

**Submission
No 963**

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND RACING IN NSW

Name: Ms Kerrie Curran

Date received: 6/11/2013

Dear Director,

About 12 months ago, I met a lady who has dedicated her life and her life savings, to help rehome ex-racing greyhounds. This woman was in tears because she was so overwhelmed with the sheer numbers of dogs in her care. She told me that she and her husband were about to lose their house because they had poured so much money into vet bills and food for these dogs. This situation is extraordinary! How can the greyhound racing industry allow this to happen? The owners have a duty of care to these dogs, and it is absurd and negligent of the industry to delegate this responsibility to concerned members of the public.

I believe it is high time the greyhound racing industry stopped shirking their responsibilities for the care of retired dogs, and started a compulsory retirement fund that ensures these dogs are well looked after and enjoy a good life in loving homes. If funds were allocated as a form of 'superannuation' for greyhounds, then I believe we would see a huge reduction in violent deaths of these gentle trusting creatures. I have heard some horrendous stories of dogs being drowned or shot because their owners didn't want to pay the euthanasia bill.

Thank you for the chance to comment on this inquiry. I am encouraged by this, and hope that it means the industry is willing to adopt sweeping reforms to improve the welfare of these dogs and to raise awareness within the dog racing fraternity of their moral and ethical responsibilities. Anyone not willing to tow the line should not have the privilege of owning a dog.

Sincerely,

Kerrie Curran