

## **INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW**

**Name:** Mr Anthony Gannon

**Date received:** 22/09/2013

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To: Legislative Council Select Committee on Greyhound Racing in NSW

Date: 22 September 2013

Submission Heading: GRNSW not working for the benefit of owners and trainers

Relevance/Terms of Reference:

The capability and performance of Greyhound Racing NSW and governance of the industry.  
The selection process for the board of Greyhound Racing NSW

What I would like to say:

I am not happy with the lack of transparency at GRNSW. I had an interview with a senior GRNSW staff employee who said he would give figures in relation to Our Fair Share to the Shooters and Fishers Party and the Christian Democrats. This did not happen only the annual reports were sent which I consider a disgrace. I negotiated with GRNSW that we send the inter code agreement to a solicitor of our choice and it was agreed that I would see a summary of the outcome. When it came back most of it was blacked out which was not part of our agreement with GRNSW and so I believe these people are not working in the best interests of the greyhound industry.

I believe that if the inter code agreement is not changed then the industry will go broke. The senior GRNSW employee also told us this. This same person also said at a meeting that there were funds left over from privatisation which we believe is not true. We were also told that he was going to initiate a campaign to change the tax disparity issue and I believe he has done nothing about it.

As a greyhound owner, trainer and breeder I believe that with the mismanagement, wastage and incompetence of GRNSW we will go broke. A perfect example is the money thrown at the NCA and Gardens Complex. If various participants had not given the annual reports to GRNSW and reminded GRNSW of the powers under the Act things would not have changed. GRNSW supported the NCA employee alleged to have misappropriated \$155,000 until participants went to the Minister with their concerns after which action was taken re the Gardens and NCA.

I feel that there is no accountability to anyone and believe the system whereby the Integrity Auditor is both appointed and funded by GRNSW is of concern. Participants have nowhere to go with their complaints.

I am concerned about possible misuse of power at GRNSW. Some people who voice their concerns about GRNSW and may be perceived as leaders in the industry have been victimised with charges brought against them for things they have alleged to have said or done.

I believe the selection committee for the GRNSW board was a disgrace. The new board was supposed to be an independent board selected by an independent panel. However, one selection committee person was the then current chairman of GRNSW and another was an ex board member of GRNSW and was a past NCA representative on GRNSW and past NCA President. Two of the successful candidates had been board members with the chairman and a third had been CEO of GRNSW in the past under the chairman who was on the selection committee. It seems to be that there could have been bias.