding casino licences in Australia after revelations the company suffered the biggest data leak in recent Australian corporate history.

Alliance spokesman Tim Costello made the following comments:

“The revelations made in The Age, Sydney Morning Herald and on 60 Minutes are disturbing, particularly in regards to money laundering and other criminal allegations.

“The Alliance believes Australia needs a Royal Commission into the wider Australian gambling industry, and these latest Crown scandals are one of the many topics which it should examine.

“It is time for the apparent special political and regulatory protection for Crown Resorts to end, with a ban on political donations from the company and the Packer family, and no more hiring of politically-connected figures such as Karl Bitar, Mark Arbib, Helen Coonan and Peta Credlin to protect its interests.

“We cannot minimise gambling harm when operators are not held to account for failing to run their venues according to regulations.

“It is incumbent on governments, including the Victorian Government, to ensure regulators are resourced properly and can pursue their work independently and unhindered.

“Toothless tigers do not work when it comes to gambling regulations.”

Editors note: Tim Costello will be [one of the 5 guests](#) on Q&A this evening, where the Crown scandals are likely to be debated.

For further information: Rebecca Thorpe: rebecca@agr.org.au or 0491 209 436