

## Free shuttle bus has started in Kogarah

A new free loop bus around the Kogarah has started, with services every 15 minutes, 7 days a week.

Member for Kogarah, Cherie Burton fought to secure the new shuttle bus for Kogarah and encouraged local residents to jump onboard from today.

“This new bright green shuttle bus will make getting around Kogarah quick, easy and affordable,” said Ms Burton.

“There will be an extra 200 services a week – a huge boost in buses for Kogarah.

“The shuttle bus is low to the floor and wheelchair accessible which is great news for senior and mothers with prams who will be able to get on and off the bus easily.

“A modern air-conditioned bus will operate the shuttle – providing a cool and comfortable ride – 7 days a week.

“The bright green bus will run every 15 minutes from 9am to 2.45pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5.45pm Saturday and Sunday.

“Don’t forget – keep a look out from today for the bright green bus and give it a try.”

Ms Burton said the new service would make a huge difference to local commuters, providing services for up to 10,000 people a week.

“The new service will link key destinations such as St George Hospital and Kogarah transport interchange,” she said.

“This free service will give local residents a break and help ease cost of living pressures.”



## New DVD in Greek Busts Myths About the Pokies



As part of the NSW Government’s Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Problem Gambling Awareness Campaign, a new DVD that de-bunks commonly held poker machine superstitions and myths has been released in Greek.

Sky News Australia Anchorman and Broadcast Journalist and active Greek community volunteer John Mangos welcomes this valuable resource that aims to assist Greek people with gambling issues in NSW.

“Many Greek problem gamblers believe they can one day beat the pokies and learn the secret of winning thousands of dollars just by continuously playing. This DVD breaks down these myths in a simple manner, reinforcing that gambling comes down to chance” says Mr Mangos, Ambassador of the CALD Problem Gambling Awareness Campaign (Greek component).

“The DVD talks about how a person’s chance of winning the jackpot on the pokies is generally worse than one in a million. The key to preventing gambling problems is education within the Greek community and show that regardless of the lights, sounds and features, pokies are just like any other machine.”

**Gaming Machines: Facts and Myths uses common examples and simple facts to get the message across:**

- Some gamblers incorrectly believe certain pokies are luckier than others while others believe if a poker machine hasn’t paid out for a while

it’s ‘due’ for a big win;

- Others wrongly think they can improve the odds by playing faster, increasing bets, or touching the machine a certain way;

- It shows that a poker machine is just computer chips and wires and how the outcome of each play is completely random.

The DVD in Greek is available for free by contacting the Greek Welfare Centre on 02 9516 2188.

If you or someone you know show signs of a gambling problem, help is available. The Greek Welfare Centre have professionals that speak Greek and English, with experience talking about problem gambling, have a strict code of confidentiality and will not judge you. Family and friends affected by problem gambling are also welcome.

Call the Greek Welfare Centre 02 9516 2188 for free and confidential help over the phone or in person at 378a King Street in Newtown.

**Additional information about the campaign:**

The CALD Problem Gambling Awareness Campaign targets the Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Italian and Vietnamese groups. The DVD has been produced in all 5 languages and adapted to dispel superstitions unique to these cultures.

The campaign is being coordinated by Communities NSW through the Responsible Gambling Fund with the assistance of the NSW Multicultural Health Communication Service.