

OOS

From: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 27 October 2025 12:12 PM
To: Malcher, Nicole; Taskunas, Vince (DPaC)
Cc: Carroll, Sean
Subject: RE: Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group - Terms of Reference

Thank you Nicole, received with thanks.

Luke Gaetani
Senior Advisor- Racing

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP
Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events
Minister for Racing
Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence
Liberal Member for Lyons

Level 5, 4 Salamance Place, Hobart TAS 7000

OOS

e-mail: luke.gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au

From: Malcher, Nicole <Nicole.Malcher@racingintegrity.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 27 October 2025 12:02 PM
To: Taskunas, Vince <Vince.Taskunas@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Cc: Carroll, Sean (Racing Integrity) <Sean.Carroll@racingintegrity.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group - Terms of Reference

Dear Vince and Luke

Please see attached an updated version of the Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group - Terms of Reference.

We are also in the process of uploading these to our website.

Please reach out if you have any queries.

Kind regards
Nicole

Nicole Malcher
Executive Director, Legal & Policy
Office of the Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner

OOS

From: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 29 October 2025 9:45 AM
To: Vermey, Marcus (DPaC)
Cc: Taskunas, Vince (DPaC)
Subject: PLP Paper- Greyhound Racing Legislative Amendments Bill 2025
Attachments: App D - PLP ~ Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out of Greyhound Racing) Bill 2025.pdf

Morning Marcus

I have attached a signed PLP Paper for *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025* which will be going to Cabinet on Monday 3 November.

To expedite as we have under the line, and is urgent for introduction, I have attached it here so can go to PLP meeting on same day. Should Cabinet defer or not approve, we will then notify you for it to be pulled.

Let me know anything further needed.

Luke Gaetani
Senior Advisor- Racing

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP
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Liberal Member for Lyons

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OOS

e-mail: luke.gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au

RTI - DL - RELEASE - NRE

PARLIAMENTARY LIBERAL PARTY PAPER

Subject: Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025

Purpose:

To inform the Parliamentary Liberal Party (PLP) about the Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025 (the Bill).

Key Messages:

- The Government is progressing with its commitment to phase out greyhound racing in Tasmania with introduction of the Bill to Parliament.
- The Bill will phase out greyhound racing in Tasmania through a staged and considered approach with the code to end in June 2029.
- This timing coincides with the end of the current Tasracing funding deed.
- Several changes will be implemented immediately if the Bill is passed. This includes ensuring the welfare of current racing greyhounds with destruction for non-welfare reasons banned.
- Breeding dogs for greyhound racing will also cease and additional requirements for racing interstate greyhounds in Tasmania will come into effect from January 2026.
- The Tasmanian Government understands that the phasing out of greyhound racing will impact those involved in the code and is committed to ensuring a measured transition that focuses on the welfare of participants and greyhounds.

Issues:

With the introduction of the new Bill to end greyhound racing in Tasmania, the Government is recognising that greyhound racing no longer aligns with community expectations.

While supporting the end to greyhound racing, some animal welfare groups, and peak bodies may also advocate for an end to all forms of animal racing.

In response to such concerns the Government has already strengthened animal welfare outcomes through the *Racing Regulation and Integrity Act 2024*, which resulted in the appointment of the Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner (the Commissioner), who has extensive powers to set integrity and animal welfare standards and investigatory functions. The comprehensive reforms have set the harness and thoroughbred racing for success into the future, while ensuring probity and animal welfare are at the forefront.

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Conversely, greyhound industry stakeholders, including participants and interstate controlling bodies, are likely to argue that it is unfair to single out their racing code. Horse racing clubs and other stakeholders may also raise concerns about the potential long-term implications of greyhound racing ban for their own racing codes.

A Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group, overseen by the Commissioner, has been formed to assist in the operational, animal welfare and integrity components of the transition. Additionally, a Parliamentary Committee will provide scrutiny and public accountability for the work being undertaken by the TasRIC.

Recreational ownership of greyhounds will continue and matters relating to the general animal welfare of greyhounds and safety issues will continue to be addressed under the *Animal Welfare Act 1993* and the *Dog Control Act 2000*.

Information:

Attachment provides a summary table of the key features of the Bill.

The Bill will operate through a series of transitional and consequential amendments to the *Racing Regulation and Integrity Act 2024*, the *Dog Control Act 2000* and the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*.

The Government has established a Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group, overseen by the Commissioner, to advise on operational, animal welfare, and integrity matters during the transition period.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Department of Treasury and Finance were consulted on the draft Bill.

The Government will work with key stakeholders such as Tasracing to ensure that the immediate and longer-term funding implications of the closure of greyhound racing are understood and appropriately managed.

Recommendation:

That the Parliamentary Liberal Party NOTES the information contained in this Paper.



Jane Howlett
MINISTER FOR RACING

Date: 28.10.2025

Attachment: Summary Table

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ATTACHMENT

Summary Table of the Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025

Section Title	Summary Description
PART 1 – PRELIMINARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Act may be cited as the <i>Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Act 2025</i>. • Parts 1 and 4 of the Act will commence in law at the same time as the Act, most likely on 01 January 2026. • Parts 2, 3 and 5 will commence in law on the “greyhound racing closure date” (30 June 2029).
PART 2 – ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 1993 AMENDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Part contains consequential amendments to the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i> (the AWA) which will operate to ban greyhound racing after 30 June 2029. • A new section 11C will be inserted into Part 2 of the AWA which makes it an offence (after 30 June 2029) to race greyhounds in any way (time trials, lure or no lure) and to race other dog breeds in a way that replicates current greyhound racing (defined as “commercial dog racing”). • The new AWA section will also make it an offence to keep a dog for racing and/or to keep, sell, breed or acquire any dog that is intended to be used in greyhound racing or commercial dog racing.
PART 3 – DOG CONTROL ACT 2000 AMENDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Part will amend the provisions of the <i>Dog Control Act 2000</i> (the DCA) which currently impose additional restrictions on racing greyhounds (e.g. muzzles) • The amendments to the DCA will recognise that after the greyhound racing closure date, greyhounds will be treated like other dog breeds kept as pets. • A new section 18B will also be inserted into the DCA which prohibits the breeding of greyhounds intended for racing, however breeding of greyhounds as pets is allowed. • The DCA amendments will not take effect until after 30 June 2029.
PART 4 – RACING REGULATION AND INTEGRITY ACT 2024 AMENDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Part will amend the <i>Racing Regulation and Integrity Act 2024</i> (the RRIA) to include Schedule 8, which has provisions to support the phase out of greyhound racing that will operate during the transition period between 01 January 2026 and 30 June 2029. • Schedule 8 of the RRIA provides for the following:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ requires the Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner (the Commissioner) to develop and implement a greyhound racing closure plan to guide the phase out of greyhound racing in Tasmania during the transition period. The plan must be approved by the Minister for Racing. ○ The transfer of registered greyhounds to a new owner will require the notification and consent of Tasracing. ○ A registered greyhound that has reached the age of 6 years, or that has not raced for a 12-month period will be deemed retired and deregistered. Exceptions will be made for greyhound that have not raced for 12 months due to injury and are certified recovered by a veterinary surgeon. ○ The racing of an overseas or interstate registered greyhounds in Tasmania during the transition period will require the written consent of Tasracing ○ Destruction of a greyhound (other than by a vet in an emergency) can only be for animal welfare reasons and will require the written consent of Tasracing. ○ The breeding of racing greyhounds during the transition period will be prohibited. ○ All permits, licences, registrations and other forms of authorisations that purport to allow or authorise greyhound racing will be automatically cancelled on and after 30 June 2029. ○ The powers of the Commissioner to enter and inspect premises for the purposes of conducting an audit or investigation during the transition period have been clarified.
<p>PART 5 – RACING REGULATION AND INTEGRITY ACT 2024 AMENDED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This Part will take effect after 30 June 2029 and contains a suite of consequential amendments to the RRIA to remove unnecessary references to greyhound racing. ● These amendments are necessary because after the full closure of greyhound racing the RRIA will only be for the regulation of horse racing (harness and thoroughbreds) in Tasmania.
<p>PART 6 – REPEAL OF ACT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This Act (the amendment Act) is repealed on the first anniversary of the day on which the last uncommenced provision of the Act commenced. After this – the legislative reforms will operate through the amended Acts i.e. the AWA, the DCA and the RRIA.

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From: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 4 November 2025 1:02 PM
To: Brown, Trudy (DPaC)
Subject: RE: draft MR - Howlett [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thursday 6 November 2025
Jane Howlett
Minister for Racing

Progress on Legislation to Phase out Greyhound Racing

The Tasmanian Government is continuing to work through its plan to phase out greyhound racing in Tasmania by 30 June 2029, today introducing legislation, with the necessary changes to phase out greyhound racing in Tasmania through a staged and considered approach. .

Racing Minister Jane Howlett said strong progress has been made in the drafting of legislation to implement the plan.

“We are getting on with the job, together with the Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner (TasRIC), to deliver our commitment.

“The Parliament’s Joint Standing Committee on Greyhound Racing Transition has been formed and will oversee the phaseout. I will appear before this Committee tomorrow and welcome the opportunity to outline our approach.

Racing Minister Jane Howlett said that the legislation had been completed with input from relevant stakeholders and subject matter experts.

“The legislative drafting work has been done by a team of officials from the department of Natural Resources Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas) and from the Office of TasRIC.

“The Commissioner’s Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group has also provided valuable input into the drafting process from its community discussions and feedback.

“The Government intends to continue progressing the legislation to ensure that the important changes to safeguard animal welfare can be made in a timely fashion.

“We will ensure that officials from NRE Tas, together with the TasRIC, will be available to provide briefings for Members of Parliament and stakeholders on the legalisation and considered implementation approach.

ENDS

From: Brown, Trudy <Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 4 November 2025 12:49 PM
To: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Fw: draft MR - Howlett [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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From: Taskunas, Vince <Vince.Taskunas@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 19:50
To: Brown, Trudy <Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: RE: draft MR - Howlett [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Sorry try this

Draft

Saturday 25 October 2025
Jane Howlett
Minister for Racing

Progress on Legislation to Phase out Greyhound Racing

The Tasmanian Government is continuing to work through its plan to phase out greyhound racing in Tasmania by 30 June 2029.

Racing Minister Jane Howlett said strong progress has been made in the drafting of legislation to implement the plan.

“We are getting on with the job, together with the Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner (TasRIC), to deliver our commitment.

“The Parliament’s Joint Standing Committee on Greyhound Racing Transition has been formed and will oversee the phaseout.

Minister Howlett said it was the Government’s intention to introduce legislation in the upcoming sitting weeks, with the necessary changes to phase out greyhound racing in Tasmania through a staged and considered approach.

“Significant legislative drafting work has already been done by a team of officials from the department of Natural Resources Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas) and from the Office of TasRIC.

“The Commissioner’s Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group has also provided valuable input into the drafting process from its community discussions and feedback.

“The Government intends to continue progressing the legislation to ensure that the important changes to safeguard animal welfare can be made in a timely fashion.

“We will ensure that officials from NRE Tas, together with the TasRIC, will be available to provide briefings for Members of Parliament and stakeholders on the legislative drafting progress to date.

ENDS

Vince Taskunas | Chief of Staff

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP

Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events

Minister for Racing

Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence

Liberal Member for Lyons

OOS | E-mail: vince.taskunas@dpac.tas.gov.au

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www.premier.tas.gov.au



From: Taskunas, Vince

Sent: Wednesday, 22 October 2025 7:43 PM

To: Brown, Trudy <Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>

Subject: draft MR - Howlett

Draft

Saturday 25 October 2025

Jane Howlett

Minister for Racing

Progress on Legislation to Phase out Greyhound Racing

The Tasmanian Government is continuing to work through its plan greyhound racing in Tasmania by 30 June 2029.

Racing Minister Jane Howlett said strong progress has been made in the drafting of legislation to implement the plan.

“We are getting on with the job, together with the Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner (TasRIC), to deliver our commitment.

“The Parliament’s Joint Standing Committee on Greyhound Racing Transition has been formed and will oversee the phaseout.

Minister Howlett said it was the Government’s intention to introduce legislation in the upcoming sitting weeks, with the necessary changes to phase out greyhound racing in Tasmania through a staged and considered approach.

“Significant legislative drafting work has already been done by a team of officials from the department of Natural Resources Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas) and from the Office of TasRIC.

“The Commissioner’s Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group has also provided valuable input into the drafting process from its community discussions and feedback.

“The Government intends to continue progressing the legislation to ensure that the important changes to safeguard animal welfare can be made in a timely fashion.

“We will ensure that officials from NRE Tas, together with the TasRIC, will be available to provide briefings for Members of Parliament and stakeholders on the legislative drafting progress to date.

ENDS

Vince Taskunas | Chief of Staff

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP

Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events

Minister for Racing

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Liberal Member for Lyons

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OOS

From: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 7:19 PM
To: Kristie Johnston
Subject: Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) 2025
Attachments: Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reforms) Bill 2025.PDF

Hi Kristie

Please find attached a copy of *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025*. The Bill which will be tabled tomorrow in Parliament, makes the necessary legislative changes and provides the framework to phase out greyhound racing through a staged and considered approach as announced by the Government on 10 August 2025.

This office will ensure that officials from Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, together with the office of the Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner, will be available to provide briefings for Members of Parliament and stakeholders on the legalisation and staged implementation approach.

Kind regards

Luke Gaetani
Senior Advisor- Racing

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP
Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events
Minister for Racing
Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence
Liberal Member for Lyons

Level 5, 4 Salamance Place, Hobart TAS 7000

OOS

e-mail: luke.gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au

RTI - DL - RELEASE - NRE

OOS

From: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 7:32 PM
To: Kristie Johnston
Subject: RE: Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) 2025 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Kristie

1 January 2026 or as soon as possible.

It would be the Government's intention to meet the 1 January as specified in the Bill but this is obviously contingent on Parliament, Royal Assent and the like which have (and rightfully so) respective timeframes and mechanisms.

Luke Gaetani
Senior Advisor- Racing

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP
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Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence
Liberal Member for Lyons

Level 5, 4 Salamance Place, Hobart TAS 7000

OOS

e-mail: luke.gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au

From: Kristie Johnston <Kristie.Johnston@parliament.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 7:24 PM
To: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) 2025 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Luke,

This is fantastic new and will be warmly welcome by many, many Tasmanians.

I note that the bill includes provisions which will come into effect on 1 January 2026. Can you confirm that it is the Government's intention to seek the successful passage of the bill prior to the end of the parliamentary year?

Many thanks
Kristie

Kristie Johnston
Independent Member for Clark
331 Main Road, Glenorchy
OOS
www.kristiejohnston.com.au

From: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 7:19 PM
To: Kristie Johnston <Kristie.Johnston@parliament.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) 2025 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Duplicate

OOS

From: Taskunas, Vince <Vince.Taskunas@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 8:42 PM
To: Peter George
Cc: Gaetani, Luke (DPaC); Street, Nic (DPaC)
Subject: in confidence: greyhound legislation [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Attachments: App A2 and App E2 - Greyhound Clause Notes (002).docx; App A4 and App E4 - Fact Sheet - Greyhound Bill 2025.docx; Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reforms) Bill 2025.PDF

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good evening Peter,

Tomorrow, Minister Howlett will table the *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill*. The legislation will provide the framework to deliver a sensible and measured phase-out of the greyhound racing code by 30 June 2029 that has participant and animal welfare at its core.

I'm providing you with a copy of the Bill, the Fact Sheet and Notes as a courtesy to assist you.

Vince Taskunas | Chief of Staff

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP

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OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OOS

From: Taskunas, Vince <Vince.Taskunas@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 8:46 PM
To: Carlo Di Falco; Jordan Lewtas
Cc: Gaetani, Luke (DPaC); Street, Nic (DPaC)
Subject: in confidence: greyhound legislation [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Attachments: App A2 and App E2 - Greyhound Clause Notes (002).docx; App A4 and App E4 - Fact Sheet - Greyhound Bill 2025.docx; Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reforms) Bill 2025.PDF

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good evening Carlo and Jordan (Jordan I understand Nic has called you)

Tomorrow, Minister Howlett will table the *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill*. The legislation will provide the framework to deliver a sensible and measured phase-out of the greyhound racing code by 30 June 2029 that has participant and animal welfare at its core.

I'm providing you with a copy of the Bill, the Fact Sheet and Notes as a courtesy to assist you.

Vince Taskunas | Chief of Staff

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP

Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events
Minister for Racing
Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence
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OFFICIAL: Sensitive

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From: Taskunas, Vince <Vince.Taskunas@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 8:50 PM
To: Craig Garland
Cc: Stephen Karpeles; Gaetani, Luke (DPaC); Street, Nic (DPaC)
Subject: in confidence: greyhound legislation [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Attachments: App A2 and App E2 - Greyhound Clause Notes (002).docx; App A4 and App E4 - Fact Sheet - Greyhound Bill 2025.docx; Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reforms) Bill 2025.PDF

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Dear Craig, and Stephen, good evening

Tomorrow, Minister Howlett will table the *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill*. The legislation will provide the framework to deliver a sensible and measured phase-out of the greyhound racing code by 30 June 2029 that has participant and animal welfare at its core.

I'm providing you with a copy of the Bill, the Fact Sheet and Notes as a courtesy to assist you.

Vince Taskunas | Chief of Staff

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From: Taskunas, Vince <Vince.Taskunas@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2025 8:55 PM
To: Cassy O'Connor
Cc: Street, Nic (DPaC); Gaetani, Luke (DPaC)
Subject: in confidence: greyhound legislation [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Attachments: App A2 and App E2 - Greyhound Clause Notes (002).docx; App A4 and App E4 - Fact Sheet - Greyhound Bill 2025.docx; Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reforms) Bill 2025.PDF

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Dear Cassy, good evening,

as per my message -

Tomorrow, Minister Howlett will table the *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill*. The legislation will provide the framework to deliver a sensible and measured phase-out of the greyhound racing code by 30 June 2029 that has participant and animal welfare at its core.

I'm providing you with a copy of the Bill, the Fact Sheet and Notes as a courtesy to assist you.

Vince Taskunas | Chief of Staff

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP

Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events

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OFFICIAL: Sensitive

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From: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 6 November 2025 8:18 AM
To: Andrew Jenkins
Subject: in confidence: greyhound legislation
Attachments: Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reforms) Bill 2025.PDF; App A4 and App E4 - Fact Sheet - Greyhound Bill 2025.docx; App A2 and App E2 - Greyhound Clause Notes (002).docx

Hi Andrew

As discussed today, Minister Howlett will table the *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill*. The legislation will provide the framework to deliver a sensible and measured phase-out of the greyhound racing code by 30 June 2029 that has participant and animal welfare at its core.

I'm providing you with a copy of the Bill, the Fact Sheet and Notes as a courtesy to assist you. I am comfortable for these to be sent to your team and board as required.

Luke Gaetani
Senior Advisor- Racing

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP
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OOS

From: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 12 November 2025 3:53 PM
To: Tania Rattray
Subject: FW: Greyhound Racing Transition

Hi Tanya

Thank you very much for the question. I hope the below covers off what is needed and also is what the greyhound owners have asked you to follow up on.

- Yes – greyhounds that were bred or born prior to the commencement of the transition period are exempt from the ban on breeding racing greyhounds. This includes greyhounds born after 1 January 2026 from a female greyhound that was pregnant before the Part 4 of the Act and the transition period commenced.
- The activity that is prohibited during the transition period (between 1 January 2026 and 1 July 2029) is the husbandry or breeding in Tasmania of greyhounds that are intended to be raced, either in or outside Tasmania. Breeding of pet greyhounds is allowed.
- There is no prohibition on the movement of racing greyhounds out of Tasmania (born or bred prior to 1 January 2026) during the transition period.

Luke Gaetani
Senior Advisor- Racing

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e-mail: luke.gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au

The amendments to the *Animal Welfare Act 1993* in Part 2 of the Bill which will ban the keeping, sale or supply of greyhounds intended for racing (either in Tasmania or outside Tasmania) do not come into effect until 1 July 2029 when the transition period concludes

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tania Rattray <tania.rattray@parliament.tas.gov.au>
Date: 7 November 2025 at 12:41:42 pm AEDT
To: "Howlett, Jane" <Jane.Howlett@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Cc: "Taskunas, Vince" <Vince.Taskunas@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Greyhound Racing Transition

Good afternoon Minister,

Following today's briefing to the Joint Select Committee for Greyhound Racing Transition a question has been received in regard to greyhound owners that intend to sell to the mainland as they are sought after and owners have been receiving enquiries about their dogs. I would appreciate an answer to the question that if a litter of pups are born in December 2024 and they stay on the breeder's property until they are at least 3 months old, which makes the date March 2026 – can some of those pups still be moved to the mainland when they are of age?

I would appreciate a response as soon as possible given the limited timeframe available prior to Jan 2026.

Thank you.

Hon. Tania Rattray MLC
Independent Member for McIntyre
Leader for the Government in the Legislative Council
Parliament of Tasmania
E: tania.rattray@parliament.tas.gov.au
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Office: 03 63505000
PH Office: 03 62122350

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13 November 2025

OFFICIAL

Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events
Minister for Racing
Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence

Level 5, 4 Salamanca Place HOBART TAS 7000 Australia
GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia
Phone: +61 3 6165 7665
Email: minister.howlett@dpac.tas.gov.au



Ms Jen Butler MP
Labor Member for Lyons
Email: c/- Laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Butler

Thank you for your constituent question asked in Parliament on 11 September on behalf of a constituent as follows:

A constituent has asked why you, of all people, with a family involvement in the greyhound industry spanning decades, has dealt the final death knell for the Tasmanian greyhound racing industry. Was your agreement to ban greyhound racing, a political agreement to secure crossbench support for your Liberal-Greens government? Will you stand up for the greyhound community? What's more important: greyhound families or you keeping your job?

As you are aware, the Tasmanian Government will phase out greyhound racing by June 30, 2029. I know there are many participants who care deeply for their animals who will be extremely disappointed by this policy decision.

This will coincide with the expiration of the current funding deed, providing an opportunity to deliver a measured transition that focuses on the welfare of participants and greyhounds.

I understand and appreciate there will be many in the racing industry who are upset with this decision. As you correctly state I have a deep personal and family connection to the code, its people and history.

I am deeply focused on ensuring those in the greyhound industry, their families and their communities are supported through this transition. The Government remain absolutely committed to supporting our wider racing industry and its participants.

I am personally committed to ensuring a measured and compassionate transition that prioritises the welfare of both the people and animals involved.

Thank you for raising this question, I trust that the information I have provided addresses the question from your constituent. I again want to put on the record my deep and personal commitment to a compassionate and participant focused approach to this process.

Yours sincerely

OFFICIAL

Hon Jane Howlett MP
Minister for Racing

Yours sincerely



Hon Jane Howlett MP
Minister for Racing

RTI - DL - RELEASE - NRE

Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events
Minister for Racing
Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence

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04 DEC 2025

Greyhounds Australasia
Mr Simon Stout
Chief Executive Officer
Via email: OOS [@galtd.org.au](mailto: @galtd.org.au)

Dear Mr Stout *Simon*

Thank you for your letter of 3 December 2025, and for raising your concerns regarding the maintenance of standards of welfare for greyhounds kept as pets and your concerns on future cross border arrangements.

I can assure you that the shift of greyhound regulation from the racing context to general animal welfare and dog management legislation does not mean that standards for greyhound welfare will be relaxed.

Welfare standards for greyhounds and all dog breeds will be maintained under the *Animal Welfare Act 1993* and the associated *Animal Welfare (Dog) Regulations 2016* and proposed complementary amendments to the *Dog Control Act 2000*.

The Animal Welfare Act has general compliance provisions with significant associated penalties for breaches relating to animal cruelty, method of management and, in addition, establishes a general animal welfare duty that applies to anyone that has management of animals, including greyhounds.

The Government has also announced that it will be introducing new Animal Welfare (Dog) Regulations which will likely be in effect in early 2026 (or before). These will (independent of the current Bill before the Parliament) remove current exemptions for racing greyhounds and will provide racing and pet greyhounds with added animal welfare protections that will apply to all dog breeds. These include:

- removal of current exemptions applying to greyhounds and working dogs in respect of dog facilities requirements;
- introducing a total litter limit for breeding bitches of 5 litters unless supported by written veterinary approval;

- introducing a maximum breeding bitch age of 7 years limit unless supported by written veterinary approval;
- requiring a mandatory annual veterinary check in the period of post weaning and pre-mating with written veterinary approval for entire bitches to breed; and
- increasing maximum penalties for offences to 20 penalty units generally, and to 50 penalty units (\$10,100 in 2025) for the unlawful euthanasia of a dog.

Kennel licence changes are also contemplated regarding the number of fertile bitches that a breeding enterprise can own, which would require amendments to the *Dog Control Act 2000* – which may result in the proposal from Government being accepted, rejected or subject to stricter controls, depending upon the Parliament.

A copy of the Government position paper regarding dog welfare reforms can be found here:

[www.nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/Position%20Paper%20on%20Dog%20Welfare%20Legislation%20in%20Tasmania%20\(October%202025\).pdf](http://www.nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/Position%20Paper%20on%20Dog%20Welfare%20Legislation%20in%20Tasmania%20(October%202025).pdf)

If there were any residual concerns or unforeseen impacts on the welfare of greyhounds, there are ample existing legislative mechanisms to address these. Specific standards for greyhounds can be prescribed under section 44A of the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*. These standards can be developed during the transition period and, if necessary, could form part of the racing closure plan that is to be developed by the Racing Integrity Commissioner, approved by the Minister and implemented by the Commissioner.

Regarding the cross border and the suggestion that breeding for racing purposes be allowed, the Tasmania reforms are aimed at ensuring animal welfare practices meet social expectations, including breeding for the purposes of racing.

It is important to recognise the ACT and New South Wales are different jurisdictions with their own distinct legislative frameworks and regulatory systems. The ACT banned greyhound racing some time ago in 2018 and the rules relating to animal welfare and breeding are a matter for them. Compliance will relate to the actions that occur within the Tasmanian jurisdiction and cannot regulate activity occurring in another Australian state or territory.

Under Tasmania's proposed reforms post June 2029, there is no restriction on movements of greyhounds between states; only on the breeding and supply of greyhounds for the purpose of racing – whether in Tasmania or elsewhere.

All Australian states in the Federation have the power to introduce differential regulatory burdens reasonably necessary to achieve a legitimate object of the law for their state such as animal welfare and biosecurity. There are already some restrictions on movements of dogs into Tasmania from other states that apply under Tasmania's *Biosecurity Act 2019* – these are related to certification of worming treatments to manage the risks of hydatids which have been effectively eradicated in Tasmania (the only state without a land border with another state).

I am cognisant of the impact that the proposal to end greyhound racing will have on participants and that is why the Government in the Bill before the Parliament is proposing to legislate the requirement that the Tasmanian Racing Integrity

Commissioner prepare a closure plan for submission to me as soon as practicable. If the Bill is passed, feedback from participants into the plan will assist to ensure that it is practical and measured and takes into account, wherever practical, participant's feedback.

Yours sincerely



Hon Jane Howlett MP
Minister for Racing

cc: Commissioner Sean Carroll
Rob Vellar, Chair GA

RTI - DL - RELEASE - NRE

OOS

From: Gaetani, Luke <Luke.Gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 10 December 2025 1:14 PM
To: Hollick, Sean (DPaC); Tania Rattray
Cc: Jenkins, Mandy
Subject: Minister Howlett to Simon Stout CEO Greyhounds Australasia
Attachments: LETTER - Simon Stout, CEO Greyhounds Australasia from Minister Howlett.pdf; RACING - Simon Stout, CEO Greyhounds Australasia - Greyhound Breeding Ban (1).pdf

Hi Leader

I offered at the Departmental briefing to share a letter from Mr Simon Stout to Minister Howlett from 3 December and the response from 4 December to all Legislative Council Members.

Please see attached.

Luke Gaetani
Senior Advisor- Racing

Office of the Hon Jane Howlett MP
Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events
Minister for Racing
Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence
Liberal Member for Lyons

Level 5, 4 Salamance Place, Hobart TAS 7000

OOS

e-mail: luke.gaetani@dpac.tas.gov.au

RTI - DL - RELEASE - NRE



Greyhounds Australasia

P.O. Box 767

Noble Park Vic., 3174

Telephone: (03) 9548 3500

The Hon. Jane Howlett, MP

Minister for Racing,

Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events,

Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence

Via email: Jane.Howlett@dpac.tas.gov.au

jane.howlett@parliament.tas.gov.au

3 December 2025

Dear Minister Howlett,

As Chief Executive of Greyhounds Australasia (GA) and Keeper of the Australian & New Zealand Greyhound Studbook, I write to express the serious concerns GA holds in relation to the Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025 (*the Bill*) and, pointedly, the imposition of a legislative ban on the regulated breeding of greyhounds in Tasmania.

Foremost to this, I must stipulate that GA does not agree with the decision to phase-out racing in Tasmania and encourages the government to review its decision.

Secondly, in relation to the proposed Bill, GA is gravely concerned by the legislative ban on Tasmanians breeding greyhounds for the purpose of racing. Breeding activity which is currently captured under the protective framework and regulations provided by the Australasian greyhound industry rules and licensing.

Instead, *the Bill* instructs and enables unregulated and unmonitored breeding of greyhounds for the purpose of "pets," with zero protective mechanisms against undesired welfare outcomes and circumstances. Additionally, seeking to criminalise the breeding of greyhounds for the purpose of racing. The premise behind such draconian measures appear to be grossly misguided hypotheticals around breeding explosions and undue pressure on rehoming in Tasmania.

If animal welfare is truly at the heart of *the Bill's* measures, then forcing greyhound breeding away from the industry goes against all the integrity and welfare protections that the racing industry has built to provide all racing animals. Without adequate industry oversight, welfare outcomes for these animals cannot be guaranteed.

Currently, greyhounds can only be bred by individuals licensed by a state Control Body, and then only once the greyhound has completed DNA profiling, undergone a veterinary assessment, and is approved for breeding by the Controlling Body. The GA Rules provide strict instruction on the manner and frequency that a greyhound can be bred from, including limits on age, litters, and mandatory annual veterinary examination. Presently, all greyhounds (either raced or unraced) exiting the industry for the purpose of becoming a pet, must be compliant with the GA Rules; this includes successful retirement notification and mandatory desexing.

The greyhound industry has a strong history of cross-jurisdictional collaboration, with licensing recognition a feature of the national framework – allowing participation of Tasmanians throughout Australasia. This is in keeping with the Australian Constitution and the unrestricted trade between states.



Greyhounds Australasia

P.O. Box 767

Noble Park Vic., 3174

Telephone: (03) 9548 3500

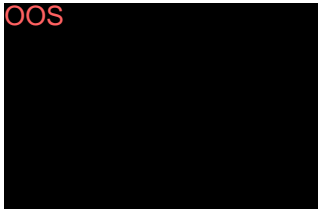
There is an established precedence of cross border support for jurisdictions without greyhound racing. With residents of the Australian Capital Territory, permitted to breed greyhounds for racing and participate under the licensing framework of the NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission (GWIC), subject to the regulations and requirements of NSW.

Such measures should be explored and developed, enabling the continued protection of Tasmanian bred greyhounds by the national integrity framework, rather than the illegitimate and indiscriminate model proposed under *the Bill*.

GA urges the Government to pause the progression of *the Bill* to ensure proper and adequate consideration of the proposed measures and examination of more robust and suitable alternatives.

GA would welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss these concerns at any time.

Kind Regards



Simon Stout

Chief Executive Officer

Greyhounds Australasia

cc: Commissioner Sean Carroll
Rob Vellar, Chair GA

RTI - DL - RELEASE - NRE

Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events
Minister for Racing
Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence

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11 DEC 2025

Ms Inez Hamilton-Smith
Email: OOS [@hotmail.com](mailto:OOS@hotmail.com)

Dear Ms Hamilton-Smith

Thank you for your correspondence of 8 December 2025 regarding Greyhound racing in Tasmania to Hon Guy Barnett MP. I am responding to you on behalf of the Government as Minister for Racing.

As you are aware, the Tasmanian Government will phase out greyhound racing by June 30, 2029. This will coincide with the expiration of the current funding deed, providing an opportunity to deliver a measured transition that focuses on the welfare of participants and greyhounds.

Animal welfare is at the core of this decision, with the Racing Integrity Commissioner to oversee the transition and a Parliamentary Committee providing advice on the pathway forward.

The Premier and I have requested that Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner, Mr. Sean Carroll develop a comprehensive plan to deliver all operational, animal welfare and integrity components of the transition.

I thank you for your correspondence and support as we draw a line in the sand and ensure an orderly exit from greyhound racing in Tasmania.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jane Howlett".

Hon Jane Howlett MP
Minister for Racing

RTI-DI RELEASE NRE

OOS

From: Brown, Trudy <Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 16 January 2026 11:30 AM
To: Gaetani, Luke (DPaC)
Subject: FOR REVIEW: Examiner enquiry TODAY [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Media query in response to Greens media release regarding greyhound racing phase out.
I have spoken with Saree and clarified that the delay of the greyhound racing bill until March 2026 was of the motion in the upper house which delayed the vote.

QUERY from Saree Salter, The Examiner:

Today the Greens have come out and said there's been 13 reported greyhound racing injuries, one of which has resulted in a death.

1. Why was the phase out of greyhound racing delayed until later in 2026? (March)
2. Do these stats concern the Minister? Does Ms Howlett think the phase out should be immediately commenced as a result of these stats?
3. Anything else you'd like to add.

The deadline for this one is 3.30 pm today

RESPONSE from Minister for Racing, Jane Howlett:

- The welfare of the racing greyhounds is pivotal. Racing participants love their animals and any fatality - be it on-track or off-track - is heart breaking for owners and trainers.
- Our government has and always will be committed to ensuring contemporary animal welfare.
- Tasracing has clear requirements around the euthanasiation of greyhounds either on or off the track, as well as minimum standards for the care, housing and health of dogs in the industry.
- We are getting on with the job to deliver a measured and sensible phaseout of greyhound racing with appropriate scrutiny through the Parliamentary Committee and the Parliament on the pathway forward, as we proceed towards the 2029 deadline.

From: Saree Salter <[redacted]@austcommunitymedia.com.au>
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2026 10:32
To: Brown, Trudy <Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Examiner enquiry TODAY

Hey Trudy,

I have a question for the Racing Minister.

Today the Greens have come out and said there's been 13 reported greyhound racing injuries, one of which has resulted in a death.

I will copy and paste the release below.

"With just two weeks of the new year elapsed, the cruelty at the heart of the greyhound industry has already been on full display.

In the six races so far this year, there's already been 13 reported injuries, one of which has resulted in the death of one of these beautiful animals.

Stewards reports show that at a race in Hobart last Thursday Memphis Rains suffered a fractured right hock. The dog's status has since been listed as deceased.

The death of Memphis Rains, along with distressing new footage [[here](#) and [here](#)] of fractures sustained by other dogs on tracks this year, again shows why its so urgent that Tasmania gets on with the job of banning greyhound racing.

Greens Animal Rights spokesperson Cassy O'Connor MP will be available to speak to the media with retired vet Dr Katrina Ward. "

On the record questions are:

- 1. Why was the phase out of greyhound racing delayed until later in 2026? (March)**
- 2. Do these stats concern the Minister? Does Ms Howlett think the phase out should be immediately commenced as a result of these stats?**
- 3. Anything else you'd like to add.**

The deadline for this one is 3.30 pm today

Many thanks,
Saree

Saree Salter
Journalist
Australian Community Media

OOS

OOS

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