

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

Details made public in recent media coverage reveal a prevalence of cruelty in the Greyhound Racing industry, which is totally unacceptable in the light of today's standards of animal welfare in this country.

There should be far more concern for every aspect of the welfare issues involved in the breeding, training and racing of the animals.

Firstly, the Greyhound Racing NSW Code of Practice should be amended with more weight given to welfare, and the Code should be strictly enforced, with serious penalties for departure from its requirements.

Enforcement should be funded by a levy on all profits made.

There should be independent oversight of enforcement, and the process as well as the general function of the industry made transparent to the public.

Serious effort should be directed to prevention of over-breeding and subsequent killing of unwanted progeny, with strictly controlled humane methods of euthanasia by qualified veterinary officers when this is absolutely necessary, and where animals cannot be rehomed.

There should be a ban on live export of animals to countries where standards of animal welfare are not at least as high as those in Australia.

Most importantly, if the industry is to have any credibility, the use of live bait in training must be absolutely eradicated, by a combination of mandatory reporting and high penalty with public exposure and immediate loss of licence for any offender.