

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP ROSEHILL
RACECOURSE**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 25 June 2024

Partially
Confidential

To the Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding animal welfare within the horse racing industry. As an advocate for animal rights, I believe it is imperative that the welfare of these animals is given paramount consideration.

Horses in the racing industry are often subjected to rigorous training and racing schedules that push them beyond their physical limits, leading to severe injuries, chronic pain, and long-term health issues. The use of whips and performance-enhancing substances inflicts both physical and psychological harm on these animals, which is inhumane and compromises the integrity of the sport. Additionally, many racehorses face an uncertain and often bleak future once their racing careers are over, with inadequate retirement plans leading to neglect, abuse, or premature euthanasia.

The industry's operations lack transparency and accountability, making it difficult to monitor and enforce animal welfare standards. Therefore, I urge the committee to implement and enforce stringent regulations to ensure the humane treatment of racehorses. This includes eliminating the use of harmful substances and whips, reducing the intensity of training, and ensuring that all practices adhere to the highest ethical standards. Comprehensive welfare programs must be established to provide for the needs of horses during and after their racing careers, including healthcare, proper nutrition, and secure retirement plans.

Increasing transparency within the industry is crucial. Regular welfare audits and public reporting of welfare practices will help build public trust and ensure that welfare standards are upheld. Furthermore, educational initiatives should be launched to raise awareness among industry stakeholders and the public about the importance of animal welfare and to promote best practices in the care of racehorses.

By addressing these concerns, we can create a more humane and ethical horse racing industry where the welfare of these magnificent animals is at the forefront of all practices and policies. I urge the committee to consider these points and take decisive action to protect the well-being of racehorses.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,