

**Submission
No 705**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Ms Janelle Pollock

Date received: 3/11/2013

- According to figures provided by Greyhound Racing NSW, over 3,000 greyhounds are put down in NSW alone each year because they are “too slow”, have been injured racing or training, or have reached the end of their racing career.
- Just 300 dogs have been re-homed since 2009 under Greyhound Racing NSW's 'Greyhounds As Pets' program.
- Nationally it has been estimated that 17,000 greyhounds are killed in Australia each year.
- Injuries and illnesses suffered by dogs in the greyhound racing industry include broken legs, paralysis, head trauma and cardiac arrests from over exertion. In April 2013 three dogs died at the one meeting at the Dapto track; one broke its neck in race eight while another broke its back in race two; a third dog was destroyed after breaking its offside hock.

There is no independent oversight of the greyhound racing industry in NSW. The industry is governed by

Greyhound Racing NSW, an autonomous non-government body established in 2009 under the Greyhound

Racing Act. GRNSW is responsible for both the regulatory and commercial functions of the industry.

- Former greyhound racing integrity auditor, David Landa, resigned last year because he said he was unable to facilitate public inquiries into the problems within the industry. Landa claimed that “failings in the legislation make the functioning of this position as an independent oversight, simply not possible.” No

legislative or regulatory change was enacted following Mr Landa's resignation.

- The integrity auditor is appointed by GRNSW itself. This creates a clear conflict of interest as the integrity officer is responsible for overseeing stewards, drug testing, and control and registration, advising GRNSW

on those matters and investigating complaints against racing officials.

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