

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 5/11/2013

Partially Confidential

As per the Terms of Reference of the enquiry, specifically in relation to

1c. I don't believe a government should be funding, subsidising, or in any way supporting an industry that promote gambling and the associated social problems. It is akin to the government paying clubs to install poker machines. It is not a "sport" or institution that provides any social benefit.

1d. More oversight is required in the industry. Greyhound Racing should be less autonomous, not more.

1i. Animal welfare should be paramount in this industry. There should be more regular and stringent testing for drugs and supplements.

1k. Greyhound Racing NSW should not be setting the standards for the treatment of greyhounds. There is a perceived (and arguably real) conflict of interest here. Higher standards may mean more cost which may not be in the interest of trainers, breeders, and the industry as a whole. An independent body should establish the standards, actively monitor compliance, and have the power to prosecute any breaches in meaningful ways (large fines and gaol terms).

1l. Financial penalties for mistreatment are not enough. Offenders should be charged and gaoled where appropriate.

1m. Greater transparency and more stringent laws are required to monitor the number of greyhounds bred every year, the number that make it to the track, the number of deaths on the track, and where the greyhounds go after their racing career is over (re-homed or euthanized).

1n. Greyhound racing has little or no benefit to society as a whole, for the animals involved, nor for the problem gamblers it exploits. Government support should be zero. Greater transparency of how the industry works and the rate of injury and deaths will put the industry clearly in the public's eye and then the public can make the informed choice whether or not to support this industry.