



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Freedom of Information Publication Coversheet

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

FOI Reference: CMTEDDFOI 2018-0286

Information to be published	Status
1. Access application	Published
2. Decision notice	Published
3. Documents and schedule	Published
4. Additional information identified	No
5. Fees	Waived
6. Processing time (in working days)	20
7. Decision made by Ombudsman	N/A
8. Additional information identified by Ombudsman	N/A
9. Decision made by ACAT	N/A
10. Additional information identified by ACAT	N/A

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 1 October 2018 12:31 PM
To: CSD FOI <CSD.FOI@act.gov.au>
Subject: Canberra Times Freedom of Information request

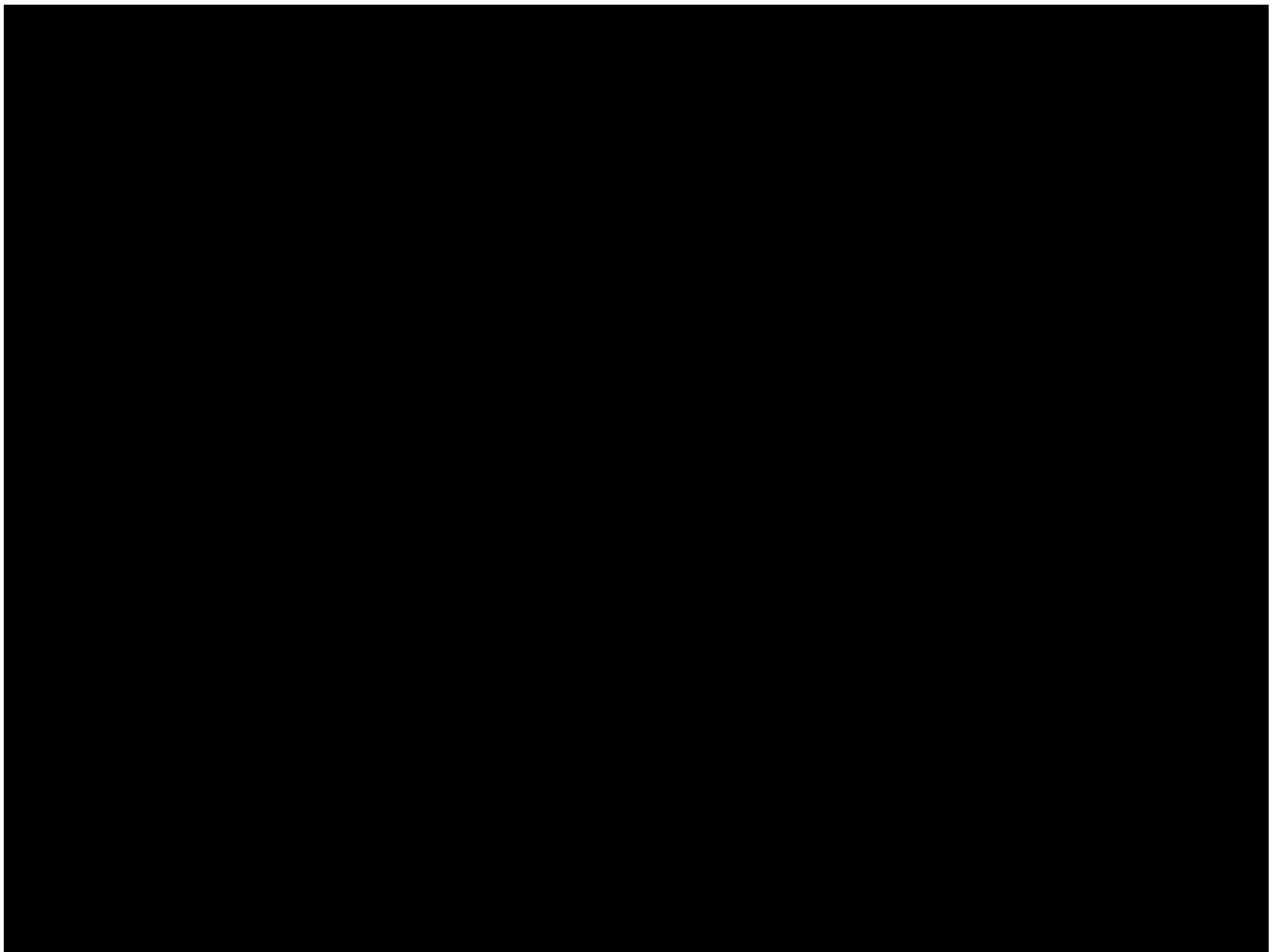
To the FOI contact officer,

I write under the Freedom of Information Act 2016 to request the following documents in the possession of the possession of the Community Services Directorate:

- All documents related to Woden Community Services' greyhound racing industry transition program since January 2018

ACT taxpayers paid \$52,000 last month for this organisation to provide short-term financial aid, free counselling and opportunities to retrain in a different industry for people affected by the ACT's greyhound racing.

I believe it's important for taxpayers to know the ins and outs of how this program is being used, [especially as the chief executive was caught mocking a member of the greyhound racing industry in April.](#)





ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDDFOI 2018-0286

[REDACTED]
via email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 15 October 2018, in which you sought access to all documents related to Woden Community Services' greyhound racing industry transition program since January 2018.

On 23 October 2018 you refined the scope of your request to ministerial briefs, meeting notes and third party reports since January 2018.

Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the Director-General of CMTEDD under section 18 of the Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act.

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the Act, CMTEDD is required to provide a decision on your access application by 12 November 2018.

Decision on access

Searches were completed for relevant documents and 34 documents were identified that fall within the scope of your request.

I have decided to grant full access to 12 documents and partial access to 22 documents. The information redacted in the documents is information that I consider, on balance, to be contrary to the public interest to disclose under the test set out in section 17 of the Act.

I have included as Attachment A to this decision the schedule of relevant documents. This provides a description of each document that falls within the scope of your request and the access decision for each of those documents.

My access decisions are detailed further in the following statement of reasons and the documents released to you are provided as Attachment B to this letter.

In accordance with section 54(2) of the Act a statement of reasons outlining my decision is below.

Statement of Reasons

In reaching my access decision, I have taken the following into account:

- the Act;
- the content of the documents that fall within the scope of your request; and
- the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Exemption claimed

My reasons for deciding not to grant access to the identified documents and components of these documents are as follows:

Public Interest

The Act has a presumption in favour of disclosure. As a decision maker I am required to decide where, on balance, public interests lies. As part of this process I must consider factors favouring disclosure and non-disclosure.

In *Hogan v Hinch* (2011) 243 CLR 506, [31] French CJ stated that when ‘used in a statute, the term [public interest] derives its content from “the subject matter and the scope and purpose” of the enactment in which it appears’. Section 17(1) of the Act sets out the test, to be applied to determine whether disclosure of information would be contrary to the public interest. These factors are found in subsection 17(2) and Schedule 2 of the Act.

Taking into consideration the information contained in the documents found to be within the scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factors are relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the ‘public interest’.

Factors favouring disclosure (Schedule 2 section 2.1)

Taking into consideration the information contained in the documents found to be within the scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factors in favour of disclosure is relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the ‘public interest’:

- (a) *disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:*
 - (ii) *contribute to positive and informed debate on important issues or matters of public interest;*
 - (viii) *reveal the reason for a government decision and any background or contextual information that informed the decision.*

Having considered the factors identified as relevant in this matter, I consider that release of the information within the scope of the request may contribute to positive and informed debate on important issues or matters of public interest. The documents identified contain information relating to the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT which I consider is of public interest. The documents identified provide methodology adopted by the Directorate and details of the next phase of the transition to end greyhound racing in the ACT. I consider the release of the information

identified could reveal information on transition support and assistance offered through transition support packages therefore this could contribute to informed debate on matters related to greyhound racing. I am satisfied that these two factors favouring disclosure carry significant weight.

Factors favouring non-disclosure (Schedule 2 section 2.2)

As required in the public interest test set out in section 17 of the Act, I have also identified the following public interest factor in favour of non-disclosure that I believe is relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the 'public interest':

- (a) disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:*
 - (ii) prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy or any other right under the Human Rights Act 2004.*

When considering the documents and factors in favour of non-disclosure, I have considered the personal information contained in the documents, including names and contact information. I am satisfied that the names and contact information of government employees should be released as these staff members were acting in their official capacity and the personal information being released is done so in relation to these individuals exercising their delegations in a work related capacity. I do not consider the release of this information is unreasonable or could prejudice their right to privacy. However, I consider it is unreasonable to release the names of non ACT Government employees, namely Woden Community Services staff. I am of the opinion that release of this information may prejudice the protection of the individual right to privacy or any other right under the *Human Rights Act 2004*. I am satisfied that this factor favouring non-disclosure should be afforded significant weight as it relates to individual privacy.

I have also considered the impact that releasing the identities of previous FOI applicants and all identifying information of members of the public that have applied for transition support as recommended by the WCS which also included the details of the assistance sort and their formal applications. I am satisfied that information regarding individual's identity and the details of assistance sort is personal information and that releasing this information may prejudice the protection of the individual right to privacy or any other right under the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Noting the pro-disclosure intent of the Act, I am satisfied that redacting only the information that is not in the public interest to release, while releasing the rest of the documents will ensure the intent of the Act is met and will provide you with access to the majority of information held by CMTEDD within the scope of your request.

Accordingly, I have chosen to redact parts of folios 2, 4-7, 13-14, 28, 38, 52-53, 65-67, 89-91, 93, 96-97, 116, 129, 131, 134, 136, 142, 151-152, 162, 164, 169, 176-178, 194-209, 217-218, 224-225, 234-240 and 242 of the documents within Attachment B.

Charges

Pursuant to *Freedom of Information (Fees) Determination 2017 (No 2)* processing charges are applicable for this request because the total number of pages to be released to you exceeds the charging threshold of 50 pages. However, the charges have been waived in accordance with section 107(2)(e) of the Act.

Additional Information

Please note pages 18-27 are draft documents only. The final version of those draft documents can be found at pages 31-35.

Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the Act, CMTEDD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. Your original access application, my decision and documents released to you in response to your access application will be published in the CMTEDD disclosure log after 15 November 2018. Your personal contact details will not be published. Your personal contact details will not be published. You may view the CMTEDD disclosure log at: <https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/functions/foi/disclosure-log>.

Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in CMTEDD disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Level 4, 1 Moore St
GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Should you have any queries in relation to your request please contact me by telephone on 6207 7754 or email CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah McBurney', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sarah McBurney
Information Officer
Information Access Team
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

12 November 2018



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST SCHEDULE

NAME	WHAT ARE THE PARAMETERS OF THE REQUEST	Reference NO.
	Ministerial briefs, meeting notes and third party reports related to Woden Community Services' greyhound racing industry transition program since January 2018.	CMTEDDFOI2018-0286

Ref No	Page number	Description	Date	Status	Reason for Exemption	Online Release Status
1	1-3	QTB	18 Jan 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
2	4-7	Email – Notes on Greyhounds	1 Mar 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
3	8-17	Greyhound transition awareness documents - DRAFT	23 Mar 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
4	18-27	Part A: Communication Plan - DRAFT	12 Apr 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
5	28-30	Email – Greyhounds handover	22 Apr 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
6	31-35	Part A: Communication Plan - FINAL	12 Apr 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
7	36-39	FAQS for industry participants	undated	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
8	40-43	QTB	29 Jan 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
9	44-47	Ministerial Brief	29 Jan 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes

10	48-51	Ministerial Brief	29 Jan 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
11	52-53	Email - GITP	16 Feb 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
12	54-58	Ministerial Brief	24 Apr 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
13	59-64	Email – CM Talkback	26 Apr 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
14	65	Email – Greyhound Information	26 Apr 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
15	66-67	Meeting notes	30 Apr 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
16	68-78	Email – QTB Greyhound	8 May 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
17	79-87	Email – For comment/clearance	9 May 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
18	88-110	Ministerial Brief	15 May 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
19	111-126	Email – QTB – Greyhound racing	29 May 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
20	127-131	Email – QTB – Ex-racing greyhound rehoming	7 Jun 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
21	132-136	Email – QTB – Ex-racing greyhound rehoming	7 Jun 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
22	137-148	Email – QTB – Greyhound racing	7 Jun 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
23	149-150	QTON	7 Jun 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
24	151-154	Email – Transition Support	14 Jun 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
25	155-178	Email – QTB Greyhound Racing	15 Jun 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
26	179-187	Email – QTB Greyhound Racing	24 Jul 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
27	188-208	Email – 08. Greyhound Racing	26 Jul 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
28	209	Email – Greyhound Program	8 Aug 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes

29	210-221	Email – Slightly revised QTB	13 Aug 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
30	222-226	Ministerial Brief	20 Aug 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
31	227-230	Ministerial Brief	27 Aug 2018	Full Release	N/A	Yes
32	231-234	Internal Minute	20 Sep 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
33	235-238	Internal Minute	26 Sep 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
34	239-242	QTB	2 Oct 2018	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
Total No of Docs						
34						

Portfolio/s Chief Minister

ISSUE: Omnibus Research Greyhound Racing

Talking points:

- The laws banning greyhound racing in the ACT will come into effect on 30 April this year.
- The ban has been carefully considered to maximise both animal welfare outcomes and the support delivered to the small group of people involved in greyhound racing here in the ACT.
- Transition support is still available until 5 months after the ban takes effect and I encourage anyone who may be eligible to get in touch now with Woden Community Service, which has been engaged to roll out our transition support.
- The laws banning racing also include measures to better protect greyhounds bred, owned and trained in the Territory for racing interstate.
- A new mandatory Code of Practice will come into effect at the same time as the ban, on 30 April this year. It is currently being developed in consultation with industry and animal welfare groups and will be enforced by the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate.
- Those who do not comply with the Code of Practice risk losing their breeding licences or their registration of racing dogs.
- Documented failures in NSW have horrified our community and the independent Durkin report found that the NSW and ACT greyhound industries could not be divorced.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices in the ACT will help the government assess whether any further intervention is warranted.

Key Information

- Greyhound racing in the ACT will be illegal as of 30 April 2018.
- People exiting the ACT greyhound racing industry can apply for transition support until 30 June 2018.
- Just over \$1 million is available for transition support, which may include counselling, financial advice, business support, retraining, micro-credit loans, or other forms of

support, tailored in consultation with the individual recipient, to suit their specific circumstances.

- Transition support will be rolled out until 30 September 2018.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)**, under the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* (the FOI Act), requested the provision of the greyhound results from those contained in an earlier response under the FOI Act.
- The request sought access to the results of a community views survey conducted by Orima Research (Orima). The Orima survey included, amongst a variety of other topics, questions about greyhound racing and the removal of subsidies for the greyhound racing industry.
- **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** request referred specifically to survey results contained in an attachment to an email partially released as part of an earlier FOI request. The earlier request was made by **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** on behalf of the **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)**. **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** The attachment contained preliminary survey results including the results of questions asked about greyhound racing.
- Both the preliminary and final survey results were exempted from release in an earlier FOI decision made on 28 September 2017 by Anita Perkins, Executive Director Communications. Ms Perkins considered the survey results exempt documents as the final results were presented to Cabinet and informed Cabinet deliberations.
- Subsequently, Government Solicitor's Office (GSO) regarding the exemptions applied to the earlier FOI documents advised that because the survey results are purely factual in nature they cannot be considered exempt documents under section 35 (Executive documents). They also advised that they did not consider that any other exemptions would be applicable.
- Following further clarification sought from the GSO, Ms Perkins released the final survey results (relevant to greyhound racing) in full.
- Although **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** requested a document containing the preliminary survey results, Ms Perkins decided not to release this. It was considered that these draft results to be exempt as working documents (section 36) as they do not correctly represent the final results provided to the ACT Government by Orima.
- A copy of the decision letters, schedule of documents and released document packages are available at:
 - o http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/open_government/foi/cmtedd/orima-research-survey-greyhound-racing-and-funding
 - o http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/open_government/foi/cmtedd/greyhound-racing-orima-survey

Part 4 of the Freedom of Information Act 2016 requires an agency or Minister must make some categories of briefs publicly available after five years unless contrary to the public interest. Sensitive

points should be identified with [Sensitive] at the beginning. Identifying sensitive background information will help Information Officers to assess the brief for public release.

From: Faerber, Jen
Sent: Thursday, 1 March 2018 5:56 PM
To: Faerber, Jen
Subject: Notes on greyhounds plan for March April [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

From: Faerber, Jen
Sent: Thursday, 1 March 2018 10:01 AM
To: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) ; Barnard, Belinda ; Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: Communications - Greyhound Industry Transition Program [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi everyone,

Sch 2.2(a)(ii) Belinda and I will call your mobile in a minute!

Here's a summary of what Belinda, Sch 2.2(a)(ii) and I discussed on Tuesday:

- Awareness campaign through March and April
- Focus on WCS and the support program
- WCS branding and spokespeople wherever possible. Sch 2.2(a)(ii), Sch 2.2(a)(ii), Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
- A email to stakeholders – CGRC, union, etc. We write, and they put on their letterhead. Campaign monitor. And formal letter to the chair of the club.
- WCS social media tile/video– ACT Gov will also post to relevant accounts (Whole of Gov, TCCS, Access Canberra, CSD). Provide messages and an idea for visual (they might already have one). They will share to their networks.

Our Canberra – MAY.

Make a video. Friday 1pm – drop in.

- WCS commenting on relevant social media posts (Mark Parton's page, other posts discussing greyhounds). We need to help them find opportunities.
- Sharing WCS resources via the email list CMTEDD has compiled via the Taskforce website. Sch 2.2(a)(ii) will send us material, we'll make a schedule to send it out.
- Highlighting drop-in opportunities at WCS – Fridays?
- Proactive media stories – if I give a hit list, outlets and report. and a government contact. Key messages.
- ACT Gov will also utilise bus screens, Access Canberra phone line on-hold messages, letters to TCCS stakeholders (registered breeders/trainers). Logo would be appreciated, website, contact and email. Run it by WCS. Sch 2.2(a)(ii) will be my point of contact.
- Possible paid advertising on Facebook and relevant media (2CC, Chronicle, Queanbeyan Age, CT). Possible paid media on SKY racing station. Woden Plaza TV screens? Will check if they can spend on FB advertising and drink coasters.
- Possible printed material like brochure or drink coaster for distribution in sports clubs, pubs, gaming lounges in CBR and QBN

Where we focus. Hit the target. Main constraint is time.

Cheers,
 Jen

Jen Faerber | Senior Communications Officer, Strategic Communications and Media

Phone: 02 6207 8646

Communications & Engagement | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 5, Canberra Nara Centre, 1 Constitution Avenue, Canberra City | GPO Box 158 Canberra City ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au



From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted]@wcs.org.au]

Sent: Wednesday, 28 February 2018 4:20 PM

To: Barnard, Belinda <Belinda.Barnard@act.gov.au>; Faerber, Jen <Jen.Faerber@act.gov.au>; Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted]@wcs.org.au>

Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted]@wcs.org.au>

Subject: Re: Communications - Greyhound Industry Transition Program [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

That's fine with me.

Let me know the dial in details.

Regards.

From: Barnard, Belinda <Belinda.Barnard@act.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 28 February 2018 3:54:14 PM

To: Faerber, Jen; Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted]

Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted]

Subject: RE: Communications - Greyhound Industry Transition Program [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Wonderful news. How about we make the phone call 10am, if that suits?

Belinda Barnard
Senior Manager, Greyhound Industry Transition
Cabinet and Policy
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

P: 02 6207 7525 | M: 0405 539 109 |E: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au

From: Faerber, Jen

Sent: Wednesday 28 February 2018 15:46

To: Barnard, Belinda; Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted]

Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted]

Subject: RE: Communications - Greyhound Industry Transition Program [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi everyone :)

I'm free from 9.30-11.30 tomorrow so would be very happy to jump on a call.

I'll send around a concise list of the ideas we discussed yesterday, in advance of our call.

Cheers,

Jen

-----Original Message-----

From: Barnard, Belinda

Sent: Wednesday, 28 February 2018 3:43 PM

To: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted] >; Faerber, Jen

<Jen.Faerber@act.gov.au>

Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) >
 Subject: RE: Communications - Greyhound Industry Transition Program

Thanks Sch 2.2(a)(ii)!

Sch 2.2(a)(ii), it's nice to meet you and I am copying in Jen Faerber to this introduction in the hope she can make it too.
 Sch 2.2(a)(ii) - meet Jen!

Belinda Barnard
 Senior Manager, Greyhound Industry Transition Cabinet and Policy Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development
 Directorate | ACT Government

P: 02 6207 7525 | M: 0405 539 109 | E: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au

From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
 Sent: Wednesday 28 February 2018 14:56
 To: Sch 2.2(a)(ii): Barnard, Belinda
 Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
 Subject: RE: Communications - Greyhound Industry Transition Program

Hi Belinda

I am available tomorrow from 9.30 am to 11.30 am and we can have a quick call to discuss.

Let me know if that suits or suggest another time.

Regards.

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Manager Marketing and Communications
 Woden Community Service | Callam Offices | Building C, Level 1
 50 Easty Street | Phillip ACT 2606
 P: (02) 6147 3305 | Sch 2 s2(a)(ii) | www.wcs.org.au <<http://www.wcs.org.au>>

[WCS logo Option 1] <<http://www.wcs.org.au>>

Woden Community Service acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional owners of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We also acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have come from other nations to live on Ngunnawal land. We pay our respects to their cultures, ancestors and elders past, present and future.

From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
 Sent: Wednesday, 28 February 2018 2:53 PM
 To: 'Barnard, Belinda' <Belinda.Barnard@act.gov.au>
 Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
 Subject: Communications - Greyhound Industry Transition Program

Hi Belinda,

Please see below contact information for Sch 2.2(a)(ii), our Communications and Marketing Manager who will work with yourself and Jennifer around the communication strategy for the Greyhound Industry Transition Program.

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Manager Marketing and Communications
 Woden Community Service | Callam Offices | Building C, Level 1
 50 Easty Street | Phillip ACT 2606
 P: (02) 6147 3305 | Sch 2 s2(a)(ii) | www.wcs.org.au <<http://www.wcs.org.au>>

With kind regards,

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Manager, Ability Services /
 Coordinator, Greyhound Industry Transition Program Woden Community Service | 26 Corinna St | Woden ACT 2606

P: (02) 6221 9527 | Sch 2 s2(a)(ii) | www.wcs.org.au<<http://www.wcs.org.au/>>

[wcs.org.au]<<http://www.wcs.org.au/>>

Woden Community Service acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional owners of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We also acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have come from other nations to live on Ngunnawal land. We pay our respects to their cultures, ancestors and elders past, present and future.

This email, and any attachments, may be confidential and also privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete all copies of this transmission along with any attachments immediately. You should not copy or use it for any purpose, nor disclose its contents to any other person.



ACT
Government

Greyhound transition awareness

Communications strategy

Government priority: Social inclusion – community safety and support when it matters

A focus on counselling and
transition support

1. Situation analysis

The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce was formed as a cross-government working group, when the Government announced it would ban greyhound racing in the ACT. One of the primary responsibilities of the taskforce is rolling out up to \$1 million of transition support to people who are exiting the industry as a result of this legislative change.

The greyhound racing industry is hostile toward this offer of transition support, with many people in the industry hoping various legal challenges will allow racing to continue.

Transition support is also not available to anyone who is continuing to race greyhounds in other jurisdictions (including just over the border in Queanbeyan) or anyone who is continuing to breed, train or own greyhounds for racing purposes.

With this communications strategy, the Taskforce wants to increase the uptake of transition support by those who are eligible, and assure the community that it has made every effort to do so.

Greyhound racing in the ACT will be illegal as of 30 April 2018. Applications for transition support can still be made until 30 June 2018. The rollout of that support must conclude by 30 September 2018.

The Taskforce has engaged Woden Community Service to roll out transition support, including meeting with prospective recipients about their needs, and then connecting them to services. Woden Community Service has agreed to be the face of this awareness campaign, as an impartial deliverer of support.

A concurrent information campaign will roll out through government channels, such as TCCS, Access Canberra and the Taskforce, about the changes to the laws and how people must comply.

2. Link to Government priorities

This strategy primarily supports the Government's priority to enhance liveability and social inclusion. Recognising that these legislative changes impact the small but dedicated community of people involved in greyhound racing in the ACT, the Taskforce's work, including this strategy, is committed to delivering "support when it matters".

TCCS, while significant in the overall transition, is not involved in the delivery of transition support.

3. Communication goals

Goal 1

Raise awareness of the transition support that is available, among the people who are eligible to receive it.

Goal 2

Assure the ACT community that people affected by the greyhound racing ban can access Government-funded support, and that it is substantive and worthwhile.

Goal 3

Raise awareness and an expectation of compliance with the racing ban effective 30 April.

4. Communication objectives

Objectives to support Goal 1

- Attempt to reach all individuals, groups and organisations who are eligible to contact Woden Community Service and access transition support before the commencement of the racing ban on 30 April 2018.

Objectives to support Goal 2

- Leverage a broad range of communication platforms and tactics to reach as many Canberrans as possible to inform them of the support that is available.

Objectives to support goal 3

- Include in all communications a message about the racing ban taking effect on 30 April.

5. Target public(s)

PUBLICS	ATTRIBUTES	DESIRED RELATIONSHIP
<i>People who have no engagement with the ACT's greyhound racing industry but who want it banned.</i>	<i>Not eligible for transition support, no action required to comply with new laws. Passive observers of change.</i>	<i>Educate about the efforts to support individuals in the racing industry to activate supporters of the Government's.</i>
<i>People in the greyhound racing industry who are aware of the transition support available.</i>	<i>May or may not be leaving the industry, may be under pressure not to accept transition support.</i>	<i>This is our most important audience as they may ultimately come forward for support.</i>
<i>People in the greyhound racing industry who are hostile to the ACT Government's offer of transition support.</i>	<i>Actively campaigning to keep the ACT greyhound racing industry operational, not accepting the end of the industry.</i>	<i>Encourage these people not to block access to information about transition support.</i>

6. Issues and risk analysis

RISK	MITIGATING FACTS	MITIGATION STRATEGIES
Increased hostility to the government's legislation	The legislation has passed and the changes will be occurring.	WCS will refer all questions about the legislation to the government. The government will reiterate that the legislation has passed.
Increased pressure on eligible people to reject or accept the Government's transition support.	WCS is an intermediary and will be the lead spokesperson in this engagement. Their message is about wellbeing, not the law.	We will highlight the availability of counselling, whether or not people are pursuing transition support.
Federal court case about validity of the racing ban may be successful.	It is unlikely to be successful.	We will acknowledge, if asked, that the case is underway but will state the facts of the laws as they stand.
WCS may be exposed to pressure from opponents to the government's approach.	WCS is aware of and has accepted this risk.	WCS will be focused only on wellbeing and services for people.

7. Key messages

For radio ad and other short-form comms:

- Greyhound racing in the ACT will be banned from April 30.
- If you're affected by the change access free counselling and more transition support through Woden Community Service.
- wcs.org.au

Extra messages that WCS will share:

- Contact Woden Community Service as soon as possible to find out what free, confidential services are available to you.
- Any change to our life circumstances can be challenging, and Woden Community Service has 45 years of experience in supporting Canberrans through challenging times.
- It's not too late to create a transition support package. While racing is banned from the 30th of April, applications for transition support are open until the end of June and will continue to be rolled out until the end of September.
- Transition support packages will be tailored to suit your individual circumstances.
- Support may include:
 - training and re-skilling opportunities,
 - business skills support;
 - specialist advice, guidance and planning about future career options;
 - financial counselling and planning services;
 - no-interest loans to meet immediate individual needs;
 - micro-credit loans to re-direct existing small businesses, or support new small business ventures;
 - help to re-home greyhounds;
 - counselling to provide emotional support for anybody involved in the industry transition.

Extra messages for ACT Government:

- This ban has been carefully considered to maximise both animal welfare outcomes and the support delivered to the small group of people involved in greyhound racing here in the ACT.
- Transition support packages for people and greyhounds exiting the industry are currently being rolled out with the support of Woden Community Service, which has been engaged by the ACT Government to provide case management services and free counselling for anyone affected, whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package.

8. Activity plan

Action	Responsibility	Status	Mar-12	Mar-19	Mar-26	Apr-02	Apr-09	Apr-16	Apr-23	Apr-30
WCS Facebook post focusing on Greyhound Transition Program - one per week to be shared by relevant ACT Gov accounts.	Sch 2.2(a)(ii) at WCS	In progress		1	1	1	1			
Letter to key stakeholders imploring them to pass support information on to members	Sch 2.2(a)(ii) at WCS and Belinda at CMTE DD	Draft submitted for approval	1							
Email to stakeholders	WCS write, CMTE DD send	In progress		1						
Media Stories - to be pitched by Sch 2.2(a)(ii) for Chris Redmond our CEO focussing on the services we provide i.e. Greyhound Transition Program, Next Step and OneLink.	Sch 2.2(a)(ii) at WCS	In progress					2CC Radio	Canberra Times	Chronicle	Queanbeyan Age
Video promo for Drop In at WCS tentative date on 27 April	Jen & Belinda	Not commenced							1	
Explore sharing WCS social media posts on ACT Gov in-house channels i.e. bus screen advertising, Access Canberra TV screens,	Jen & Belinda	In progress								

Newsletters, others.										
Printed materials that can be handed out during face to face engagements - postcards/flyers/coasters	WCS to design and distribute, ACT Gov to print	In progress								
Our Canberra article to all households	Jen	Approved								
Watching and commenting on all relevant social media posts	ACT Gov watch, WCS comment	Ongoing								
Paid advertising - radio, Sky Racing, Woden Plaza TV screens	Jen to investigate	In progress								

9. Project management and spokesperson(s)

ACT Gov communications – Jen Faerber. Jen.Faerber@act.gov.au, (02) 6207 8646

WCS communications – Sch 2.2(a)(ii) @wcs.org.au, (02) 6147 3305

Lead spokesperson: Chris Redmond, WCS CEO.

10. Budget

Up to \$3000 will be spent by ACT Gov on printed material and paid advertising.

WCS will take responsibility for any boosted Facebook posts, design and other costs.

11. Monitoring and evaluation

Evaluation is a critical component of any communications campaign, as it determines whether the strategy worked. This is important for accountability and continuous improvement.

Use the table below as a guide, and adapt it to suit the purposes of your communication strategy. You may like to create a separate table to evaluate each goal (if you have more than one).

COMMUNICATION GOAL 1		
Objectives <i>Performance measures outlined in section 3 of this plan.</i>	Evaluation method <i>How will we measure the outcome of our efforts?</i>	Outcome <i>What difference or impact has this made?</i>
Attempt to reach all individuals, groups and organisations who are eligible to contact Woden Community Service and access transition support before the commencement of the racing ban on 30 April 2018.	• Uptake of transition support • Direct enquiries to WCS and Greyhound Taskforce about transition support • Social media analytics • Sentiment of media coverage • Message fidelity in media coverage • Responses from key stakeholders • Uptake of printed materials.	
Leverage a broad range of communication platforms and tactics to reach as many Canberrans as possible to inform them of the support that is available.	• Stocktake of outreach methods utilised.	
Include in all communications a message about the racing ban taking effect on 30 April.	• Review communication materials to check for inclusion of message.	

12. Recommendations for continuous improvement

Outline what lessons you have learned along the way, and upon completion of the strategy implementation. Consider whether or not this strategy will inform future initiatives, and if so, what could be done differently to achieve a better result.



COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION CHECKLIST

Minister:

Ref: M

Project: Greyhound transition awareness	
Communications strategy implementation checklist	
Attached	
	Talking points/Q&A's (template on business portals)
	Digital communications – social media/videos/web content
	Canberra Connect info brief/script/outreach email (Canberra Connect template)
	Promotional text – WhoG email/Community Noticeboard
	Advertising (Refer to ACT Government Advertising Guidelines)
	Printed collateral – brochure/ book/ pamphlet
	Stakeholder communications – email/phone/meeting

Background: (who, what, when, where, and why)

Prior brief reference:

Approved for release:

Director-General:	Date:
Deputy Director-General: will get Leesa Croke	Date:
Executive Director:	Date:
Communications Director: Fiona Dolan	Date: 23 March 2018
Contact Officer: Jen Faerber	Phone: x78646

Ministerial Approval will be sought by your Communications Manager/Director.

Approved for release:

PART A: COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Project/Cabinet Submission name	Implementing the ban on greyhound racing in the ACT
Project launch date	Ongoing, with key date of 30 April 2018
Lead directorate (on comms)	CMTEDD – Access Canberra
Support directorate(s)	TCCS – Mandatory code, registration requirements and fees JACS – racing legislation CMTEDD’s Greyhound Taskforce – transition support
Background/Purpose	This communications plan outlines the work being undertaken by ACT Government to educate and engage with people involved in the greyhound racing industry, with a view to minimising the need for enforcement after the greyhound racing ban and associated regulations take effect on 30 April 2018.
Communication objectives	• Ensure all industry participants in ACT and surrounding regions know that greyhound racing is banned in the ACT as of 30 April 2018. • Encourage industry participants in the ACT to exit the industry and take up transition support. • Ensure all industry participants who will continue to own, breed or train greyhounds in the ACT for racing interstate know the new rules and requirements that will be in place.
Target Audience/s	• Industry participants in the ACT • People in NSW who visit the ACT for greyhound racing • Animal welfare advocates • Others opposed to greyhound racing in the ACT community
Link to Government priorities	The ban on greyhound racing was listed for delivery in the Parliamentary Agreement for the 9th Assembly. The transition support links to Social Inclusion: community support when it matters.

Key Messages	• Greyhound racing is banned in the ACT from 30 April 2018. • Fines of up to \$15,000 apply. • ACT residents exiting the industry can access support. For those choosing to remain in the industry and race interstate, new rules and requirements will be in place. • To learn more visit act.gov.au/greyhoundtaskforce
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Activity plan	Access Canberra: • Letter to stakeholders (Min Ramsay office will make media aware of the letter) • Print advertising in Canberra and region newspapers, plus newspapers further afield in regional NSW • Radio advertising in Canberra • Graphics displayed on Access Canberra service centre screens • On-hold message to play on Access Canberra phone lines • Whole of Government message to ACTPS employees CMTEDD Comms (Greyhound Taskforce): • Website content updates: www.act.gov.au/greyhoundtaskforce will point visitors to an Access Canberra page and the TCCS greyhounds page. • Our Canberra web story, for distribution in the Our Canberra EDM, and for sharing via ACT Gov and directorate social media accounts • Our Canberra printed story in June edition • E-newsletters to those who have registered for updates from the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce • Video for @ACTGov and other channels TCCS: • Website content updates to 'greyhounds' page • Sharing social media posts JACS: • Supporting with reactive messages about the ongoing court cases • Sharing social media posts Woden Community Services (promoting transition support): • A letter to stakeholders • Email to stakeholders
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	• Social media posts • Media interviews on the transition support • Commenting on relevant social media posts						
Communication lead and spokesperson	Access Canberra is the communications lead: Emily Springett x59093 Spokespeople: • On the ban, Attorney General Gordon Ramsay or David Pepper • On the new requirements on owners, breeders and trainers, Minister for Transport Canberra and City Services Meegan Fitzharris or David Pepper • On the transition support, Woden Community Services CEO Chris Redmond						
Budget	An advertising budget of \$3-20k is currently being negotiated. Emily – has this landed? All other comms activities will utilise existing resources. <i>Ensure compliance with the Government Agencies (Campaign Advertising) Act 2009 and the Electoral Act 1992. Some campaigns will require review by the Independent Review. Contact CMTEDD Communications for more information.</i>						
Monitoring and evaluation	We will review: • Compliance with the new regulations • Uptake of transition support • Responses from key stakeholders • Sentiment of media coverage • Message fidelity in media coverage • Website visitation • Social media analytics						
Risk management plan	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>RISK</th><th>MITIGATION STRATEGIES</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Greyhound racing industry complains about having only four days to comment on the draft Mandatory Code of Practice</td><td>Messages that emphasise the ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions. Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Two court cases, about the use of land at the track and about the validity of</td><td>ACT Government will note that matters are currently before the courts and will not comment on them</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	RISK	MITIGATION STRATEGIES	Greyhound racing industry complains about having only four days to comment on the draft Mandatory Code of Practice	Messages that emphasise the ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions. Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.	Two court cases, about the use of land at the track and about the validity of	ACT Government will note that matters are currently before the courts and will not comment on them
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Two court cases, about the use of land at the track and about the validity of	ACT Government will note that matters are currently before the courts and will not comment on them						

	the ban, are ongoing. Racing occurs at the ACT track after 30 April 2018.	any further. EPSDD and JACS will assist with updated key messages to reflect the current status of cases. ACT government will express disappointment, given the education and engagement activities undertaken since the ban was announced. Enforcement will largely occur after the date of the offence to minimise public exposure.
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Approvals

Action Officer: Emily Springett x59093	Date: 12 April 2018
Business Unit Head/Executive:	Date:
Deputy Director General:	Date:
Director-General:	Date:

PART A: COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Project/Cabinet Submission name	Implementing the ban on greyhound racing in the ACT
Project launch date	Ongoing, with key date of 30 April 2018
Lead directorate (on comms)	CMTEDD – Access Canberra
Support directorate(s)	TCCS – Animal welfare legislation, mandatory code, registration requirements and fees JACS – racing legislation, CRGC legal action CMTEDD's Greyhound Taskforce – transition support
Background/Purpose	This communications plan outlines the work being undertaken by ACT Government to educate and engage with people involved in the greyhound racing industry, with a view to minimising the need for enforcement after the greyhound racing ban and associated regulations take effect on 30 April 2018.
Communication objectives	• Ensure all industry participants in ACT and surrounding regions know that greyhound racing is banned in the ACT as of 30 April 2018. • Encourage <u>all</u> industry participants in the ACT to exit the industry and take up transition support. • Ensure all industry participants who will continue to own, breed or train greyhounds in the ACT for racing interstate know the new rules and requirements that will be in place. • Inform the broader community that the ban has taken effect.
Target Audience/s	• Industry participants in the ACT <u>including clubs breeders trainers and race-goers</u> • People in NSW who visit the ACT for greyhound racing • <u>Animal welfare advocates</u> • <u>Australian Veterinary Association</u> • <u>Others opposed to greyhound racing in the ACT community</u> • <u>Broader ACT community</u>

Commented [LJ1]: It would be good to further define this group – else let's leave them out as a target audience

Link to Government priorities	The ban on greyhound racing was listed for delivery in the Parliamentary Agreement for the 9th Assembly. The transition support links to Social Inclusion: community support when it matters.
Key Messages	• Greyhound racing is banned in the ACT from 30 April 2018. • Fines of up to \$15,000 apply. • ACT residents exiting the industry can access support. For those choosing to remain in the industry and race interstate, new rules and requirements will be in place. • To learn more visit act.gov.au/greyhoundtaskforce

Activity plan	Access Canberra: • Letter to stakeholders (Min Ramsay office will make media aware of the letter) • Print advertising in Canberra and region newspapers, plus newspapers further afield in regional NSW • Radio advertising in Canberra • Graphics displayed on Access Canberra service centre screens • On-hold message to play on Access Canberra phone lines • Whole of Government message to ACTPS employees CMTEDD Comms (Greyhound Taskforce): • Website content updates: www.act.gov.au/greyhoundtaskforce will point visitors to an Access Canberra page and the TCCS greyhounds page. • Our Canberra web story, for distribution in the Our Canberra EDM, and for sharing via ACT Gov and directorate social media accounts • Our Canberra printed story in June edition • E-newsletters to those who have registered for updates from the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce • Video for @ACTGov and other channels TCCS: • Website content updates to ‘greyhounds’ page • Sharing social media posts JACS and EPSDD: • Supporting with reactive messages about the ongoing court cases Woden Community Services (promoting transition support): • A letter to stakeholders • Email to stakeholders • Social media posts
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Communication lead and spokesperson	Access Canberra is the communications lead: Emily Springett x59093 Spokespeople: • On the ban, Attorney General Gordon Ramsay or David Pepper • On the new requirements on owners, breeders and trainers, Minister for Transport Canberra and City Services Meegan Fitzharris or David Pepper • On the transition support, Woden Community Services CEO Chris Redmond						
Budget	An advertising budget of \$3-20k is currently being negotiated. Emily – has this landed? All other comms activities will utilise existing resources. <i>Ensure compliance with the Government Agencies (Campaign Advertising) Act 2009 and the Electoral Act 1992. Some campaigns will require review by the Independent Review. Contact CMTEDD Communications for more information.</i>						
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	assist with updated key messages to reflect the current status of cases. Racing occurs at the ACT track after 30 April 2018. ACT government will condemn the action and proceed with enforcement activities, emphasising the education and engagement activities that have been undertaken for many months.
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Approvals

Action Officer: Emily Springett x59093	Date: 12 April 2018
Business Unit Head/Executive:	Date:
Deputy Director General:	Date:
Director-General:	Date:

From: [Springett, Emily](#)
To: [Cubin, Derise](#); [Dynon, Kaarin](#); [Harris, Jacqui](#); [Faerber, Jen](#)
Cc: [Dolan, Fiona](#); [Le, Joanna](#)
Subject: Greyhounds handover, next steps and update actioning on Monday please
Date: Sunday, 22 April 2018 8:16:01 PM
Attachments: [GREYHOUND letter SA edits.docx](#)
[1804_Greyhound racing banned advert A5 0.2.pdf](#)
[FAQS Greyhound Racing Ban.docx](#)
[Attachment B DRAFT Greyhounds overview comms plan 20042018.doc](#)
[image001.png](#)
Importance: High

Hi All

I'm out of the office until Thursday and need your assistance in getting the greyhound materials finalised in my absence please.

You'll see from the emails over the weekend which you were copied in from me, Access & TCCS have cleared the letter for stakeholders and the comms strategy. It was also ticked off by TCCS (TCCS's changes are marked in the attached).

Derise – can you confirm you'll provide the cleared letter to Belinda in CMTEDD for inclusion as an attachment to the WhoG brief? Please also note the designed FAQ which forms an attachment to the letter will come to you on Monday for ok and provision to Belinda also from my team.

If you receive any feedback on the advertisement from TCCS please provide it to Kaarin in my team. **Kaarin** – Rachael worked on the ad and will be able to make any changes as needed.

Kaarin – can you work, as a priority on Monday, with Jen on pulling together a designed FAQ which we can provide to stakeholders and attach to the letter? The content of the FAQ will be derived from the letter I drafted as well as the document I have attached from TCCS (called FAQs Greyhound Racing Ban). It's just presenting it in a neater way and please include more details which I didn't in the letter (ie. all TCCS points including fees and legislation). Branding for the FAQ should have a WhoG look and feel, rather than just Access (noting TCCS involvement in compliance and CMTEDD in transition support).

If you'd like me to look at it when done, flick me a text and I'll jump into my email, or alternatively I'm sure Fiona would be happy to tick it off. In terms of approvals, just Derise should be fine as you'll be using info from previously cleared materials and it will also form an attachment to the brief CMTEDD are doing. Once approved please get it to our Contact Centre also for their knowledge database so they can answer questions come 30 April 2018.

Can you also check in to ensure Alex in Ramsay Office has all social tiles she needs (ie. does she need any in addition to the three we gave her last week?) and check with Tania re: WhoG social requirements.

Jacqui – the content of the webpage will need to reflect the FAQ and letter – can you work with Kaarin to ensure alignment? It may just mean a couple of additions to what we worked on on Friday once the FAQ is settled. Can you also arrange with the web team for the re-direct so the URL for the page is www.act.gov.au/greyhound as we discussed? We will then use that URL across the board in comms. I understand from our discussion on Fri you'd checked with policy and cabinet team and TCCS comms and they were comfortable with this approach (one presence for greyhounds info) also?

Jen – I've successfully negotiated for \$20k in advertising spend through the Transition Taskforce (yay!). Can I get you to touch base with **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** (I'll forward you my email I sent to her on Friday) to check in with how she is going with revised program of bookings and quote? Ideally it would be good to get the ads booked for later this week and roll them out over next fortnight (noting some of the regional magazines/supplements may be fortnightly in terms of circulation) **Sch 2.2(a)** also needs to confirm ad size which you'll need to relay to Rachael so she can adjust the ad. The critical thing for the ads to ensure they are in EGN (early general news) pages where possible and not in classifieds. Costs more but is more effective and where possible (again depending on publication) – full colour. I've updated comms strat to reflect these changes, see attached. It's been cleared across TCCS and Access CBR.

In terms of the ad design, in parallel to the brief, you may like to get a tick off from Alex in MO on design to keep it moving and suggest she loops in Fitzharris office (from TCCS p.o.v).

Thanks guys and sorry I'm not there to work on it over the next few days with you. Give me a yell on the mobile if needed.

Emily

Emily Springett | Deputy Director, Strategic Communications and Media, Access Canberra

Phone: 6205 9093 | Mobile: 0413 169 029 | emily.springett@act.gov.au

Access Canberra | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

Level 4, Canberra Nara Centre, 1 Constitution Avenue, Canberra City | GPO Box 158 Canberra City ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au/accessCBR

cid:image004.png@01D3B089.AC095FE0

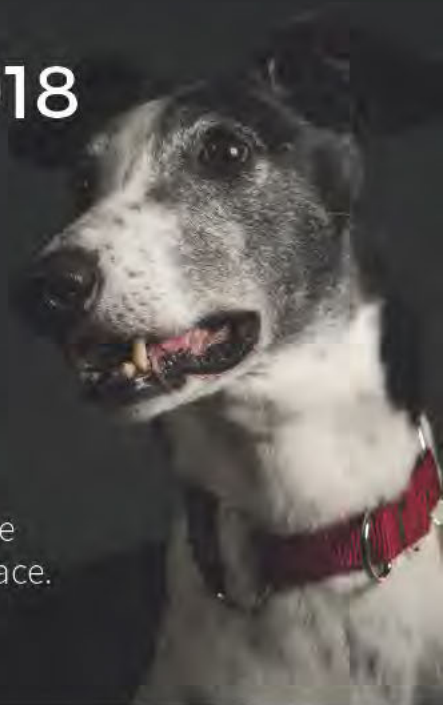


Greyhound racing is banned in ACT

from 30 April 2018

Fines of up to \$15,000 apply.

ACT residents exiting the industry can access support. For those choosing to remain in the industry and race interstate new rules and requirements will be in place.



To learn more visit
act.gov.au/greyhound



ACT
Government

PART A: COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Project/Cabinet Submission name	Implementing the ban on greyhound racing in the ACT
Project launch date	Ongoing, with key date of 30 April 2018
Lead directorate (on comms)	CMTEDD – Access Canberra
Support directorate(s)	TCCS – Animal welfare and legislation, mandatory code, registration requirements and fees JACS – racing legislation, CRGC legal action CMTEDD's Greyhound Taskforce – transition support
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Target Audience/s	• Industry participants in the ACT – including clubs, breeders, trainers and race-goers • People in NSW who visit the ACT for greyhound racing • Animal welfare advocates • Australian Veterinary Association
Link to Government priorities	The ban on greyhound racing was listed for delivery in the Parliamentary Agreement for the 9th Assembly. The transition support links to Social Inclusion: community support when it

	matters.
Key Messages	• Greyhound racing is banned in the ACT from 30 April 2018. • Fines of up to \$15,000 apply. • ACT residents exiting the industry can access support. For those choosing to remain in the industry and race interstate, new rules and requirements will be in place. • To learn more visit act.gov.au/greyhound

Activity plan	Access Canberra: • Letter to stakeholders (Min Ramsay office will make media aware of the letter) • Print advertising in Canberra and region newspapers, plus newspapers and rural magazines further afield in regional NSW • Radio advertising in Canberra • Graphics displayed on Access Canberra service centre screens • On-hold message to play on Access Canberra phone lines • Tile on Access Canberra Homepage and links on compliance pages to www.act.gov.au/greyhound • Briefing of the Gaming and Racing Commission Board • Whole of Government message to ACTPS employees • Media release to be prepared • FAQ to be prepared for disseminate as part of communications focus CMTEDD Comms (Greyhound Taskforce): • Website content updates: www.act.gov.au/greyhound will replace the transition page and include details on the ban, changes and compliance a activity • Our Canberra web story, for distribution in the Our Canberra EDM, and for sharing via ACT Gov and directorate social media accounts • Our Canberra printed story in June edition • E-newsletters to those who have registered for updates from the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce
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	• Video for @ACTGov and other channels TCCS: • Website content updates to ‘greyhounds’ page with a link back to www.act.gov.au/greyhound • Sharing social media posts JACS and EPSDD: • Supporting with reactive messages about the ongoing court cases Woden Community Services (promoting transition support): • A letter to stakeholders • Email to stakeholders • Social media posts • Media interviews on the transition support • Commenting on relevant social media posts
Communication lead and spokesperson	Access Canberra is the communications lead: Emily Springett x59093 Spokespeople: • On the ban, Attorney-General Gordon Ramsay or Deputy Director-General David Pepper • On the new requirements on owners, breeders and trainers, Minister for Transport Canberra and City Services Meegan Fitzharris or Director Stephen Alegria • On the transition support, Woden Community Services CEO Chris Redmond
Budget	An advertising budget of \$20,000 is identified to support widespread notification of the ban to Canberra and regional areas. This will include publications such as: • The Canberra Times • City News • Canberra Weekly • Queanbeyan Age • The Chronicle

	• Yass Tribune • Boorowa News • Braidwood Times • Crookwell Gazette • Goulburn Post • Western Magazine • Town and Country Magazine • Western Times • Central Western Daily • Illawarra Mercury • Daily Liberal • Forbes Advocate • The Post Weekly • Western Advocate • Southern Highland News • Highlands Post • Canowindra News • Blayney Chronicle • Lithgow Mercury • Cowra Guardian • Mudgee Guardian • Narromine News • The Young Witness • Bay Post • Bega District News • Shoalhaven and Nowra News All other comms activities will utilise existing resources.
Monitoring and evaluation	We will review: • Compliance with the new regulations • Uptake of transition support • Responses from key stakeholders • Sentiment of media coverage • Message fidelity in media coverage • Website visitation • Social media analytics

Risk management plan	RISK	MITIGATION STRATEGIES
	Greyhound racing industry complains about having only four days to comment on the draft Mandatory Code of Practice	Note that CGRC provided a comprehensive submission. Messages that emphasise the ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions. Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.
	Two court cases, about the use of land at the track and about the validity of the ban, are ongoing.	ACT Government will note that matters are currently before the courts and will not comment on them any further. EPSDD and JACS will assist with updated key messages to reflect the current status of cases.
	Racing occurs at the ACT track after 30 April 2018.	ACT government will take a zero tolerance approach to any racing activity in the ACT noting the education and engagement activities that have been undertaken for many months about the ban.

Approvals

Action Officer: Emily Springett x59093	Date: 12 April 2018
Business Unit Head/Executive:	Date:
Deputy Director General:	Date:
Director-General:	Date:

Cessation of Greyhound Racing in ACT

FAQS for industry participants

When will the greyhound racing ban come into effect?

Following the passage of the *Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Act 2017*, greyhound racing and trialling in the ACT will cease with effect from midnight on 30 April 2018.

What new laws are in place?

The *Racing (Greyhounds) Amendments Act 2017* removed the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club Inc from being a controlling body under the *Racing Act 1999*. The changes also include the removal of any reference to ACT-related greyhound racing within the *Racing Act 1999*, *Race and Sports Bookmaking Act 2001*, *Totalisator Act 2014* and the *Racing (Race Field Information) Regulation 2010*. These changes make it illegal to bet on a greyhound race held within the ACT.

From 30 April 2018, it is an offence to conduct, or facilitate the conduct of, a greyhound race or trial in the ACT or to allow a greyhound to take part in a greyhound race or trial in the ACT. A range of other legislative obligations under the *Animal Welfare Act* and *Domestic Animals Act* also come into effect. These are outlined below.

Who is responsible for enforcing the greyhound racing ban?

Domestic Animal Services within the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate has responsibility for enforcing the provisions of the *Animal Welfare Act* and *Domestic Animals Act* including provisions related to racing greyhounds.

Access Canberra have the power to investigate a range of matters including unlawful racing and gambling activities.

ACT Policing have a role if access to premises is necessary to prevent the suspected commission of a criminal offence.

What is a racing greyhound?

A greyhound is taken to be a racing greyhound unless the owner of the greyhound gives the registrar a written statement stating that the greyhound is not used, and is not intended to be used, for greyhound racing.

What is a Racing Greyhound Controller Licence?

A person who has control of one or more racing greyhounds (for training, handling or rearing purposes) will be required to obtain a racing greyhound controller licence. There is a legislated transition period of 6 months to enable sufficient time for this to take place. Applications for a licence can be directed to actdogcontrol@act.gov.au

The racing greyhound controller licence entitles a person to keep or have day to day control of a racing greyhound. It is a category of special licence under the *Domestic Animals Act*. It does not replace a trainer's licence or breeder's licence issued by a controlling body.

Racing greyhound registration

An owner of a racing greyhound will be required to apply for and obtain a renewable racing greyhound registration for that dog on an annual basis from the age of six months. They must also comply with a new mandatory *Code of Practice for the Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds* (Code of Practice). Applications for registration can be directed to actdogcontrol@act.gov.au

If an ACT based racing greyhound is going to be racing in NSW or other jurisdictions, the owner will need to meet ACT registration obligations in addition to any requirements imposed by a controlling body (such as Greyhound Racing NSW) in the jurisdiction they are racing in.

ACT registration does not entitle ACT racing greyhounds to enter races outside the ACT and is not part of or equivalent to the registration regime operated by controlling bodies across Australia. It is a special category of domestic animals registration specific to the ACT.

What is the Mandatory Code of Practice for Racing Greyhounds?

This Code has been prepared to provide standards for maintaining the welfare of racing greyhounds that are kept in the ACT. The Code will be available on the ACT Legislation Register in early May 2018 and will also be emailed to stakeholders.

It is approved as a mandatory code under section 23 of the *Animal Welfare Act 1992* and as such is mandatory for anybody who has day-to-day control of a racing greyhound.

A racing greyhound controller licence under the *Domestic Animals Act 2000* will be conditional on compliance with this Code. That means that if a person with day-to-day control of a racing greyhound fails to comply with this Code, their racing greyhound controller licence may be cancelled and other regulatory action may also be taken.

What fees are payable?

The ACT Government has committed that ownership, breeding and training of greyhounds in the ACT for racing outside the ACT will be able to continue on the basis that it is at no cost to the broader ACT community. The fees for registering a racing greyhound and obtaining a racing greyhound controller licence reflect this decision. These include:

- a 12 month registration fee for a racing greyhound set at \$612; and
- an annual application fee for a greyhound racing controller licence at \$640.

The following fees may also apply, consistent with the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act that apply to all dogs including racing greyhounds:

- a licence is required if a keeper or carer of a female dog wishes to breed a litter from a dog. The fee for a breeding licence is \$397.80 for a two year licence.
- a multiple dog license is required for keeping of 4 or more dogs at a cost of \$117.30 for the initial application and \$32.70 to renew the licence annually.

The provision of a sexually entire permit for a racing greyhound is provided as part of the annual registration fee for a racing greyhound.

How can racing greyhounds be trained in ACT?

The intent of the legislation is to ban greyhound racing. In this context, “racing” is defined in the legislation as:

Greyhound racing means one or more greyhounds racing in competitive pursuit, and includes:

1. *a greyhound trial or training race; and*
2. *racing in a test of speed of one or more racing greyhounds.*

Racing greyhounds may continue to be trained in the ACT in a variety of circumstances provided the training does not include racing or trialling.

Some aspects of training such as the use of lures, timing of a dog running around a track, the presence of more than one dog running around a track and the use of starting boxes may be viewed as constituting racing in a competitive pursuit. These aspects of training will be closely scrutinised by authorised officers to ensure they are consistent with the legislation and do not constitute racing or trialling.

Contact for further information

For inquiries about registration, licensing and compliance and the Code of Practice, please contact Domestic Animal Services via Access Canberra on **13 22 81**.

Free counselling is available to anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they are applying for a Transition Support Package.

The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce has engaged Woden Community Service (WCS) to facilitate Transition Support Packages for people exiting the greyhound racing industry.

If you would like to discuss options, see if you are eligible for transition support, access free counselling or seek further information you can contact either:

WCS case manager **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** [\[redacted\]@wcs.org.au](mailto:[redacted]@wcs.org.au), (02) 6181 2895 or **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)**.

Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce at greyhoundtaskforce@act.gov.au or (02) 6207 7525.

Contact with the Taskforce and WCS is confidential.

Transition Support Packages may include:

- Training and re-skilling opportunities (for example, subsidised places in training programs)
- Short term financial support – if you are employed in, or can show that you are significantly dependant on greyhound racing for income (and you can't access a redundancy payment)
- Business skills support (for example, subsidised assistance in business planning)
- Specialist advice, guidance and planning about future career options
- Financial counselling and planning services
- No-interest loans to meet immediate individual needs
- Micro-credit loans to re-direct existing small businesses, or support new small business ventures
- Counselling to provide emotional support for anybody involved in the industry transition

- Help to re-home greyhounds

The needs of each eligible applicant will be considered on an individual basis and, through consultation, a package will be developed to address their specific circumstances.

Portfolio/s Chief Minister

ISSUE: Greyhound Racing - Transition to end industry

Talking points:

- This new year marks the next phase in the transition to end greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The passage of legislation in November 2017 saw the ACT Government fulfil our commitment to stop supporting this industry. Racing and trialling of greyhounds will be prohibited from 30 April this year.
- The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce is reminding all eligible people to apply for an individually tailored Transition Support Package.
- While some industry lobbyists have publicly stated that they do not intend to engage with the transition process, we strongly encourage individual members of the industry to consider their own futures and engage with the Taskforce.
- Those exiting the industry have until 30 June 2018 to apply for transition support, and the Government has extended the roll-out of the available funding for an extra three months to 30 September 2018.
- For more information about the transition, eligibility and the types of support available, people can call 62077525 or visit www.act.gov.au/greyhoundtaskforce. Conversations with the Taskforce about transition support options are treated confidentially.
- Free counselling is also available to anyone impacted by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package.
- This can be accessed by contacting Woden Community Service, who have been engaged by the Taskforce to provide dedicated support, case management, information and counselling services for those affected by greyhound industry transition and those wishing to consider support package options. The dedicated number for this service is 6181 2895.

- After 30 April, it will still be lawful to breed, train and own racing greyhounds in the Territory, subject to a range of measures that will better protect greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.
- The new legal framework for monitoring and will give us a better line of sight on the entire lifetime of greyhounds here in the ACT. For example, registering new litters within seven days will mean every young greyhound is accounted for, whether or not it is later registered as a racing dog.
- More regular registration renewals, new licencing requirements on owners, trainers and breeders, and a mandatory Code of Practice for people who have day-to-day control of greyhounds registered for racing, will all improve our oversight of these practices in the ACT.
- The mandatory Code of Practice for the Keeping of Racing Greyhounds will be made under the *Animal Welfare Act 1992*. This will be the standard against which licence and registration applications and renewals will be assessed. It is currently being developed in consultation with the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, the RSPCA, greyhound welfare organisations and industry participants, including interstate racing authorities.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted.
- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has commenced proceedings in the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT. As these matters are before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- Parliamentary Agreement Commitment 13.1 is to end Government funding for greyhound racing at the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding and take active steps to transition to end the operation of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The 2016-17 Budget Review stated that:
“The Government will cease grant funding for the greyhound industry in the ACT, effective from the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding on 30 June 2017. The grant funding of \$1.033 million in 2017-18 will be redirected to a transition program to assist workers to re-skill, as well as rehome and care for the greyhounds”.

Durkin Report

- To assist with the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT, an independent consultant, Ms Mary Durkin, was engaged to provide an analysis of options to support the transition. The Government agreed with Ms Durkin’s recommendations.
- Over 50% (ten of eighteen) of the Durkin Report recommendations have been completed to date. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing and the scope of transition support to be made available. A further five recommendations (finalising the regulatory framework) are due for completion by 30 April 2018 and the remaining three (relating to the provision of transition support) are due to be finalised by 30 September 2018.

NSW position on greyhound racing

- Greyhound racing will continue in NSW. The NSW Government will spend \$41 million over the next five years to implement the recommendations of its Greyhound Industry Reform Panel. Of this, \$11 million is allocated towards the establishment of the integrity commission with the remainder to improve animal welfare standards. The NSW reforms are being phased in over 18 months, with the Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission expected to commence operation mid-2018. A statutory review of the new legislation will take place after three years.
- This followed an earlier inquiry by the Honourable Michael McHugh AC QC into the greyhound industry in NSW which exposed wide-spread live baiting practices and animal cruelty. A subsequent ban of greyhound racing announced by the NSW Government, which was to take effect from 1 July 2017, was reversed on 11 October 2016.

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club’s (CGRC) position

- The CGRC has publicly indicated that it will fight the intended ban including through legal action and advised that it will not engage with the Taskforce to transition industry participants or re-home animals.
- The CGRC has filed two legal challenges against the ACT Government to date.
- The first is an application to the ACT Supreme Court seeking a writ of mandamus. The current lease held by the CGRC is due to expire in 2027, and the Club applied to the ACT Planning and Land Authority on 18 April 2017 for the grant of a further lease. The Authority delayed its consideration of the application on the basis of public announcements regarding the transition to end the greyhound industry. On 16 October 2017, the CGRC filed an

application in the ACT Supreme Court seeking an order to compel the Authority to grant a further conditional lease. The matter is listed for hearing on 8 and 9 February 2018.

- On 2 November 2017, the CGRC also filed an application in the Federal Court seeking damages in relation to an alleged breach of the CGRC lease; a declaration that laws relating to ACTTAB and the control of race field information are invalid; a declaration that the instruments made under those laws are also or alternatively invalid; and a declaration that the Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Bill 2017 is invalid. The matter is next before the Federal Court for directions on 20 February 2018.

Taskforce engagement with stakeholders

- CGRC has publicly claimed that the Taskforce has not been active in seeking to engage industry participants in transition. The Taskforce Chair wrote to the CGRC on 5 September (and received a response on 18 September) and on 5 December 2017.
- Email update newsletters were sent to people registered with the Taskforce on 12 September, 2 November and 8 December 2017, and the same newsletters were uploaded to the Taskforce website.
- The Taskforce held a community information session on 19 September 2017, with nine attendees from animal welfare, greyhound re-homing organisations and individuals 'interested in the industry'.
- The Taskforce met the Australian Workers' Union on 13 September, 9 October and 23 October 2017 and 24 January 2018. The AWU provided the details of four members who have consented to contact from the Taskforce to commence discussions about transition support. Further meetings are planned with employees, contractors/service providers and trainers/breeders represented by AWU.
- The Taskforce has also met RSPCA Australia, RSPCA ACT, ACT Greyhound Support Network, Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, Australian Veterinary Association and Mary Durkin.
- The Taskforce presented at a meeting of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee on 6 February 2018. The Taskforce also met separately with the Australian Veterinary Association on 5 February 2018 to consult on the draft mandatory code of practice.



MINISTERIAL BRIEF

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate

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To:	Minister for Regulatory Services Minister for Transport and City Services	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2018/222
Date:	29 January 2018	
From:	Deputy Director-General, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD Director-General, Transport Canberra and City Services	
Subject:	Progress Report: Implementation of Greyhound Racing Industry Transition	

Purpose

To provide you with a progress report on the implementation of reforms to the greyhound racing industry in the ACT.

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief.

Noted / Please Discuss

Gordon Ramsay MLA /..... /.....

Meegan Fitzharris MLA 1/2/2018

Minister's Office Feedback

Background

1. Following the passage of legislative amendments in November 2017, greyhound racing and trialling will be prohibited in the ACT from 30 April 2018.
2. TCCS and CMTEDD are now developing the regulatory framework that will underpin the monitoring of ongoing greyhound ownership, training and breeding post 30 April 2018.

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3. Transition support has been available to those affected by industry transition since August 2017.

Issues

4. In May 2017, independent consultant Mary Durkin made eighteen recommendations to the ACT Government in her *Greyhound Racing Industry Transition Options Analysis*. The Government agreed to all recommendations, except one which it agreed-in-principle.
5. Over 50% (ten of eighteen) of the Durkin Report recommendations have been completed to date. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing and the scope of transition support to be made available. A table summarising the implementation status of the recommendations in the Durkin Report is at [Attachment A](#).
6. A further five recommendations (finalising the regulatory framework) are due for completion by 30 April 2018 and the remaining three (relating to the provision of transition support) are due to be finalised by 30 September 2018.
7. The Durkin Report noted that at the time the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) Racing Rules was inconsistent in some ways with ACT legislation, for example in the way registration requirements for racing and breeding greyhounds are expressed.
8. Ms Durkin recommended that the CGRC review its Racing Rules to ensure consistency with ACT legislation and subordinate documents. It does not appear that this review has occurred but as the CGRC will no longer have a regulatory role from 30 April 2018 such a review may be unnecessary.

Transition Support

9. The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce estimates that no more than 50 people/businesses (constituting employees, significantly affected businesses and greyhound owners/trainers/breeders) will seek an individual transition support package.
10. Given the regional nature of greyhound racing, it is likely that many of the current participants will likely choose not to exit the industry, and therefore they would be ineligible for transition support. Of those who will seek transition support, it is possible that many will do so at a later stage, possibly after racing ends on 30 April 2018. The decision by government to extend support availability until 30 September 2018 accommodates the possibility of delayed decision-making by participants.
11. The Taskforce has received three expressions of interest in transition support to date. One is from a greyhound rehoming organisation and relates to rehoming greyhounds, while two were from industry participants.
12. In November 2017, the Taskforce contracted Woden Community Service (WCS) to provide case management, counselling and support services to greyhound industry participants. This includes the provision of a free counselling service to anybody affected by industry transition (whether or not they seek a transition support package).
13. WCS is currently assisting one individual to apply for a transition support package. WCS

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will also conduct outreach, attend race meetings and likely establish regular availability at an offsite location near the track.

14. In order to reach affected individuals, the Taskforce has met with four Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) employees, one contractor (the track vet) and the Australian Workers' Union (AWU).
15. The AWU claim to represent approximately 50 industry participants - including CGRC employees, contractors/service providers and greyhound trainers and breeders. The Taskforce has met the AWU organiser on four occasions, twice with CGRC staff present. The next meeting between the Taskforce and the AWU was on 24 January 2018.
16. The Taskforce has also met with a number of animal welfare and greyhound re-homing organisations to determine what assistance might be required to re-home ACT based greyhounds that are surrendered as a result of the ban on racing.

Financial Implications

17. TCCS are working on a fee structure that will deliver the government's commitment to implementing a monitoring framework for breeding and training practices at no cost to the wider ACT community. This will be in place by 30 April 2018, and you will be briefed on this separately in coming weeks.
18. The contract cost for case management and support services provided by WCS is \$104,912.72 for the period 20/11/2017 to 30/9/2018. This is funded through money allocated from the 2017/18 budget and administered by CMTEDD.

Consultation

19. TCCS and CMTEDD are working together on the new regulatory framework for owners/breeders and trainers of racing greyhounds.
20. CMTEDD is in contact with the NSW Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission and will also consult government counterparts in Victoria and Queensland to maximise consistency between regulatory arrangements where possible.
21. A range of external stakeholders will be consulted in the development of the mandatory code of practice for the keeping of racing greyhounds, including:
 - Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
 - RSPCA Australia and RSPCA ACT
 - Canberra Greyhound Racing Club
 - Greyhound Racing NSW
 - Greyhound trainers/owners and breeders in the ACT
 - Greyhound re-homing and support organisations (Canberra Greyhound Connections, ACT Greyhound Support Network, Friends of the Hound NSW)
 - ACT Veterinary Surgeons Board
 - Australian Veterinary Association

Benefits/Sensitivities

22. CGRC has a public and frequently stated position that neither the Club nor its members will engage with the Taskforce or seek transition support. There have been verbal reports of pressure on industry participants to refrain from engaging with the

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Taskforce.

23. The CGRC has also filed legal challenges to matters relating to the ban in the Federal Court and the Supreme Court. The Federal Court matter is next before the court on 20 February 2018 for directions. The Supreme Court matter is listed for hearing on 8 and 9 February 2018.

Media Implications

24. The ban on greyhound racing is likely to continue to attract media attention. The court dates, and the key implementation dates outlined at Attachment B, may be a catalyst for further media attention.
25. Communications teams in TCCS and CMTEDD are working together on a communications strategy to support the next phase of implementation, prior to the ban coming into effect.

Signatory Name:	Leesa Croke	Phone: x73751
	Emma Thomas	Phone: x78658
Action Officers:	Belinda Barnard (CMTEDD)	Phone: x77525
	Lisa Johnson (TCCS)	Phone: x55187

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Durkin Report Recommendations – Implementation Status
Attachment B	Key implementation dates



MINISTERIAL BRIEF

**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate**

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To:	Minister for Regulatory Services Minister for Transport and City Services	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2018/222
Date:	29 January 2018	
From:	Deputy Director-General, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD Director-General, Transport Canberra and City Services	
Subject:	Progress Report: Implementation of Greyhound Racing Industry Transition	

Purpose

To provide you with a progress report on the implementation of reforms to the greyhound racing industry in the ACT.

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief.

Gordon Ramsay MLA

Noted / Please Discuss

5/2/18

Meegan Fitzharris MLA

Minister's Office Feedback

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Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Durkin Report Recommendations – Implementation Status
Attachment B	Key implementation dates

From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) @wcs.org.au>
Sent: Friday, 16 February 2018 5:20 PM
To: Barnard, Belinda
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: GITP

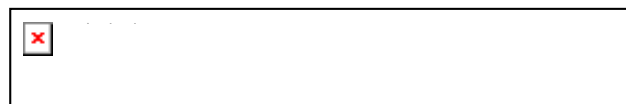
Hi again Belinda,

I forgot to mention that Sch 2.2(a)(ii) will also begin researching options for the Sch 2.2(a)(ii) who would like to start a coffee business.

With kind regards,

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Manager, Ability Services /
 Coordinator, Greyhound Industry Transition Program
 Woden Community Service | 26 Corinna St | Woden ACT 2606
 P: (02) 6221 9527 | Sch 2 s2(a)(ii) | www.wcs.org.au



Woden Community Service acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional owners of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We also acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have come from other nations to live on Ngunnawal land. We pay our respects to their cultures, ancestors and elders past, present and future.

From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Sent: Friday, 16 February 2018 4:37 PM
To: 'Barnard, Belinda' <Belinda.Barnard@act.gov.au>
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Subject: GITP

Hi Belinda,

Thank you for meeting with Sch 2 2(a)(ii) and myself this afternoon.

Meetings

- I've invited Sch 2.2(a)(ii) and yourself to the meeting with Gareth from the Union on Monday 5th March at 3pm here at the Smith Family. I'll leave you to make contact with Gareth to confirm his availability.
- Are you available to meet for our fortnightly catch up on Friday 2nd at 3pm? We can come out to you this time 😊

Documents

- Sch 2 2(a)(ii) will begin working on the template to send to the Taskforce which will include:
 - An outline of circumstances
 - Eligibility category
 - Whether the evidence has been checked off
 - Options being pursued as
 - Estimate of cost
 - Special circumstances (being sure to manage expectations here).

- We look forward to any further feedback you have on the FAQ and reporting template. I will send the FAQ to our Marketing team today.

Outreach

- Thank you for contacting the leader from run & play regarding possible Thursday night outreach. Once confirmed, we would be looking to have this on Thursday 1st March after **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** returns from leave.

Look forward to speaking with you soon.

With kind regards,

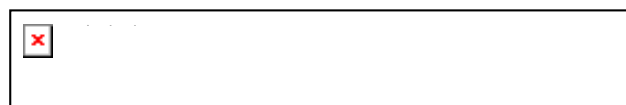
Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Manager, Ability Services /

Coordinator, Greyhound Industry Transition Program

Woden Community Service | 26 Corinna St | Woden ACT 2606

*P: (02) 6221 9527 | **Sch 2 s2(a)(ii)** | www.wcs.org.au*



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MINISTERIAL BRIEF

**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate**

UNCLASSIFIED

To:	Minister for Regulatory Services Minister for Transport and City Services	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2018/2046
Date:	24 April 2018	
CC:	Chief Minister Minister for Police and Emergency Services	
From:	Deputy Director-General, Policy and Cabinet	
Subject:	Implementation of greyhound racing ban 30 April 2018	

Purpose

To inform you of the arrangements in place to implement the ban on greyhound racing that commences on 30 April 2018.

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief.

Noted / Please Discuss

Gordon Ramsay MLA /...../.....

Meegan Fitzharris MLA 11/5/18

2. Agree to the expenditure of up to \$50,000 from greyhound industry transition funds on compliance and communications activities, as outlined in this brief.

Noted / Please Discuss

Gordon Ramsay MLA /...../.....

Minister's Office Feedback

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Background

1. The ban on greyhound racing and trialling in the ACT will commence on 30 April 2018.
2. The owning, breeding and training of greyhounds for racing outside the ACT will still be allowed after the ban is in place, subject to greater controls. The new registration and licencing arrangements that underpin these controls will also be in force on 30 April, and include a new mandatory code of practice made under the *Animal Welfare Act 1992*. These changes are provided for in B18/141 to Minister Fitzharris.
3. A letter to industry participants about the details of the incoming changes, which includes an FAQ document, is at Attachment A.

Issues

4. Access Canberra (AC) and Domestic Animal Services (DAS) within Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS), are taking a coordinated approach to most effectively use the range of powers available to each agency to educate the community in the lead up to the ban, and to monitor compliance and carry out enforcement activities post 30 April.
5. Access Canberra (AC) is responsible for administering a range of legislation including the *Race and Sports Bookmaking Act 2001*, *Racing Act 1999*, *Totalisator Act 2014* and the *Unlawful Gambling Act 2009*. Once the ban on greyhound racing comes into effect, the main responsibility of AC inspectors will be the identification of any illegal betting activity that may be occurring at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC).
6. AC will be responsible for the carriage of any enforcement actions in relation to illegal betting activity. Illegal betting offences can carry significant financial penalties and/or imprisonment. AC inspectors will also have the capacity to act as corroborators and assist TCCS inspectors with evidence collection should the need arise for any enforcement/prosecution activity to be commenced by TCCS.
7. DAS is responsible for administering both the *Domestic Animals Act 2000* and the *Animal Welfare Act 1992*. From 30 April 2018, it is an offence to conduct, or facilitate the conduct of, a greyhound race or trial in the ACT; or to allow a greyhound to take part in a greyhound race or trial in the ACT.
8. Whilst there is a transitional period of 6 months for people who had day-to-day control of a greyhound registered with a greyhound racing controlling body, to hold a racing greyhound controller licence, other legislative obligations such as general dog registration, racing greyhound registration, multiple dog licence, breeding and associated reporting obligations come into effect on the commencement of the Act. If illegal greyhound racing or trialling is conducted in the ACT after 30 April 2018, controls such as veterinary attendance, stewards or other safety precautions may not exist and may cause other animal welfare issues.
9. Compliance teams from both agencies have been collaborating in preparing an Operations Plan for how the post-ban inspections will occur and associated guidance that will assist inspectors to identify/detect any non-compliant activities at the CGRC facility.
10. The aim of the regulatory response is to maximise inspection coverage and to provide an obvious visual deterrent to any considerations by parties of engaging in conduct that would constitute an offence against applicable legislation. This will be achieved, to

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the fullest extent possible by inspectors from AC and DAS conducting regular attendance at the Symonston venue.

11. The activities will incorporate planned joint inspections with officers physically entering the venue as permitted by legislation, supplemented with inspectors from both agencies incorporating 'drive-by' visual inspections into daily work routines.
12. At each scheduled inspection of the CGRC, officers will inspect the activities being undertaken and ensure compliance with animal welfare and management requirements are met and no greyhound racing or trialling is being conducted. If non-compliance is identified, the relevant risk and harms associated with the conduct will be assessed and an appropriate response in line with the AC and TCCS Compliance and Enforcement Framework will be delivered.
13. The length of each inspection will be dependent on the activities being undertaken and the number of people and dogs on site.
14. In addition to the planned inspections, both AC and TCCS will conduct random inspections of the CGRC facility to ensure compliance and to increase industry awareness of the new legislative requirements. It is expected multiple inspections will occur for a period of approximately 2 weeks after the commencement of the new legislation, with greater inspection activity on days where trialling or racing has previously been conducted.
15. Where required, ACT Policing attendance will be requested to support AC and TCCS compliance actions.
16. Racing greyhounds may continue to be trained in the ACT provided the training does not involve a competitive pursuit. Cross-Directorate discussions including with the ACT Government Solicitor's Office (GSO) have identified that some aspects of training such as the use of lures, timing of a dog running around a track, the presence of more than one dog running around a track and the use of starting boxes may, depending on the circumstances be viewed as constituting racing in a competitive pursuit, but are not necessarily a clear-cut offence.
17. These aspects of training will be closely scrutinised by authorised officers to ensure they are consistent with the legislation and do not constitute racing or trialling. The focus of compliance activities will be engaging with racing greyhound trainers and collecting evidence to inform an assessment about whether a regulatory response is required.

Financial Implications

18. There will be a resource impact for two aspects of this phase of implementation. It is proposed that these be met through the funds currently held by CMTEDD to aid greyhound industry transition.
19. The cross directorate communications strategy, at Attachment B, anticipates expenditure of up to \$20,000, principally for paid print advertising in newspapers in Canberra and regional NSW. Given the regional nature of greyhound racing, this advertising is a measure to raise awareness of the ban among those industry participants in NSW who may have previously travelled to the ACT to race.

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20. There will be an additional cost to TCCS and AC for the increased monitoring and compliance related activity due to the scheduled of extra patrols with the associated increase in staffing and overtime costs. It is proposed that the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce reimburse TCCS and AC for these additional costs up to a total amount of \$30,000.

Consultation

21. On 3 April 2018, representatives from all directorates with an interest met to discuss the immediate response to commencement of the ban. Attendees at this meeting were:
 - a. Leesa Croke (Deputy Director-General CMTEDD, x73751)
 - b. Geoffrey Rutledge (Deputy Director-General Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, x75001)
 - c. Dave Pepper (Deputy Director-General, Access Canberra, x55169),
 - d. Richard Glenn (Deputy Director-General JACSD, x53504)
 - e. Adam Stankevicius (Director, Government Reform, x50468)
 - f. Stephen Alegria (A/g Director, City Presentation, TCCS, x79833)
 - g. Emily Springett (Deputy Director, Communications and Media, AC, x59093)
 - h. Fiona Dolan (Director, Communications, CMTEDD, x71757)
 - i. Belinda Barnard (Senior Manager, Greyhound Industry Transition, CMTEDD x77525)
22. On 12 April 2018, Julia Noble from the ACT Government Solicitor's Office (GSO) provided advice on the nature of activities that would be affected by the incoming ban and potential guidance for inspectors. On 19 April 2018, Julia Noble and Nathan Hancock from the GSO attended a meeting of AC and TCCS officers to discuss compliance matters in further detail.
23. Alison Purvis (A/g Chief Operating Officer, AC, x55275) and Stephen Alegria (A/g Director, City Presentation, TCCS, x79833) cleared this brief on 19 April 2018.

Benefits/Sensitivities

24. The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club have announced that it will hold its last Canberra Cup event on the final day that racing will be permitted (Sunday 29 April 2018), and this is likely to attract national attention.
25. Compliance activities conducted by the ACT Government after 30 April 2018 are likely to be highly scrutinised by industry participants who object to the ban.
26. The CGRC holds a lease over the racetrack at Symonston until 2027 that allows them to use the premises only "*for the purpose of a greyhound racecourse and ancillary facilities and subsidiary thereto a sportsground*". As the conduct of greyhound racing will no longer be lawful post 30 April, it is possible that the CGRC will seek a variation of the lease purpose.
27. The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) have provided general information on the lease variation process, which is at Attachment C.

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Media Implications

28. There will be continued media interest in the lead up to commencement of the ban. The implementation of the ban will likely be of national interest. Any potentially unlawful activity conducted by the CGRC or any event held at the racetrack will likely attract further interest.
29. AC is leading a cross-directorate communications strategy, in cooperation with the communications teams in TCCS, CMTEDD and JACSD. A copy of the communications strategy is at Attachment B.

Signatory Name: Leesa Croke

Phone: x73751

Action Officer: Belinda Barnard

Phone: x77525

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Letter and FAQs for industry participants on implementation
Attachment B	Communications Strategy
Attachment C	FAQs on possible lease variation

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From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Thursday, 26 April 2018 4:50 PM
To: CM Policy and Cabinet-Comms Executive Support; Hernandez, Grace; ACDLO
Cc: Wilesmith, Brett; Faerber, Jen
Subject: CM Talkback brief - greyhounds [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: Chief Ministers Talkback_Hot Issues Greyhounds 26 April.doc

Hi Grace and Kylie

Please find attached a brief for talkback tomorrow, cleared by Brett after input from Comms.

Please let me know if you need anything further.

Kind regards
Belinda

Belinda Barnard
Senior Manager, Greyhound Industry Transition
Policy and Cabinet
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

M: 0405 539 109 | P: 02 6207 7525 | E: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au



CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: 26 April 2018

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING – TRANSITION TO END INDUSTRY

Talking Points

Racing ban

- This coming Monday, the ACT will become the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- This follows our earlier decision to cease providing funding to the industry, and the passage of legislation in the Assembly in November 2017.
- From Monday it will still be lawful for ACT residents to breed, train and own racing greyhounds here, subject to a range of measures designed to better protect ACT greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.
- More regular racing registration renewals; new licencing requirements on owners, trainers and breeders; and a mandatory Code of Practice for people who have day-to-day control of greyhounds registered for racing, will all improve our oversight of these practices in the ACT.
- Information on the racing ban, the new regulatory framework for those remaining in the industry to race interstate, and transition support for ACT residents exiting the industry is now available at www.act.gov.au/greyhound.
- Anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT can access free counselling through Woden Community Service, and ACT residents

exiting the industry can still apply for a Transition Support Package until 30 June 2018.

- The new legal framework for monitoring is designed to give us a better line of sight on the entire lifetime of greyhounds here in the ACT. For example, registering new litters within seven days will mean every young greyhound is accounted for, whether or not it is later registered as a racing dog.
- The ACT Government took these steps in response to the documented and acknowledged animal welfare failures in the greyhound racing industry in NSW.
- We know that the greyhounds who previously raced in Canberra were almost all from NSW. NSW owners and trainers represented a significant majority of participants in greyhound racing in the ACT.
- As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT. We wanted to do what we could to prevent these kinds of abuses from coming across the border to ACT.

Code of practice

- The new mandatory *Code of Practice for the Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds* also comes into force on Monday.
- Over a dozen stakeholders (including the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, the RSPCA, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club, the Australian Veterinary Association, greyhound welfare organisations and interstate racing authorities) provided feedback during consultation on the Code.
- All feedback was carefully considered in the Code's development. The ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code, and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions. Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted.

Participant and animal welfare

- This government's priority is the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing, and the people who will be affected by the end of racing in the ACT.

- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce, and why the Taskforce has engaged Woden Community Service which is so experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.
- The Government strongly encourages anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT to contact either the Transition Taskforce or Woden Community Service to access this support.
- Free counselling is also available to anyone impacted by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package.
- This can be accessed by contacting Woden Community Service, who have been engaged to provide dedicated support, case management, information and counselling services for those affected by greyhound industry transition and those wishing to consider support package options. The dedicated phone number for this service is 6181 2895.
- While some industry lobbyists have publicly stated that they do not intend to engage with the transition process, we strongly encourage individual members of the industry to consider their own futures and engage with the Taskforce and Woden Community Service while the opportunity is available.
- Conversations with the Taskforce or with Woden Community Service are confidential.
- Applications for support must be made before 30 June 2018. Transition support will continue to be rolled out until 30 September 2018, five months after racing is banned.

Media regarding email from WCS CEO to industry participant

- I'm aware that Chris Redmond, the CEO of Woden Community Service, sent an email in error to a member of the public that was meant for a colleague.
- This is a matter for Mr Redmond, and I understand he has already addressed the matter and apologised to the individual concerned.
- The Government contracted Woden Community Service to provide support to the individuals affected by the end of racing in the ACT because that organisation has decades of experience in providing this kind of support.

- Mr Redmond is not a member of the ACT Government's Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce. The Taskforce is made up of senior executives from across ACT Government.

Legal proceedings

- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- As these matters are still before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

Key Points

- The *Racing (Greyhounds) Amendment Bill 2017* and *Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Bill 2017* were passed on 28 November 2017 and will commence on 30 April 2018.
- People exiting the industry have until 30 June 2018 to apply for transition support, and the roll-out of the available funding has been extended to 30 September 2018.
- NSW owners and trainers represent a significant majority of participants in greyhound racing in the ACT (in 2016, approximately 71 dogs that raced were based in the ACT, while 1107 were from NSW – this makes 94%).
- The Durkin Report states that there are currently 70 Canberra residents who are active participants (i.e. owners, breeders and/or trainers) in greyhound racing in the ACT. Approximately 52 racing greyhounds are both owned by ACT residents and based here.

Background Information

- Parliamentary Agreement Commitment 13.1 is to end Government funding for greyhound racing at the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding and take active steps to transition to end the operation of greyhound racing in the ACT.

Durkin Report

- Over 50% (10 of 18) of the Durkin Report recommendations have been completed to date. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing and the scope of transition support to be made available. Five recommendations (finalising the regulatory framework) are due for completion by 30 April 2018 and the remaining three (relating to the provision of transition support) are due to be finalised by 30 September 2018.

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club's (CGRC) position

- The CGRC has two legal challenges against the ACT Government on foot.
- On 23 February 2018, the ACT Supreme Court handed down its decision in a matter brought by the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) against the ACT Planning and Land Authority

(ACTPLA) regarding the lease over the greyhound track at Symonston. The Court found that ACTPLA should have made a decision in regard to CGRC's application for a renewal of its current lease (due to expire in 2027) and that it was unreasonable to delay making a decision because of the possibility of legislative change that would ban greyhound racing. However, the Court found that ACTPLA should not now be ordered to make a decision regarding the lease because legislation has now been passed that will ban racing from 30 April 2018. The Court found that to require ACTPLA to act with regard to the lease renewal would be futile given the impending ban on the industry, and that their existing lease, which expires in 2027, provides CGRC all the certainty and protection that it needs to conduct its affairs until the ban commences.

- The CGRC has filed an appeal in this matter, and it is next before the Court on 26 April 2018. The CGRC were also successful in obtaining an award of costs against the ACT in this matter until 29 November 2018 (the date on which the laws banning greyhound racing were passed in the Assembly). From that date, each party is to bear their own costs. A hearing date for the appeal has not yet been set.
- On 2 November 2017, the CGRC also filed an application in the Federal Court seeking damages in relation to an alleged breach of the CGRC lease; a declaration that laws relating to ACTTAB and the control of race field information are invalid; a declaration that the instruments made under those laws are also or alternatively invalid; and a declaration that the *Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Act 2017* is invalid. A date for hearing has not yet been set.

Recent media

- The CGRC have made public statements about the timeframe provided for comment on the draft mandatory code of practice. TCCS received written feedback on the draft code from the CGRC, the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, RSPCA Australia, RSPCA ACT, ACT Greyhound Support Network, Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, Australian Veterinary Association, the ACT Veterinary Surgeons Board, Greyhound Racing NSW and the NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
- Following a media release from the CGRC, the *Canberra Times* reported on 25 April 2018 that Chris Redmond, CEO of Woden Community Service, had mistakenly sent an email intended for a colleague to an industry participant who had approached the service to discuss support for rehoming greyhounds.
- The Canberra Times report stated that the industry participant was offended and upset by the tone of the email and the CGRC media release mistakenly identified Mr Redmond as a Taskforce official. Mr Redmond has publicly apologised for the incident.

From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) @wcs.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 26 April 2018 11:06 AM
To: Barnard, Belinda
Subject: Greyhound Information

Hi Belinda,

Chris came and asked me to compile a report of all of our activities to date regarding the Greyhound Transition Program. I tried to give you a call regarding the level of detail you require on top of our updates that we have been giving. Generally, our activities have been:

- Case manager has made several attempts and continues to do so with all participants details who were happy to be handed over to us – meeting with Sch 2.2(a)(ii) this Friday for a chat, another Sch 2.2(a)(ii) won't meet with us until after the last race when he knows what's going on a bit more. For those who didn't respond by phone we have emailed and also sent information and FAQ sheets introducing us and how to get in contact with us. There has been lots of conversations with Sch 2.2(a)(ii) but they generally consist of him venting at us. Sch 2.2(a)(ii) continues to talk to him about other supports and their next conversation is early next week
- Sch 2.2(a)(ii) and Sch 2.2(a)(ii) will be at the run and play this Saturday morning to introduce themselves and talk to people about the program
- Wide range of communication including ABC radio interview, engagement with the Canberra Times, Facebook, linkedin advertisement, flyers, attendance at a number of expos, information packs, assessment material, guidelines for service
- Met with stakeholders including the union to talk about our services
- Met with counselling services etc. to ensure capacity for us when required.

Please let me know how much further detail you required, happy to go into specifics if we have the time. Sch 2.2(a)(ii) and Sch 2.2(a)(ii) are out at meetings today.

Let me know what else you would like

Kind regards

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Director Service Development

Woden Community Service | 26 Corinna St | Woden ACT 2606

P: (02) 6234 6837 | Sch 2 s2(a)(ii) | W: wcs.org.au



Woden Community Service acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional owners of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We also acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have come from other nations to live on Ngunnawal land. We pay our respects to their cultures, ancestors and elders past, present and future.

VCS hook-up

30/4/19

- * VCS Room - Puz
- 2 hours
- Monthly adopters

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

from the Board.

MT took flyers + info.

MT will check back this week to see how

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

counselling options

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

→ trial to test the waters

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

- Counselling + support after the initial reality check to show in good that they have put
- not have jobs at Goulburn

Board - invited to attend with check

Q

Not too much

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

last sheet as guest + intro himself

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

spoke to at start last week
not been to chat

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

been to catch up with
this week

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)



offered a new one to do
by now

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)



Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

offered a new one
several times

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Tuesday, 8 May 2018 8:09 AM
To: ACDLO
Cc: Alegria, Stephen; Access Canberra Government Business & Coordination; Sloan, Sean; Ingham, Alexander
Subject: QTB - Greyhound Racing - May 2018
Attachments: QTB - Greyhound Racing - May 2018.docx
Importance: High

Dear Kylie

Please find attached the greyhounds to include requests for further information from the MO.

This has been cleared by Leesa Croke.

The new sections are currently highlighted for your information – would you like me to send a clean copy through?

Please let me know if anything else.

Kind regards
Belinda

Belinda Barnard
Senior Manager, Greyhound Industry Transition
Policy and Cabinet
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

M: 0405 539 109 | P: 02 6207 7525 | E: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Racing ban

- As of 30 April, the ACT has become the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- This follows our earlier decision to cease providing funding to the industry, and the passage of legislation in the Assembly in November 2017.
- The ACT Government has taken these steps in response to the documented and acknowledged animal welfare failures in the greyhound racing industry in NSW.
- NSW owners and trainers represented a significant majority of participants in greyhound racing in the ACT. As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT. We wanted to do what we could to prevent these kinds of abuses from coming across the border to ACT.

Breeding, training and registration

- While the ban on racing has commenced, it is still lawful for ACT residents to breed, train and own racing greyhounds here, subject to a range of measures designed to better protect ACT greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.
- More regular racing registration renewals, new licencing requirements on owners, trainers and breeders and a mandatory Code of Practice for people who have day-to-day control of greyhounds registered for racing, are now in place to improve our oversight of these practices in the ACT.

- The new legal framework for monitoring is designed to give us a better line of sight on the entire lifetime of greyhounds here in the ACT. For example, registering new litters within seven days now means that every young greyhound is to be accounted for, whether or not it is later registered as a racing dog.
- TCCS is well advanced in clearly defining what constitutes trialling and thus must not take place and what activities are legitimate training activities. These definitions are proposed to be provided to industry participants in mid-May 2018 to ensure all participants are aware of the requirements.
- In defining trialling, a range of reference material will be used, including the Greyhound Australasia National Racing Rules and policies, as well as ACT specific considerations around what constitutes a ‘competitive’ pursuit as defined in the legislation. In addition, informal practices such as “gymkhana” activities will be defined as trialling.
- Activities that do not meet the definition of racing or trialling will be permitted. In the ACT context, these include use of designated training facilities at CGRC including the fenced straight track, exercise yards and socialisation yard.
- In addition to considering relevant reference material, TCCS compliance officers will also attend training activities at CGRC and engage with industry participants to ensure a shared understanding of the requirements.

Code of practice

- The new mandatory *Code of Practice for the Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds* commenced on 30 April.
- Over a dozen stakeholders (including the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, the RSPCA, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club, the Australian Veterinary Association, greyhound welfare organisations and interstate racing authorities) provided feedback during consultation on the Code.
- All feedback was carefully considered in the Code’s development. The ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code, and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions. Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.

- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted. This includes a review of the Code of Practice after twelve months of operation.

Fees for racing greyhounds in the ACT

- The ACT Government has been clear that ACT residents will be able to continue to own, breed and train greyhounds for racing elsewhere only on the basis that it is at no cost to the broader ACT community.
- The new fees that have been determined for registering a racing greyhound and obtaining a racing greyhound controller licence reflect this decision. They account for the cost of monitoring the welfare of greyhounds who are involved in racing, including tracking of greyhounds, regular inspections of premises and any necessary compliance activity.
- The ACT registration and licensing fees for racing greyhounds are distinct from the licencing required by greyhound racing controlling bodies. People who wish to race their ACT based dogs outside the Territory will still need to comply with the requirements of the relevant controlling body (such as Greyhound Racing NSW).
- Anyone with questions about registration, licensing and compliance and the Code of Practice, can contact Domestic Animal Services via Access Canberra on 13 22 81 to discuss their individual circumstances.

Collaborative approach to compliance

- The Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) Directorate, in collaboration with Access Canberra, is responsible for ensuring that any illegal conduct at the premises of the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club in Symonston is detected, investigated and appropriate action taken.
- Now that the ban has commenced, TCCS and Access Canberra are implementing a comprehensive approach to engage, educate and enforce the legislation and ensure that illegal activity does not take place.
- A range of written information has been provided to industry participants, including key contacts for people who wish to seek further information on the detail of the ban and its implementation. Information on the racing ban

and the ACT's new regulatory framework for racing greyhounds is also available at www.act.gov.au/greyhound.

- An information session was held at Canberra Greyhound Racing Club on 2 May 2018 with representatives from TCCS and Access Canberra present to explain the new legislation and answer questions about how participants are expected to conduct themselves as they pursue the legally permissible aspects of owning, breeding and training greyhounds.
- At the information session, participants were strongly encouraged to make contact with regulatory officers within TCCS to enable a case-specific approach to be taken and ensure that all industry participants are aware of and compliant with the requirements.
- This approach is already proving successful, with a number of participants making contact with TCCS in the days following this information session.

Participant and animal welfare

- This government's priority is the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing and the people who will be affected by the end of racing in the ACT.
- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce and why the Taskforce has engaged Woden Community Service which is so experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.
- The Government strongly encourages anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT to contact either the Transition Taskforce or Woden Community Service to access this support.
- Free counselling is also available to anyone impacted by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package.
- This can be accessed by contacting Woden Community Service, who have been engaged to provide dedicated support, case management, information and counselling services for those affected by greyhound industry transition and those wishing to consider support package options. The dedicated phone number for this service is 6181 2895.

- While some industry lobbyists have publicly stated that they do not intend to engage with the transition process, we strongly encourage individual members of the industry to consider their own futures and engage with the Taskforce while the opportunity is available.
- Conversations with the Taskforce or with Woden Community Service are confidential.

The role of Woden Community Service

- Mr Redmond, the CEO of Woden Community Service (WCS), is not a member of the ACT Government's Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce. The Taskforce is made up of senior executives from across ACT Government.
- WCS has provided support to members of the ACT community for 49 years.
- Given the range of services that WCS is able to offer (including counselling, personal support and linkage with a wide range of Canberra's community services) together with their long and respected history in supporting the people of Canberra, the Taskforce engaged their services to assist those Canberra residents who are affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- Among the range of programs they offer the people of the ACT, they have experience in assisting people in times of change and personal distress – as shown by their work with people affected by the presence of Mr Fluffy asbestos in their homes, and those affected by the Canberra bushfires in 2003.
- WCS worked with the ACT Asbestos Taskforce in its early stages, offering to host members of the personal support team and to offer support to homeowners and residents of affected houses. This included holding a support group for affected residents, particularly older people who had lived in their houses for decades.
- Their volunteer coordinator also engaged a number of volunteers who worked closely with people seeking assistance with transport, packing boxes and liberating plants for their moves to new homes.

- Woden Community Service's CEO, Chris Redmond, has been an active member of the Asbestos Taskforce Community and Expert Reference Group since its inception in 2015, attending many community meetings following the announcement of the buy-back scheme and working with home owners affected by the scheme over the last three years
- In 2016, WCS also worked with nine individuals who lost their homes to produce a digital story telling project called, "Surrender" which helped these participants deal with their loss and find some closure and healing through sharing their personal stories.
- WCS also worked with the Bushfire Recovery Taskforce in the days immediately following the January 2003 bushfires and worked intensively with people living in the three forestry settlements of Pierces Creek, Uriarra and Stromlo for a number of years following the fires. This work extended to providing personal support to residents and their families displaced by the bushfires, many of them Housing ACT residents, as they resettled in other parts of the ACT or moved interstate.
- WCS also worked with the communities as they were redeveloped as public/private developments, having previously been Housing ACT settlements.
- WCS was a member of the Bushfire Recovery Community and Expert Reference Group. WCS hosted the ACT Government funded counsellor who operated out of the community centre for a number of years.
- WCS continued to host monthly "forestry settlement gatherings" for 10 years at Lanyon Homestead which assisted residents to maintain contact with one another and assist their recovery. WCS also worked with those communities. For years WCS volunteered at the Tharwa Fair, a senior outside school hours care coordinator ran a weekly program at the Tharwa primary school for children whose families were affected by the bushfires, and WCS delivered Home and Community Care services to people in these regions during the recovery period.

Advertising relating to the ban

- Noting the regional interest and previous travel to the ACT region by NSW greyhound industry for racing, regional advertising took place to inform of the racing ban and changed requirements as at 30 April 2018
- This was to ensure that the regional industry and community had awareness of the changes and any associated compliance activities
- This advertising was predominantly print-based with the advertisements informing of the racing ban, of transition support for those in the ACT industry and directing interested parties to www.act.gov.au/greyhound where they could find additional information.
- It complemented information provided through other channels, including direct engagement with those impacted by the changes in the local industry.
- This advertising came in at about \$30,000 and included approximately 26 publications and three radio stations. As the advertising was under \$40,000 it did not require review by the Government Campaign Independent Reviewer.
- The advertising was a one-off and intensive campaign.

Legal proceedings

- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT. As these matters are still before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

Key Information

- Those exiting the industry have until 30 June 2018 to apply for transition support, and the Government has extended the roll-out of the available funding for an extra three months to 30 September 2018.
- To assist with the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT, an independent consultant, Ms Mary Durkin, was engaged to provide an analysis of options to support the transition. The Government agreed with Ms Durkin's recommendations.

- According to the Durkin Report, 94% of the greyhounds that raced in the ACT in 2016 were based in NSW.
- The Durkin Report also indicated that at the time there were approximately 70 Canberra residents who were active participants (i.e. owners, breeders and trainers) in greyhound racing in the ACT. Approximately 52 racing greyhounds were both owned by ACT residents and based here.
- Significant penalties now apply for the conduct of racing and trialling, those penalties being a maximum monetary penalty of \$15,000 and/or maximum 1 year imprisonment.
- Further, the penalties for anyone involved with arranging, conducting or knowingly participating in illegal betting activities are significant and, similar to the penalties for racing and trialling, involve significant financial penalties and/or a period of imprisonment.
- The new fees include a 12 month registration fee for a racing greyhound set at \$612; and an annual application fee for a greyhound racing controller licence at \$640.
- Racing greyhound owners no longer need to obtain a specific permit to keep their dogs sexually entire, as this is provided for as part of the annually renewable racing greyhound registration.
- Some additional fees may apply, consistent with the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act that apply to all dogs, for example a licence is required to breed a litter from any dog (\$397.80 for two years), and a multiple dog license is required for keeping of 4 or more dogs (\$117.30 initially and \$32.70 to renew annually).
- Given the length of time involved in the transition to implement the ban on greyhound racing, trialling and betting, the ACT Government is proposing a strong regulatory response to any individual or association that is found to be knowingly engaging in conduct that constitutes an offence in this regard.
- In order to maximise inspection activity and ensure that all relevant agencies are represented, a joint agency initiative incorporating Access Canberra and the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate has been established to provide for an appropriate coverage of inspection activity and ensure that any response to unlawful conduct is timely and dealt with by the appropriate agency.
- The specific provisions in the mandatory Code of Practice and the fee regime have been finalised and made public recently. The final version of the Code and fee instruments were notified on 30 April 2018. These are matters of great relevance and impact on industry participants and consistent with the Government's concern for people affected by the legislative changes, the focus of compliance activities in this regard will be on engaging and educating in the first instance. Nonetheless, in accordance with

established regulatory approaches, wilful or recidivist non-compliance will be dealt with in a rigorous manner.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- Parliamentary Agreement Commitment 13.1 is to end Government funding for greyhound racing at the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding and take active steps to transition to end the operation of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The 2016-17 Budget Review stated that:
 “The Government will cease grant funding for the greyhound industry in the ACT, effective from the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding on 30 June 2017. The grant funding of \$1.033 million in 2017-18 will be redirected to a transition program to assist workers to re-skill, as well as rehome and care for the greyhounds”.
- The ban on racing has seen significant media interest and this is likely to continue. Inspection activity may also reach the spotlight dependent on the frequency of any news agencies attending the venue.
- The ACT is the only Australian jurisdiction to have implemented a ban on greyhound racing, which may lead to nation-wide interest.

Durkin Report

- To date, 16 of the 18 recommendations in the Durkin Report have been completed. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing, the scope of transition support to be made available and finalising the regulatory framework. Two recommendations, relating to the provision of transition support will be finalised by 30 September 2018.

NSW position on greyhound racing

- Greyhound racing will continue in NSW. The NSW Government will spend \$41 million over the next five years to implement the recommendations of its Greyhound Industry Reform Panel. Of this, \$11 million is allocated towards the establishment of the integrity commission with the remainder to improve animal welfare standards.
- The NSW reforms are being phased in over 18 months, with the Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission expected to commence operation later in 2018. A statutory review of the new legislation will take place after three years.
- This followed an earlier inquiry by the Honourable Michael McHugh AC QC into the greyhound industry in NSW which exposed wide-spread live baiting practices and animal cruelty. A subsequent ban of greyhound racing announced by the NSW Government, which was to take effect from 1 July 2017, was reversed on 11 October 2016.

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club's (CGRC) position

- The CGRC has two legal challenges against the ACT Government on foot.
- On 23 February 2018, the ACT Supreme Court handed down its decision in a matter brought by the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) against the ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA) regarding the lease over the greyhound track at Symonston. The Court found that ACTPLA should have made a decision in regard to CGRC's application for a renewal of its current lease (due to expire in 2027) and that it was unreasonable to delay making a decision because of the possibility of legislative change that would ban greyhound racing. However, the Court found that ACTPLA should not now be ordered to make a decision regarding the lease because legislation has now been passed that will ban racing from 30 April 2018. The Court found that to require ACTPLA to act with regard to the lease renewal would be futile given the impending ban on the industry, and that their existing lease, which expires in 2027, provided CGRC all the certainty and protection that it needed to conduct its affairs until the ban commences.
- The CGRC has filed an appeal in this matter, but a hearing date for the appeal has not yet been set. The CGRC were also successful in obtaining an award of costs against the ACT in this matter until 29 November 2018 (the date on which the laws banning greyhound racing were passed in the Assembly). From that date, each party is to bear their own costs.
- On 2 November 2017, the CGRC also filed an application in the Federal Court seeking damages in relation to an alleged breach of the CGRC lease; a declaration that laws relating to ACTTAB and the control of race field information are invalid; a declaration that the instruments made under those laws are also or alternatively invalid; and a declaration that the *Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Act 2017* is invalid. A date for hearing has not yet been set.

Recent media

- The CGRC have made public statements about the timeframe provided for comment on the draft mandatory code of practice. TCCS received written feedback on the draft code from the CGRC, the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, RSPCA Australia, RSPCA ACT, ACT Greyhound Support Network, Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, Australian Veterinary Association, the ACT Veterinary Surgeons Board, Greyhound Racing NSW and the NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
- Following a media release from the CGRC, the *Canberra Times* reported on 25 April 2018 that Chris Redmond, CEO of Woden Community Service, had mistakenly sent an email intended for a colleague to an industry participant who had approached the service to discuss support for rehoming greyhounds. The report stated that the industry participant was offended and upset by the tone of the email and the CGRC media release mistakenly identified Mr Redmond as a Taskforce official. Mr Redmond has publicly apologised for the incident.
- On 1 May 2018, the Australian Workers Union released a media release that was used as the basis for a news item by the Canberra Times on 2 May 2018, claiming incorrectly that aspects of training such as use of lures and starting boxes were unlawful. These claims were addressed in the TCCS/AC information session with industry participants on 1 May 2018. Further clarification will be provided to industry participants in the week beginning 7 May 2018 to ensure all participants are aware of what is required.

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Wednesday, 9 May 2018 12:37 PM
To: Access Canberra Government Business & Coordination; Alegria, Stephen; Springett, Emily
Subject: FOR COMMENT/CLEARANCE: greyhounds - revised talkback brief
Attachments: Chief Ministers Talkback_Hot Issues Greyhounds 11 May.doc
Importance: High

Dear all

Please see a talkback brief slightly revised to include information on fees, the role of Woden Community Service and recent advertising.

All material is drawn from this week's QTB.

Happy to receive your input.

Kind regards
Belinda

Belinda Barnard
Senior Manager, Greyhound Industry Transition
Policy and Cabinet
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

M: 0405 539 109 | P: 02 6207 7525 | E: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au



CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: 4 May 2018

ISSUE: BAN ON GREYHOUND RACING

Talking Points

Racing ban

- As of 30 April, the ACT has become the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- This follows our earlier decision to stop providing funding to the industry, and the passage of legislation in the Assembly in November 2017.
- The ACT Government has taken these steps in response to the documented and acknowledged animal welfare failures in the greyhound racing industry in NSW.
- NSW owners and trainers represented a significant majority of participants in greyhound racing in the ACT.
- As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT.
- We wanted to do what we could to prevent these kinds of abuses from coming across the border to ACT.

Breeding, training and registration

- While the ban on racing has commenced, it is still lawful for ACT residents to breed, train and own racing greyhounds here, subject to a

range of measures designed to better protect ACT greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.

- More regular racing registration renewals, new licencing requirements on owners, trainers and breeders and a mandatory Code of Practice for people who have day-to-day control of greyhounds registered for racing, are now in place to improve our oversight of these practices in the ACT.
- Information on the racing ban, the new regulatory framework for those remaining in the industry to race interstate, and transition support for ACT residents exiting the industry is available at www.act.gov.au/greyhound.

Code of Practice

- The new mandatory *Code of Practice for the Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds* commenced on 30 April.
- Feedback from a range of stakeholders was carefully considered in the Code's development.
- The ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code, and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions.
- Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted. This includes a review of the Code of Practice after twelve months of operation.

Fees for racing greyhounds in the ACT

- The Government has been clear that ACT residents will be able to continue to own, breed and train greyhounds for racing elsewhere only on the basis that it is at no cost to the broader ACT community.
- The new fees that have been determined for registering a racing greyhound and obtaining a racing greyhound controller licence reflect this decision.
- The new fees account for the cost of monitoring the welfare of greyhounds who are involved in racing, including tracking of greyhounds, regular inspections of premises and any necessary compliance activity.

- The ACT registration and licensing fees for racing greyhounds are distinct from the licencing required by greyhound racing controlling bodies.
- People who wish to race their ACT based dogs outside the Territory will still need to comply with the requirements of the relevant controlling body (for example, Greyhound Racing NSW).
- Anyone with questions about registration, licensing and compliance and the Code of Practice, can contact Domestic Animal Services via Access Canberra on 13 22 81 to discuss their individual circumstances.

Collaborative approach to compliance

- Now that the ban has commenced, TCCS and Access Canberra are implementing a comprehensive approach to engage, educate and enforce the legislation and ensure that illegal activity does not take place.
- A range of written information has been provided to industry participants, including key contacts for people who wish to seek further information on the detail of the ban and its implementation.
- An information session was held at Canberra Greyhound Racing Club on 2 May 2018 with representatives from TCCS and Access Canberra present to explain the new legislation and answer questions about how participants are expected to conduct themselves as they pursue the legally permissible aspects of owning, breeding and training greyhounds.
- At the information session, participants were strongly encouraged to make contact with regulatory officers within TCCS to enable a case-specific approach to be taken and ensure that all industry participants are aware of and compliant with the requirements.
- This approach is already proving successful, with a number of participants having made contact with TCCS following this information session.

Participant and animal welfare

- This government's priority is the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing, and the people who will be affected by the end of racing in the ACT.

- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce, and why the Taskforce has engaged Woden Community Service which is so experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.
- The Government strongly encourages anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT to contact Woden Community Service to access dedicated support, case management, information and counselling services. The dedicated phone number for this service is 6181 2895.
- Free counselling is available to anyone impacted by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT - whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package - by calling Woden Community Service on 6181 2895.
- While some industry lobbyists have publicly stated that they do not intend to engage with the transition process, we strongly encourage individual members of the industry to consider their own futures and engage with the Taskforce and Woden Community Service while the opportunity is available.
- Conversations with the Taskforce or with Woden Community Service are confidential.
- Applications for support must be made before 30 June 2018. Transition support will continue to be rolled out until 30 September 2018, five months after racing is banned.

The role of Woden Community Service

- The Government contracted Woden Community Service to provide support to the individuals affected by the end of racing in the ACT because that organisation has decades of experience in providing this kind of support.
- The Taskforce engaged WCS because they offer a range of services (including counselling, personal support and linkage with a wide range of Canberra's community services) and they also have a long and respected history in supporting the people of Canberra.
- Among the range of programs they offer the people of the ACT, they have experience in assisting people in times of change and personal distress – as shown by their work with people affected by the presence

of Mr Fluffy asbestos in their homes, and those affected by the Canberra bushfires in 2003.

- Mr Redmond, the CEO of Woden Community Service (WCS), is not a member of the ACT Government's Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce. The Taskforce is made up of senior executives from across ACT Government.

Advertising relating to the ban

- Noting the regional interest and previous travel to the ACT region by NSW greyhound industry for racing, regional advertising took place to inform of the racing ban and changed requirements as at 30 April 2018
- This was to ensure that the regional industry and community had awareness of the changes and any associated compliance activities
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aspects of training such as use of lures and starting boxes were unlawful. These claims were addressed in the TCCS/AC information session with industry participants on 1 May 2018. TCCS is in the process of providing further clarification to industry participants to ensure all participants are aware of what is required.

Contact Officer: Belinda Barnard

Ext:77525

**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate**

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To: Minister for Regulatory Services

Tracking No.: CMTEDD2018/2481

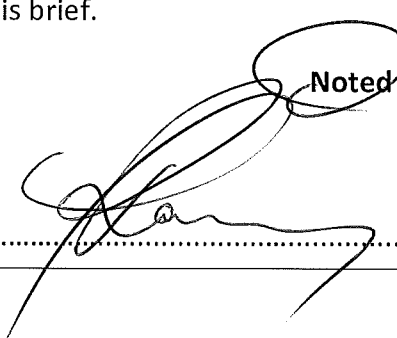
Date: 15 May 2018**From:** Director, Government and Regulatory Reform**Subject:** Meeting with ACT Greyhound Support Network**Critical Date:** 17 May 2018**Critical Reason:** Your meeting with ACTGSN is at 1.30pm on 17 May 2018.**Purpose**

To provide you with background information for your meeting with representatives from the ACT Greyhound Support Network (ACTGSN) regarding their request to extend eligibility of re-homing support to NSW based greyhounds who previously raced in Canberra.

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief.

 **Noted / Please Discuss**

Gordon Ramsay MLA

16/5/18

Minister's Office Feedback

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Background

1. The ACT Greyhound Support Network (ACTGSN) is an unincorporated volunteer organisation established in 2013. They have approximately 750 members and a network of 22 foster carers.
2. ACTGSN is not a charity or formal re-homing organisation, but provides support for ex-racing greyhounds by:
 - connecting dogs available for adoption with foster carers or people interested in adopting (the rehoming organisation with responsibility for the dog finalises the adoption paperwork, ACTGSN is not involved in this process);
 - fundraising for and providing practical support to a number of registered charities based interstate (by organising house checks, foster care and transport);
 - supporting owners and foster carers (for example by providing equipment and organising events to offer socialisation opportunities); and
 - promoting the breed as pets.
3. **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** from ACTGSN contacted the Taskforce on 9 April 2018 via email to express interest in applying for support to re-home greyhounds. The majority of the dogs supported by ACTGSN come from NSW so **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** requested clarification of their eligibility for transition support. The Taskforce confirmed the following day that eligibility for support is limited to ACT-based greyhounds. In an email reply, **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** indicated that she would contact you to seek reconsideration of this approach. A copy of the correspondence is at Attachment A.
4. You signed a brief on 2 May 2018 that confirmed that only greyhounds owned or surrendered by ACT residents after 23 June 2017 are eligible for re-homing support. A copy of the brief is at Attachment B and a copy of the relevant section of the Durkin report is at Attachment C.
5. **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** wrote to you and Minister Rattenbury on 2 May 2018 to seek a meeting to discuss the boundary around the application of assistance to rehome ex-racing greyhounds. You are meeting representatives from ACTGSN on Thursday 17 May.
6. Seven individual supporters of the ACTGSN also emailed you about this issue in the week of 7-11 May 2018. The issues they have raised are summarised below.

Issues

7. Correspondence from ACTGSN supporters highlights that the regional nature of greyhound racing means most of the dogs that will be affected by the end of racing in the ACT are based in NSW.
8. **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** provides an example of a greyhound from the Queanbeyan Pound that had a significant racing history in the ACT, as evidenced by two racing books. She was raced at the CGRC track the day before she was placed in the Pound.
9. ACTGSN advise that they expect that 50% of the greyhounds through their program 'have raced' at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC). With a total of 130 greyhounds re-homed through their program in 2017, applying a 50% rate of ACT industry involvement would be 65 greyhounds. An estimate of how many of these hounds would meet the criteria of the 'previous owner of the NSW-based greyhound

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was an ACT resident' on review was 2-3, maybe less.

10. **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** asserts that Canberra Region Greyhound Connections assist dogs from within a 100km radius of the CGRC and this has been posed by ACTGSN as an alternative approach.
11. Greyhounds As Pets (GAP) is a program operating in NSW, to generally support the rehoming of racing greyhounds in that jurisdiction. The GAP is operated by Greyhound Racing NSW and provides a muzzle, lead, collar, worming treatment and a comprehensive document outlining the greyhounds' history and personality, to adopters. While not as comprehensive or targeted as the ACT offering, the basic elements of the rehoming packages are similar. While it is not clear whether any of the greyhounds managed by the ACTGSN have accessed the NSW program, there is a view amongst ACT rehoming groups that the GAP is very focused on throughput.

Financial Implications

12. Any funds directed to assist in re-homing greyhounds will be drawn from the \$1.033 million in funds set aside for transition purposes and currently administered by the Taskforce.
13. The ACTGSN is the only organisation that has sought support for re-homing greyhounds from the Taskforce. Their figures indicate that no more than three greyhounds would be eligible for support under current arrangements, and possibly none.
14. If eligibility were to extend to include some NSW based greyhounds ACTGSN figures indicate this number could rise to approximately 65. Working on a cap of \$2000 per greyhound, this could mean a financial commitment of approximately \$130,000 in support for ACTGSN.
15. If the eligibility criteria were widened it may be that other organisations working regionally would also approach the Taskforce for assistance.

Consultation

16. The ACTGSN has engaged positively with the Taskforce and provided valuable information about the nature of support that would assist ex-racing greyhounds and the work of their organisation.
17. **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** and **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** attended the Taskforce's community information session held in September 2017 about transition support. The ACTGSN subsequently sent a document to the Taskforce on 22 September 2017 providing information about their work, with a focus on options in the event there was a significant number of greyhounds surrendered as a result of the ban in the ACT. As outlined in the previous brief on re-homing, there is no evidence to date that numbers have increased significantly.
18. The Taskforce met **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** and **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** from ACTGSN on 13 October 2017 to discuss options for the provision of re-homing assistance. At this time, the legislation prohibiting racing has not yet been introduced and there was uncertainty as to the numbers of greyhounds that might be impacted (although numbers were expected to be small).

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19. The Taskforce wrote to Sch 2.2(a)(ii) in December 2017 to advise ACTGSN that the legislation had been passed and that the parameters for transition support for organisations working to re-home greyhounds were being considered, in light of continued uncertainty as to the potential numbers involved.
20. In April 2018, Sch 2.2(a)(ii) wrote on behalf of ACTGSN to express interest in applying for support as she said they had not had a number of dogs through the service that would be eligible for support. That contact has led to this meeting, and to ACTGSN's representations to you about extending the parameters for eligibility.
21. As part of its work on greyhound industry transition, Woden Community Service (WCS) has researched which other groups are active in re-homing greyhounds in the ACT, and the WCS Case Manager is making contact to ensure they are aware of the availability of support for eligible greyhounds. WCS has also attended a 'Run and Play' session conducted by Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, the other major organisation involved in re-homing in the ACT. That organisation has not indicated that they will seek transition support.

Benefits/Sensitivities

22. ACTGSN are strong advocates for their work in this area. In the course of arranging this meeting, Sch 2.2(a)(ii) indicated in correspondence with your office on 7 May 2018 that ACTGSN would consider approaching the media to air concerns about the way in which transition support and the development of the draft mandatory Code of Practice were handled.

Media Implications

23. Matters to do with greyhound racing industry transition in the ACT are likely to continue to attract media interest.

Signatory Name: Adam Stankevicius

Phone: x50468

Action Officer: Belinda Barnard

Phone: x77525

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Correspondence from ACTGSN
Attachment B	Signed brief on re-homing support
Attachment C	Extract from Durkin Report on support for re-homing organisations

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A

From: ACT Greyhound Support Network
To: Greyhound Taskforce
Cc: RAMSAY; RATTENBURY
Subject: Application for funding contribution to greyhound rehoming
Date: Tuesday, 10 April 2018 2:53:46 PM

Thank you for your response and time today Belinda. Please find some information below. We have reattached our email of 22/09 which gives some context of the costs.

I am also cc-ing Ministers Ramsay and Rattenbury as we intend on taking up the matter of 'ownership' with their offices as we understand on the Taskforce's advice that assistance would only apply to greyhounds where the previous owner of the NSW-based greyhound was an ACT resident.

COSTS

Rough cost estimates for rehoming a greyhound:

Rescue health check and C5 vaccination	\$96.50
Rescue desex (female)	\$350.00
Rescue desex (male)	\$275.00
Coat	\$45.00
Muzzle	\$
Worming	\$10.00
Collar	\$35.00
Lead	\$20.00

Possible costs:

Kennelling (per week)	\$80-120.00
Dental	\$400.00+

Other items that we routinely purchase or hold for loan include (cost is per item):

Crates: \$200 - \$300
 Baby gates: \$50
 Beds: \$100
 Outdoor crates (kennel): \$200
 Bedding \$150
 Food and water bowls and stands: \$20.

Foster carers usually pay for food completely at their own expense. This is usually premium kibble: Approx. \$120 per month based on standard Black Hawk kibble through Pet Circle.

VOLUME

Volume and channels of hounds through the AGSN:

- From 23 June 2017 to 05 December 2017 we had through the program 57 hounds. Of these we have the racing name for 29 hounds. Of the 29 hounds, 15 had raced in the ACT.
- Based on the information available we expect that 50% of the greyhounds through our program have raced at the ACT Club.

- *In total we had just over 130 hounds through the program in 2017. Applying a 50% rate of ACT industry involvement would be 65 greyhounds.*
- *An estimate of how many of these hounds would meet the criteria of the 'previous owner of the NSW-based greyhound was an ACT resident' on review was 2-3.*

We understand that a boundary must exist. However, to draw a line before the reasonably estimated 62 greyhounds that have been products of the ACT Industry is arguably NOT in the spirit of the legislation. To illustrate this:

Nine greyhounds have been dropped at the Goulburn Pound and were not safe without guarantee. We didn't have the foster places to take all of these hounds so arranged boarding for two, brought six in with priority (one required immediate medical care) and arranged a spot for one with a rehoming charity. We were able to get the racing information for four of these dogs, two of which had raced at the ACT track. Upon investigation of the origin of the hounds we found the owner was actively racing other dogs at the ACT track while his dogs were at the Goldburn Pound.

This illustrates that the boundary should include those greyhounds that have had ACT industry involvement. For the reason the Government saw fit to close the industry i.e the ACT's reliance on the NSW industry; to not include these dogs would disadvantage the dogs that we believe the legislation was aiming to protect.

Happy to discuss any information contained in this email or its attachment.

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

ACT Greyhound Support Network



MINISTERIAL BRIEF

B

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate

SENSITIVE: CABINET

To:	Minister for Regulatory Services	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2018/2131
Date:	26 April 2018	
CC:	Minister for Transport and City Services	
From:	A/g Director, Government and Regulatory Reform	
Subject:	Re-homing support for greyhounds	
Critical Date:	4 May 2018	
Critical Reason:	To meet timeframes for applications for re-homing support.	

Purpose

To seek your agreement to the parameters of available support for greyhounds re-homed as a result of the ban on greyhound racing and associated regulatory changes.

Recommendations

That you:

1. Confirm that only greyhounds owned or surrendered by ACT residents after 23 June 2017 are eligible for re-homing support

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

2. Agree that:
 - a. re-homing support may be provided for greyhounds via an application process similar to that for individuals or businesses seeking transition support; and
 - b. the application process for re-homing support include the ability for applicants to make representations with respect to greyhounds not otherwise eligible where there is a compelling or extraordinary case for support.

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

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3. Indicate whether the support available to eligible greyhounds should extend to:
- a. **Option A:** a standard package of support providing practical items and standard vet services with a capped total value of \$2,000 per greyhound;
 - b. **Option B:** an uncapped package of support tailored to the circumstances of individual greyhounds.

Preferred option circled/ Please Discuss

Gordon Ramsay MLA

Minister's Office Feedback

Option A, but if extraordinary circumstances
Chair of Industry to have decision

Background

1. Cabinet decided on 13 June 2017 that funds set aside for greyhound industry transition may, among other things, be used *'to provide assistance for the welfare of greyhounds affected by transition arrangements'*.
 - a. In connection with this decision Cabinet noted that, following consultation with the industry, you may bring a further proposal to Cabinet in relation to greyhounds other than those owned by ACT residents.
2. In the media release announcing the availability of transition support on 28 July 2017, you stated that *'The welfare of greyhounds has been paramount in the Government's decision to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT, so we will be monitoring the progress of re-homing of greyhounds over the next two years and may consider support for re-homing if capacity issues arise across the relevant services'*.
3. The findings in the Durkin Report indicated that there were 20 properties with 52 'active' greyhounds in the ACT at the time of that report. Ms Durkin noted the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) prediction that the majority of dogs will be transferred out of the ACT during the transition period to continue racing in NSW or other jurisdictions and that there will be relatively few dogs requiring rehoming.
4. Ms Durkin recommended that an assistance package should only be available in relation to greyhounds owned by Canberra residents. She further recommended that an assistance package for the welfare of greyhounds be administered by Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) due to their responsibilities in the area of animal welfare and domestic animals. The section of the Durkin Report that addresses the re-homing of greyhounds is at Attachment A.
5. In October 2017, the Taskforce met separately with the three main organisations who work to re-home greyhounds in the ACT – Canberra Region Greyhound Connections (CRGC), the ACT Greyhound Support Network (ACTGSN) and the RSPCA (ACT). These were general discussions about the about options for providing support to greyhounds

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being re-homed in the event that there was an influx of dogs surrendered due to the incoming ban on greyhound racing in the ACT.

6. Tammy Ven Dange, CEO of RSPCA (ACT) advised that the RSPCA would not seek ACT Government support for any re-homing undertaken as a result of the ban, and that all re-homing would be undertaken within existing resources.
7. Martina Taliano from CRGC advised that her organisation was financially supported by and affiliated with the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC). **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** from ACTGSN advised that it is a volunteer run organisation that is not funded, and operates through a network of volunteers and foster carers that provide practical support.

Issues

Numbers of greyhounds that may be eligible for support

8. The numbers of greyhounds owned by ACT residents that have been surrendered to date appears low, although exact numbers are not known. While there are consistent listings of greyhounds for re-homing on relevant websites, there is no evidence of an influx of surrenders associated with the ACT ban on racing.
9. ACTGSN advise that they re-homed 57 greyhounds in the period from 23 June 2017 to 5 December 2017. Of these 57, the racing identity was available for 29 hounds, and 15 of these had raced in the ACT. Generally, the ACTGSN estimates that 50% of the greyhounds re-homed through their program 'have raced' in the ACT. The numbers of greyhounds actually owned by ACT residents appear to be much lower, with an estimate of two or three for that period.
10. CRGC have not approached the Taskforce for re-homing support to date. CRGC are funded by and receive some administrative support from the CGRC, and claim to have an exclusive relationship with local trainers wishing to re-home their greyhound. It is not clear how many of the greyhounds they re-home were previously owned by ACT residents and would be eligible for support, should they apply.
11. In an article published in *The Canberra Times* on 22 April 2018, Ms Taliano from CRGC is quoted as saying that there was 'an initial surge in requests to re-home after moves to ban the greyhound racing industry were first flagged' but that 'requests have now remained steady'. Specifically she had said she was re-homing two or three greyhounds each week initially but that this has dropped to one per week.
12. **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** from ACTGSN contacted the Taskforce on 9 April 2018 via email to express interest in applying for support for greyhounds that had been surrendered to that organisation.

Eligibility of greyhounds confined to those owned by ACT residents

13. Following advice from the Taskforce on 10 April 2018 that eligibility for support is limited to greyhounds owned or previously owned by ACT residents, **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** sent a follow up email making representations about the desirability of extending support to NSW based hounds who have had a racing connection to Canberra. A copy of the email is at Attachment B.

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14. **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** has indicated that ACTGSN intends to make representations to your office about the need to extend eligibility to NSW based greyhounds who have an established racing relationship in the ACT.
15. In the event that the ACT based eligibility requirement remains, it is likely that most greyhounds eligible to receive support would be those re-homed through CRGC because, as an affiliate of the CGRC, they have the most direct relationship with ACT trainers and owners. ACTGSN have advised that many of the dogs that they re-home are rescued from regional pounds and may not be adequately identified.

Support options for eligible greyhounds

16. The current application process for individuals and businesses seeking transition support enables eligible applicants to build a package tailored to their circumstances from a list of options. Applicants are able to be supported by Woden Community Service to complete the application, which is then submitted for approval by the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce.
17. It is proposed that a similar process be adopted with respect to re-homing support for greyhounds. This would entail establishing that a particular greyhound meets the eligibility requirements and then negotiating a package attached to that greyhound, with final approval from the Chair of the Taskforce for expenditure of the relevant funds.
18. The intent of providing support through the Taskforce is to assist in making those greyhounds impacted by the ban 'rehoming ready' and to assist new owners in the initial stages of the re-homing process.
19. As the number of eligible greyhounds appears to low, and the indications from industry are that most dogs will continue to race for the time being, it is proposed that the arrangements for transition support could be managed through the Taskforce.
20. The options proposed for inclusion in the application process are as follows:
 - a. Basic re-homing equipment package (includes coat, collar, lead, toy, bowls, bed, one month supply of food) – value approximately \$400;
 - b. De-sexing – approximately \$350 for female and \$275 for male;
 - c. Basic health check, vaccinations and worming – value approximately \$120;
 - d. Additional vet treatment (including necessary dental treatment);
 - e. Additional equipment (such as crate or outdoor kennel, safety gate); and
 - f. Boarding fees (in the event that foster care places are not available) – approximately \$80-\$120 per week.
21. Many of these costs are fixed, and TCCS have advised they can assist with procurement and distribution of equipment where necessary. Preferred suppliers (for example of greyhound specific 'martingale' collars) have also been identified by ACTGSN.

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22. There are two options for dealing with those circumstances that do not have a fixed or readily quantifiable cost because they will vary according to the individual needs of a greyhound.
- a. Option A: Support could be requested in the form of any of the above options but total package expenditure could be capped to manage expectations about the availability of funds. An amount of up to \$2,000 per greyhound is suggested to provide for reasonable coverage of items listed in paragraph 17.

A capped option would provide greater certainty for applicants as to the commitment of funds involved, and would be more straightforward to administer. In the event that eligibility was extended to greyhounds other than those owned by ACT residents, consequently delivering a larger cohort of eligible dogs, this option would be more sustainable.
 - b. Option B: Applications for a support package consisting of any combination of the available options could be made without a capped limit, with the Taskforce Chair to approve an appropriate level of expenditure based on evidence of need.

This would provide maximum flexibility for responding to the circumstances of individual greyhounds, and would echo the process currently in place for individuals and businesses seeking transition support, which is not subject to a cap. This approach would also accord with the stated objective of protecting the welfare of greyhounds.

Financial Implications

23. Any funds directed to assisting in the re-homing of greyhounds will be drawn from the \$1.033 million in funds set aside for transition purposes and currently administered by the Taskforce.

ConsultationCross Directorate

24. Stephen Alegria (A/g Director, City Presentation, TCCS) was consulted on the options for procurement and distribution of equipment.

External

25. The Taskforce met with ACTGSN, RSPCA ACT and CRGC on various dates in October 2017.
26. ACTGSN has had subsequent contact with the Taskforce in January 2018 and April 2018 to further explore options and parameters for support.

Benefits/Sensitivities

27. In the context of the low uptake of transition support for individuals and businesses, a significant direction of funds towards individual greyhounds may attract attention.

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Media Implications

28. There is ongoing media interest in the ban on greyhound racing and there has recently been a focus on the issue of re-homing greyhounds.

Signatory Name: Brett Wilesmith

Phone: x50202

Action Officer: Belinda Barnard

Phone: x77525

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Excerpt from Durkin Report regarding rehoming support
Attachment B	Email from ACTGSN of 10 April 2018

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ENSURING THE BEST OUTCOMES FOR ANIMALS TRANSITIONING OUT OF THE INDUSTRY

The Government has indicated that the funding for the greyhound racing industry will cease after 30 June 2017 and will be redirected to the transition program to assist workers to re-skill, as well as rehome and care for the greyhounds.

It is difficult to predict how many dogs will require rehoming when the greyhound racing industry ends in the ACT. This will largely depend on the Government's decisions on the scope of ending the industry. If, as discussed earlier, ownership, breeding or training of greyhounds were to continue in the ACT for the purpose of racing in other jurisdictions, it is likely that few dogs will require rehoming.

The approach proposed in this analysis is that if greyhounds are owned by Canberra residents, whether or not those dogs are based in NSW or the ACT, they should be considered as in-scope for any assistance package. It has been suggested that if a dog has ever raced in Canberra, it should also be in scope for assistance. This proposition has not been accepted for the purposes of this analysis. However, there may be individual cases that warrant consideration for assistance if it can be demonstrated that the decision to end greyhound racing in the ACT has a specific and profound impact in relation to a person's dogs.

Recommendation:

12. That an assistance package should only be available in relation to greyhounds owned by Canberra residents.

Number of greyhounds

The data provided by GRNSW and CGRC has fluctuated throughout the course of conducting this analysis. Initial data provided by GRNSW on 18 April 2017 indicated that 313 greyhounds (unnamed, racing or retired) may be located in the ACT.

GRNSW has advised however, that as there are only 52 kennels in the ACT, it appears that there is a lot of old data in OzChase⁴⁵, which has not been updated in some time. GRNSW advised:

It will be hard to get a picture of the number of greyhounds kennelled in the ACT at any one time because they can move around frequently. However, the number of racing greyhounds should match the number of available racing kennels in the ACT (i.e. it should be no more than/around 52 racing greyhounds).

⁴⁵ The IT platform used by GRNSW to input and record data for the administration of greyhound racing in NSW.

There are 20 properties and 52 individual kennels currently 'active' in the ACT. GRNSW advises that there are no littered greyhounds currently located in the ACT i.e. greyhounds that have been born but are not yet named. The data does not include greyhounds that have been retired from racing or breeding.

The best estimate, therefore, is that there are currently 309 greyhounds (52 based in the ACT and 257 based in NSW or other jurisdictions) that may come within the scope of this analysis.

What will happen to these dogs?

The CGRC predicts that the majority of dogs will be transferred out of the ACT during the transition period to continue racing in NSW or other jurisdictions. On the other hand, some people whose greyhounds are based in the ACT and NSW, may decide to surrender their dogs if they are no longer able to go and see them race at their local track. The costs of boarding dogs in another jurisdiction may also be prohibitive for some participants.

If the CGRC's prediction is correct, there will be relatively few dogs requiring rehoming. How many dogs will be available for rehoming will also depend upon the extent to which Government decides to act in relation to ownership, breeding and training, and when.

A number of the dogs owned by ACT residents and kennelled in the ACT may simply end up being household pets. The McHugh report noted:

There are industry participants with greyhounds under their care and control who would not wish to part with them if they did not make it to the track or, if they made it to the track, failed as racers. That is particularly so in relation to so called 'hobbyists'. Many would keep their greyhound as a pet or, if they could not do so, would make appropriate arrangements for its ongoing care.⁴⁶

It is likely that a proportion of greyhounds kennelled in the ACT will be in this category. Most ACT owners and trainers are relatively small operators, with many being 'hobby' owners whose lifestyles often revolve around their dogs. There are no large scale businesses in the ACT, primarily because land has not been available to build training tracks and establish the sizeable infrastructure that is necessary make a living from such a business.

If ownership of greyhounds continues, it can be expected that the NSW based dogs (and probably the majority of ACT based dogs) will continue to race in that jurisdiction.

Animal welfare/rehoming organisations

There are a number of local organisations involved in the care and/or rehoming of greyhounds exiting the industry. The material below outlines the range of activities involved in caring for dogs that are surrendered and arranging their rehoming. The following has been compiled from information provided by the organisations themselves.

⁴⁶ *Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in New South Wales*, Vol 2, paras 18.108, p 202.

It is fair to say that there are some differences of opinion between some of the organisations and that the approach taken by some may be questioned by others. Nonetheless, all agree that the greyhound is a gentle dog that makes a good pet. All have a commitment to avoid euthanasia of dogs unless absolutely necessary.

RSPCA ACT

RSPCA ACT's mission is the prevention of cruelty to animals in the ACT and it cares for approximately 5000 animals in need each year. RSPCA ACT employs full time licenced animal welfare inspectors. The majority of dogs that come to RSPCA ACT annually are through the Inspectorate as a result of allegations of neglect or cruelty. RSPCA ACT will also take in surrendered dogs such as greyhounds when room is available.

All canines that come to RSPCA ACT are vet checked and behaviourally assessed by certified dog trainers. Where needed, RSPCA will also provide vet treatments, microchips, vaccinations, and desexing before rehoming. RSPCA ACT had a 95.17% rehoming rate for canines in 2016. RSPCA only euthanizes animals for severe medical or behavioural concerns.

RSPCA ACT is a part of a Federation but is financially independent from any other RSPCAs in the country. Its funding sources are approximately: 40% commercial services, 45% fundraising and donations, 15% Government services agreement.

ACT Greyhound Support Network

The ACT Greyhound Support Network (AGSN) promotes greyhounds as pets, fundraises and provides support to rescue organisations, owners, foster carers and those interested in greyhounds as companions. The majority of dogs in AGSN's care come from regional NSW, although many have raced in the ACT.

While not a charity or rehoming organisation, the AGSN provides fundraising and practical support – including house checks, foster care and transport – to a number of registered charities based interstate, including Greyhound Rescue, Gumtree Greys, Friends of the Hound and selected private re-homers. The AGSN has a foster network of 22 foster carers. The AGSN provides 'welcome packs' for adopting families that include a coat, wormer, muzzle, collar, lead and a toy. Other items that may be provided on an "as needs" basis include crates, kennels, baby gates, beds and bedding, and bowls.

Before being formally adopted, all dogs are trialled for three weeks. After the trial period, the rehoming organisation with responsibility for the dog will finalise the adoption paperwork. AGSN is not involved in this process.

AGSN organises events and pack walks to provide opportunities for owners and their greyhounds to socialise in a supportive and friendly environment.

Canberra Region Greyhound Connections

Canberra Region Greyhound Connections (CRGC) is a volunteer organisation, specially focused on the rehoming of greyhounds. CRGC works directly with local breeders, owners

and trainers to connect them with people seeking a greyhound as a pet. CRGC receives funding and some administrative support from the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club.

CRGC members visit the adopting families to ensure their yard and home environment is safe and suitable to the greyhound breed. CRGC ensures all greyhounds being rehomed are temperament-tested and receive full veterinary checks. If required, dental work is completed. Desexing is undertaken and vaccinations are updated. The adopting families are provided with greyhound appropriate beds, muzzles, collars, leads, toys, blanket, raised feeding stands, food and water bowls, waste bags, two weeks' worth of high quality meat and a large bag of premium kibble.

CRGC seeks to develop a positive relationship between new owners and a greyhound's past owner/trainer and also supports current owners and trainers to ensure their greyhound is adequately prepared for reaching retirement prior to this occurring. This involves activities such as socialisation with other dog breeds, introduction to cats and other small animals in a safe and controlled environment and mixing with children and adults outside of their usual environment. CRGC conducts a weekly 'Run and Play' event held at the CRGC's straight track and socialisation yard, which is open to all breeds of dogs and members of the Canberra community.

Animal Rescue and Foster

ACT Rescue & Foster (ARF) Inc. is an incorporated association of people in the Canberra and surrounding region who rescue dogs from euthanasia and foster them temporarily in their own homes for as long as it takes to find them loving, permanent homes. ARF seeks to match dogs with the individual circumstances of prospective adopters.

ARF members foster the dogs in their own homes to assess their temperament, needs, likes and dislikes. All ARF dogs are desexed, vaccinated, microchipped and health checked. ARF also gives each dog some basic training. The adoption price ARF asks for each dog contributes to the cost of the dog's veterinarian work—the dogs themselves are free.

ARF is a non-profit organisation. All foster carers are volunteers who receive no financial benefit.

Options for administering an assistance package

A range of options may be available for administering the assistance package for dogs. The choice of option will depend upon the likely number of greyhounds that will require rehoming. If very few dogs are surrendered it will be unnecessary to implement a substantial scheme.

Funding administered under the auspices of one animal welfare organisation

Funding could be administered under the auspices of one animal welfare organisation. The RSPCA would be an obvious choice for this, particularly as it has two staff members who are certified to perform the NSW Green Collar test and who are also Delta qualified⁴⁷ for behavioural training. Initial assessments of greyhounds could be conducted by the RSPCA,

⁴⁷ Certificate IV qualifications in Companion Animal Services training.

which could then act as a conduit to other organisations undertaking rehoming activities. The RSPCA has indicated, however, that it would be unwilling to take on the management of the funding package.

Other rescue and rehoming organisations are run by volunteers and do not have the governance and financial infrastructures necessary to (potentially) employ staff, and to manage and acquit this funding.

Tendering process

A tendering process would enable the orderly transition of greyhounds from activities associated with racing to rehoming. If the number of greyhounds for rehoming ends up being low (as expected), this model would be administratively complex in comparison to the benefits that would be realised. It would also present an administrative burden to rescue and rehoming organisations, which are volunteer based, to submit tender documentation.

Rescue and rehoming organisations have also indicated that participants in the industry will generally seek to place their dogs with bodies with which they have already developed a relationship. It could be expected that participants would wish this to continue.

Funding administered by government

A preferred option for the ACT might be to have funding administered by a government agency, which would acquit expenses as they are incurred by groups involved in rehoming. Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate (TCCS), which has prime responsibility for both the Animal Welfare Act and the Domestic Animals Act, appears to be best placed to implement this initiative. If a large number of greyhounds are to be surrendered, it may be necessary to have an administrative officer employed for a period of time to manage the process.

TCCS could commence early discussions during the transition period with greyhound owners, breeders and trainers to undertake a cradle-to-grave audit of dogs and determine what the owners' plans are in relation to their dogs. TCCS could also commence early work on the options outlined below in under the heading 'rehoming considerations'.

Recommendation:

13. That an assistance package for the welfare of greyhounds is administered by Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate.

Rehoming considerations

The strategy for ensuring the best outcomes for animals will depend on how many dogs will require rehoming. If few dogs are to be surrendered, an individualised approach would be manageable. If a sudden surge of dogs require rehoming, it may be necessary to have nominated kennelling facilities available, with behaviouralists on call to triage dogs based on an assessment of their needs.

A number of considerations will need to be taken into account in developing a rehoming strategy. The Greenhounds website⁴⁸ notes things to consider in relation to greyhounds following life in a racing kennel environment:

- ❑ *Life is very disciplined with feeding, exercise and toileting routines happening at the same time each day.*
- ❑ *The majority of greyhounds have spent their entire lives in the company of other large dogs but not usually small fluffy dogs.*
- ❑ *They are used to being handled regularly for weighing, veterinary examination, massage, worming, nail clipping, etc.*
- ❑ *Most greyhounds are regularly transported so are used to travelling and being crated.*
- ❑ *Race dogs are generally taught to walk nicely on lead.*
- ❑ *They are trained to chase but it is also part of their instinct after centuries of selective breeding.*
- ❑ *Greyhounds are not taught to sit or lie down as this could mean a slow exit from the starting boxes.*
- ❑ *As with any elite athlete, a race dog must be kept in peak physical condition to achieve good results. This means they require the best quality nutrition and care.*
- *A young dog that has not made it as a racer won't have had the same level of handling and training as an older retired race dog.*

Socialisation and temperament testing

Socialisation and temperament testing are particularly important in relation to racing greyhounds. All of the animal welfare/rehoming organisations agree that socialisation and temperament testing are necessary for successfully rehoming greyhounds and this aspect of rehoming takes the most time.

Socialisation

The McHugh report noted:

[The General Manager of the GAP program] told the Commission that it was, "fairly obvious that there was a significant gap in relation to socialisation or the need to socialise dogs". He also informed the Commission that, "from the dogs coming through the GAP program, as I said earlier the better socialised dogs have more chance of making it as a pet."

The socialisation of young greyhounds is, as it is with any young dog, important to their future development. However, in relation to greyhounds it is critical. As Dr [a qualified veterinarian with particular expertise in greyhound behaviour] informed the Commission, proper socialisation can be the difference between a greyhound being put down and being rehomed.⁴⁹

The CGRC has made efforts to improve socialisation of greyhounds with the establishment of a socialization yard for retired greyhounds. The CGRC has visions to expand the facilities

⁴⁸ Greenhounds is the program in NSW to facilitate the muzzling exemptions for retired racing and pet greyhounds. Greenhounds is the sole NSW body authorised to manage and issue green collars under the NSW Companion Animal Regulations.

⁴⁹ *Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in New South Wales*, Vol 1, paras 9.126 and 9.127, p 194.

at Symonston to further increase retirement and rehoming options. The CGRC's Welfare Strategy notes:

CGRC BOM believes there is ample area at Symonston to construct a "state of the art" facility that includes a canine therapy pool, full time staffing with an on-site manager. CGRC believes this new "Retirement" facility will go alongside the recently completed Socialization Yard, specifically built for retired greyhounds, so they can socialize with other companion dogs. This facility would provide access to staff trained in behavioural assessment and providing surrender points for trainers. This facility may provide fostering or rehoming out of the facility (depending on regional adoption demand). The facility may also provide a base for community engagement focussed on increasing awareness of greyhound adoption as an option in the community. The ability to work with other key rehoming organisations in the ACT would be vital.

Any future for this vision will depend on the Government's decisions as to the extent of activities that will cease in ending the industry.

A gap in the current strategy is the need for socialisation of young animals, as noted in the extract from the McHugh report above. While the ACT industry is quite small and opportunities for early socialisation may well be occurring here, the vast majority of dogs available for rehoming are currently coming from NSW.

One rehoming organisation noted:

The additional effort to socialise a dog once 'retired' takes significant resources from organisations at the expense of dogs that have been socialised - minimising the ability of rehoming groups to intake and committing [the dogs] to euthanasia or continued 'paddock' existence.

The NSW Reform Panel recommended that under the new NSW regime there would be an enforceable Code based on the five domains of animal welfare. The report noted:

The Panel recommends the code of practice be based on the five domains of animal welfare. These are an internationally recognised framework for assessing an animal's welfare status. ...We have suggested specific issues within each of these domains that should be covered in the code. Importantly, the code of practice will set out socialisation requirements at each stage of a greyhound's life cycle. These are designed to improve the proportion of bred dogs that are suitable for both racing and rehoming to avoid unnecessary euthanasia.

The Reform Panel proposed that there would be:

minimum socialisation requirements in the whelping, rearing, educating and training phases of the greyhound's life – this will include interaction with small dogs, people and different indoor and outdoor environments.⁵⁰

A visit to a large scale operation in NSW during the course of conducting this analysis provided little reassurance that socialisation is currently seen as a priority. Adoption, and enforcement, of the Code in NSW would deliver some reassurance into the future that

⁵⁰ Report of the Greyhound Industry Reform Panel, February 2017, p6.

greyhounds from NSW will be raised in an environment where socialisation requirements would be mandated at each stage of a greyhound's life cycle. As the majority of dogs rehomed by ACT based organisations are currently from NSW, the challenges of dealing with unsocialised dogs should be minimised in the future.

Temperament testing

There are currently different approaches to how temperament testing might be conducted. At one end of the spectrum an organisation might rely heavily on the advice of trainers regarding their dog's temperament and, if the owner is unsure regarding how their dog might react to small animals or children, some testing of a dog's reactions might be conducted in a controlled environment with a muzzle on. At the other end of the spectrum is a view that every dog needs to be temperament tested by a qualified behaviouralist.

Any rehoming strategy will necessitate a decision by Government regarding the extent of temperament testing that might be required. It is outside the expertise of this analysis. In its submission to the Reform Panel the ACT Greyhound Support Network noted:

We would also like it noted that the current behavioural assessment of the GAP program is not in line with worlds best practice and understanding of temperament testing. In our view it sets a dog up to fail, is done in an inappropriate environment and in an inappropriate timeframe. We understand it is done to triage dogs but improved measures around socialisation and breeding caps would see the need for arbitrary behaviour assessments eliminated.⁵¹

Since the McHugh report, GRNSW has worked on the development of a Greyhound Screening Tool. GRNSW has described this initiative in this way:

A key initiative aimed to meet the challenge of re-homing greyhounds, has been the development of the 'Greyhound Screening Tool'.

The 'GST' is a behavioural assessment that was piloted and presented across NSW in four workshops. Several organisations offered input into the collaborative project by animal behaviourist Georgina Caspar and veterinary behaviourist Dr Karen Dawson. The GST is a simple series of tests that can be undertaken by animal care workers to readily assist them in assessing greyhound re-homing suitability. The focus of the screening tool is to identify if the greyhound shows high levels of fear or anxiety, how they cope with unfamiliar handling, their response to some basic household items and whether or not they show predatory aggression towards small dogs. Anxiety, separation distress and aggressive behaviour towards small dogs are the main reasons reported in unsuccessful greyhound adoptions. Therefore, it is critical that animal workers can identify which greyhounds are most likely to make a successful transition to a pet home – both for the welfare of the greyhound and also the safety and wellbeing of the adopter and the general public.

The Greyhound Screening Tool may provide a useful basis for Government's consideration of temperament testing that may be required.

As noted earlier, the Red Tape Reduction Legislation Amendment Bill was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday, 30 March 2017. The Bill, if passed, will remove the

⁵¹ Report of the Greyhound Industry Reform Panel, February 2017, p39.

requirement that greyhounds must be muzzled in the ACT. It will therefore also effectively remove the requirement that greyhounds must complete a course on behaviour or socialisation training approved by the Domestic Animal Services Registrar, for muzzles to be removed.

On 4 November 2016, the Registrar approved the following courses for the purposes of section 48(3):

- ☐ Behavioural/socialisation courses that meet the requirements of the guidelines for approval as a greyhound re-training program under the *NSW Companion Animals Regulation 2008*.
- ☐ Greyhound re-training programs approved in other State and Territories.

It may be that, as a matter of policy, DAS might continue to require certain greyhounds to undertake a behavioural/socialisation course if they fail temperament testing.

Options:

- ☐ That a temperament testing policy be developed outlining minimum requirements expected by government.
- ☐ That behavioural/socialisation courses continue to be available for greyhounds that fail temperament testing.

Processes for rehoming

The approaches adopted by different organisations for rehoming greyhounds have been outlined above. Their processes differ in relation to the discrete focus of each organisation and the activities they undertake. Some differences in the philosophies of how to rehome greyhounds are also apparent.

In the long run an owner or trainer's preference for which organisation it trusts, and may have already developed a relationship with, may provide the best prospects for the successful rehoming of their greyhounds. An option for the transition is to approve certain agencies for the surrender of dogs to avoid them simply being dropped off at veterinary practices or inappropriate locations. This could be accompanied with prescribing some minimum standards for how government would expect those agencies to operate, for example expectations might be set around:

- ☐ temperament testing in accordance with best practice;
- ☐ requiring home inspections;
- ☐ requiring a specified trial period with foster carers, who would then be in an optimum position to advise prospective adopting families about a dog's needs and temperament;
- requiring owners/trainers to assume ongoing responsibility for meeting a dog's needs if fostering or adoptions do not work out;
- ☐ maintaining records in relation to rehoming activities.

A protocol could be developed in conjunction with the industry and relevant welfare/rehoming organisations regarding the processes for surrendering dogs and avoiding

the prospect that organisations will receive phone calls at short notice advising that a dog has been surrendered, as can currently occur. None of the organisations could deal with a substantial influx of dogs at a moment's notice.

Options if a large number of dogs are surrendered

Additional considerations will come into play if consultations indicate that a large number of dogs are to be surrendered, particularly around 30 June 2018. These might include whether specific kennelling facilities will be required. An option for the assistance package might be to provide some financial assistance to current kennel operators to refurbish some kennels specifically for greyhounds. The provision of transport facilities might also need to be considered.

The elements of an assistance package

To access the assistance package it would be necessary for a greyhound's identity to be proven as belonging to an ACT resident. This would include identifying the dog by name, age, sex, ear brand etc.

Depending on the condition of dogs that are surrendered, elements of an assistance package might include:

- ❑ veterinarian examinations
- ❑ veterinarian treatment for underlying conditions or euthanasia costs in medically appropriate circumstances
- ❑ desexing
- ❑ updating vaccinations
- ❑ worming/parasite treatments
- ❑ dental work
- ❑ behaviouralist assessments
- ❑ kennelling costs
- costs for greyhounds to undertake 'muzzle-off' or Greenhound⁵² courses.

The cost to adopt an adult dog through ARF is \$350. Puppies are \$400, which includes a contribution towards training classes. Older dogs (8+) are \$150. Adoption costs might be waived to maximise opportunities that greyhounds can be rehomed. The adoption price ARF asks for each dog largely contributes to the cost of veterinarian work. If all of the necessary costs can be met in advance through the assistance package, greyhounds can be provided to adopting families free of charge.

Another incentive for prospective adopting families might be to cover some start-up costs, such as the provision of food and equipment, as currently occurs through AGSN and CRGC. It would also be appropriate to consider covering reasonable costs incurred by

⁵² The NSW Companion Animals Act 1998 requires that all greyhounds must wear a muzzle when in a public place. An exemption applies to pet and retired racing greyhounds that have successfully completed an approved greyhound re-training program and passed the required assessment. These dogs do not have to wear a muzzle when in public but must wear a special "Greenhound collar" to identify them as muzzle exempt.

- ⑦ foster carers in looking after surrendered greyhounds, such as beds that are appropriate for greyhounds and crates for their transport;
- ⑦ rehoming and support organisations for their activities such as transport costs, the cost of crates etc.

If a large number of greyhounds are to be surrendered it may be appropriate to consider establishing a panel of veterinarians who would be willing to provide services at a bulk discount rate. Alternatively, a reasonable price might be set in consultation with the veterinary profession for the delivery of particular services, and costs could be reimbursed from the assistance package in relation to in-scope greyhounds on a case-by-case basis.

To avoid any owners seeking to access the assistance package and then selling their greyhounds, a mandatory requirement for desexing may be appropriate, thus ensuring that the dogs are legitimately retiring from greyhound racing and breeding. To streamline the rehoming process, one option might be to provide an additional incentive to owners to have their dogs desexed in advance of surrender.

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Tuesday, 29 May 2018 5:13 PM
To: ACDLO
Cc: Ingham, Alexander; Access Canberra Government Business & Coordination; Alegria, Stephen
Subject: QTB - Greyhound Racing - June 2018 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED, DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: QTB - Greyhound Racing - June 2018.docx

Good evening

Please find attached an updated QTB for greyhound racing. The new sections are highlighted, otherwise it is the same as for the last sitting period.

Please let me know if the Minister would like anything additional or different.

All the best
Belinda

Belinda Barnard
Senior Manager, Greyhound Industry Transition
Policy and Cabinet
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

M: 0405 539 109 | P: 02 6207 7525 | E: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Racing ban

- As of 30 April, the ACT has become the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- This follows our earlier decision to cease providing funding to the industry, and the passage of legislation in the Assembly in November 2017.
- The ACT Government has taken these steps in response to the documented and acknowledged animal welfare failures in the greyhound racing industry in NSW.
- NSW owners and trainers represented a significant majority of participants in greyhound racing in the ACT. As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT. We wanted to do what we could to prevent these kinds of abuses from coming across the border to ACT.

Breeding, training and registration

- While the ban on racing has commenced, it is still lawful for ACT residents to breed, train and own racing greyhounds here, subject to a range of measures designed to better protect ACT greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.
- More regular racing registration renewals, new licencing requirements on owners, trainers and breeders and a mandatory Code of Practice for people who have day-to-day control of greyhounds registered for racing, are now in place to improve our oversight of these practices in the ACT.

- The new legal framework for monitoring is designed to give us a better line of sight on the entire lifetime of greyhounds here in the ACT. For example, registering new litters within seven days now means that every young greyhound is to be accounted for, whether or not it is later registered as a racing dog.

Code of practice

- The new mandatory *Code of Practice for the Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds* commenced on 30 April.
- Over a dozen stakeholders (including the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, the RSPCA, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club, the Australian Veterinary Association, greyhound welfare organisations and interstate racing authorities) provided feedback during consultation on the Code.
- All feedback was carefully considered in the Code's development. The ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code, and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions. Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted. This includes a review of the Code of Practice after twelve months of operation.

Fees for racing greyhounds in the ACT

- The ACT Government has been clear that ACT residents will be able to continue to own, breed and train greyhounds for racing elsewhere only on the basis that it is at no cost to the broader ACT community.
- The new fees that have been determined for registering a racing greyhound and obtaining a racing greyhound controller licence reflect this decision. They account for the cost of monitoring the welfare of greyhounds who are involved in racing, including tracking of greyhounds, regular inspections of premises and any necessary compliance activity.
- The ACT registration and licensing fees for racing greyhounds are distinct from the licencing required by greyhound racing controlling bodies. People who wish to race their ACT based dogs outside the Territory will still need

to comply with the requirements of the relevant controlling body (such as Greyhound Racing NSW).

- Anyone with questions about registration, licensing and compliance and the Code of Practice, can contact Domestic Animal Services via Access Canberra on 13 22 81 to discuss their individual circumstances.

Collaborative approach to compliance

- The Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) Directorate, in collaboration with Access Canberra, is responsible for ensuring that any illegal conduct at the premises of the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club in Symonston is detected, investigated and appropriate action taken.
- Now that the ban has commenced, TCCS and Access Canberra are implementing a comprehensive approach to engage, educate and enforce the legislation and ensure that illegal activity does not take place.
- A range of written information has been provided to industry participants, including key contacts for people who wish to seek further information on the detail of the ban and its implementation. Information on the racing ban and the ACT's new regulatory framework for racing greyhounds is also available at www.act.gov.au/greyhound.
- An information session was held at Canberra Greyhound Racing Club on 2 May 2018 with representatives from TCCS and Access Canberra present to explain the new legislation and answer questions about how participants are expected to conduct themselves as they pursue the legally permissible aspects of owning, breeding and training greyhounds.
- At the information session, participants were strongly encouraged to make contact with regulatory officers within TCCS to enable a case-specific approach to be taken and ensure that all industry participants are aware of and compliant with the requirements.
- This approach is already proving successful, with a number of participants making contact with TCCS in the days following this information session.

Participant and animal welfare

- This government's priority is the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing and the people who will be affected by the end of racing in the ACT.
- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce and why the Taskforce has engaged Woden Community Service which is so experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.
- The Government strongly encourages anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT to contact either the Transition Taskforce or Woden Community Service to access this support.
- Free counselling is also available to anyone impacted by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package.
- This can be accessed by contacting Woden Community Service, who have been engaged to provide dedicated support, case management, information and counselling services for those affected by greyhound industry transition and those wishing to consider support package options.
- As part of the suite of services available to assist in transition support, Woden Community Service is able to assist in the application and documentation process for those seeking support to re-home greyhounds.
- To be eligible for transition support, an ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident, and have been surrendered on or after 23 June 2017 (which was the date on which the Government confirmed its intention to end the industry in the ACT).
- These parameters are designed to ensure that support funded by ACT taxpayers is directed to the greyhounds and people within this jurisdiction who have been directly affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- While it is essential that assistance provided by the ACT Government is directed to those people and greyhounds resident in the ACT, the

Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce will consider exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated that the ACT ban has significantly impacted the racing capacity of a greyhound in the Canberra region. This would include a significant proportion of their races having occurred in Canberra. Any such circumstances can be discussed with Woden Community Service as the case managers for greyhound industry transition.

- Anybody seeking assistance should contact Sch 2.2(a)(ii) from the Greyhound Industry Transition Program, on (02) 6181 2895 or via email at [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)@wcs.org.au](mailto:Sch 2.2(a)(ii)@wcs.org.au).
- While some industry lobbyists have publicly stated that they do not intend to engage with the transition process, we strongly encourage individual members of the industry to consider their own futures and engage with the Taskforce while the opportunity is available.
- Conversations with the Taskforce or with Woden Community Service are confidential.

The role of Woden Community Service

- Mr Redmond, the CEO of Woden Community Service (WCS), is not a member of the ACT Government's Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce. The Taskforce is made up of senior executives from across ACT Government.
- WCS has provided support to members of the ACT community for 49 years.
- Given the range of services that WCS is able to offer (including counselling, personal support and linkage with a wide range of Canberra's community services) together with their long and respected history in supporting the people of Canberra, the Taskforce engaged their services to assist those Canberra residents who are affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- Among the range of programs they offer the people of the ACT, they have experience in assisting people in times of change and personal distress – as shown by their work with people affected by the presence of Mr Fluffy

asbestos in their homes, and those affected by the Canberra bushfires in 2003.

- WCS worked with the ACT Asbestos Taskforce in its early stages, offering to host members of the personal support team and to offer support to homeowners and residents of affected houses. This included holding a support group for affected residents, particularly older people who had lived in their houses for decades.
- Their volunteer coordinator also engaged a number of volunteers who worked closely with people seeking assistance with transport, packing boxes and liberating plants for their moves to new homes.
- Woden Community Service's CEO, Chris Redmond, has been an active member of the Asbestos Taskforce Community and Expert Reference Group since its inception in 2015, attending many community meetings following the announcement of the buy-back scheme and working with home owners affected by the scheme over the last three years
- In 2016, WCS also worked with nine individuals who lost their homes to produce a digital story telling project called, "Surrender" which helped these participants deal with their loss and find some closure and healing through sharing their personal stories.
- WCS also worked with the Bushfire Recovery Taskforce in the days immediately following the January 2003 bushfires and worked intensively with people living in the three forestry settlements of Pierces Creek, Uriarra and Stromlo for a number of years following the fires. This work extended to providing personal support to residents and their families displaced by the bushfires, many of them Housing ACT residents, as they resettled in other parts of the ACT or moved interstate.
- WCS also worked with the communities as they were redeveloped as public/private developments, having previously been Housing ACT settlements.
- WCS was a member of the Bushfire Recovery Community and Expert Reference Group. WCS hosted the ACT Government funded counsellor who operated out of the community centre for a number of years.

- WCS continued to host monthly “forestry settlement gatherings” for 10 years at Lanyon Homestead which assisted residents to maintain contact with one another and assist their recovery. WCS also worked with those communities. For years WCS volunteered at the Tharwa Fair, a senior outside school hours care coordinator ran a weekly program at the Tharwa primary school for children whose families were affected by the bushfires, and WCS delivered Home and Community Care services to people in these regions during the recovery period.

Advertising relating to the ban

- Noting the regional interest and previous travel to the ACT region by NSW greyhound industry for racing, regional advertising took place to inform of the racing ban and changed requirements as at 30 April 2018
- This was to ensure that the regional industry and community had awareness of the changes and any associated compliance activities
- This advertising was predominantly print-based with the advertisements informing of the racing ban, of transition support for those in the ACT industry and directing interested parties to www.act.gov.au/greyhound where they could find additional information.
- It complemented information provided through other channels, including direct engagement with those impacted by the changes in the local industry.
- This advertising came in at about \$30,000 and included approximately 26 publications and three radio stations. As the advertising was under \$40,000 it did not require review by the Government Campaign Independent Reviewer.
- The advertising was a one-off and intensive campaign.

Legal proceedings

- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT. As these matters are still before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

Key Information

- Those exiting the industry have until 30 June 2018 to apply for transition support, and the Government has extended the roll-out of the available funding for an extra three months to 30 September 2018.
- To assist with the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT, an independent consultant, Ms Mary Durkin, was engaged to provide an analysis of options to support the transition. The Government agreed with Ms Durkin's recommendations.
- According to the Durkin Report, 94% of the greyhounds that raced in the ACT in 2016 were based in NSW.
- The Durkin Report also indicated that at the time there were approximately 70 Canberra residents who were active participants (i.e. owners, breeders and trainers) in greyhound racing in the ACT. Approximately 52 racing greyhounds were both owned by ACT residents and based here.
- Significant penalties now apply for the conduct of racing and trialling, those penalties being a maximum monetary penalty of \$15,000 and/or maximum 1 year imprisonment.
- Further, the penalties for anyone involved with arranging, conducting or knowingly participating in illegal betting activities are significant and, similar to the penalties for racing and trialling, involve significant financial penalties and/or a period of imprisonment.
- The new fees include a 12 month registration fee for a racing greyhound set at \$612; and an annual application fee for a greyhound racing controller licence at \$640.
- Racing greyhound owners no longer need to obtain a specific permit to keep their dogs sexually entire, as this is provided for as part of the annually renewable racing greyhound registration.
- Some additional fees may apply, consistent with the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act that apply to all dogs, for example a licence is required to breed a litter from any dog (\$397.80 for two years), and a multiple dog license is required for keeping of 4 or more dogs (\$117.30 initially and \$32.70 to renew annually).
- Given the length of time involved in the transition to implement the ban on greyhound racing, trialling and betting, the ACT Government is proposing a strong regulatory response to any individual or association that is found to be knowingly engaging in conduct that constitutes an offence in this regard.
- In order to maximise inspection activity and ensure that all relevant agencies are represented, a joint agency initiative incorporating Access Canberra and the Transport

Canberra and City Services Directorate has been established to provide for an appropriate coverage of inspection activity and ensure that any response to unlawful conduct is timely and dealt with by the appropriate agency.

- The specific provisions in the mandatory Code of Practice and the fee regime have been finalised and made public recently. The final version of the Code and fee instruments were notified on 30 April 2018. These are matters of great relevance and impact on industry participants and consistent with the Government's concern for people affected by the legislative changes, the focus of compliance activities in this regard will be on engaging and educating in the first instance. Nonetheless, in accordance with established regulatory approaches, wilful or recidivist non-compliance will be dealt with in a rigorous manner.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- Parliamentary Agreement Commitment 13.1 is to end Government funding for greyhound racing at the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding and take active steps to transition to end the operation of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The 2016-17 Budget Review stated that:

“The Government will cease grant funding for the greyhound industry in the ACT, effective from the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding on 30 June 2017. The grant funding of \$1.033 million in 2017-18 will be redirected to a transition program to assist workers to re-skill, as well as rehome and care for the greyhounds”.
- The ban on racing has seen significant media interest and this is likely to continue. Inspection activity may also reach the spotlight dependent on the frequency of any news agencies attending the venue.
- The ACT is the only Australian jurisdiction to have implemented a ban on greyhound racing, which may lead to nation-wide interest.

Durkin Report

- To date, 16 of the 18 recommendations in the Durkin Report have been completed. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing, the scope of transition support to be made available and finalising the regulatory framework. Two recommendations, relating to the provision of transition support will be finalised by 30 September 2018.

NSW position on greyhound racing

- Greyhound racing will continue in NSW. The NSW Government will spend \$41 million over the next five years to implement the recommendations of its Greyhound Industry Reform Panel. Of this, \$11 million is allocated towards the establishment of the integrity commission with the remainder to improve animal welfare standards.

- The NSW reforms are being phased in over 18 months, with the Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission expected to commence operation later in 2018. A statutory review of the new legislation will take place after three years.
- This followed an earlier inquiry by the Honourable Michael McHugh AC QC into the greyhound industry in NSW which exposed wide-spread live baiting practices and animal cruelty. A subsequent ban of greyhound racing announced by the NSW Government, which was to take effect from 1 July 2017, was reversed on 11 October 2016.

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club's (CGRC) position

- The CGRC has two legal challenges against the ACT Government on foot.
- On 23 February 2018, the ACT Supreme Court handed down its decision in a matter brought by the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) against the ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA) regarding the lease over the greyhound track at Symonston. The Court found that ACTPLA should have made a decision in regard to CGRC's application for a renewal of its current lease (due to expire in 2027) and that it was unreasonable to delay making a decision because of the possibility of legislative change that would ban greyhound racing. However, the Court found that ACTPLA should not now be ordered to make a decision regarding the lease because legislation has now been passed that will ban racing from 30 April 2018. The Court found that to require ACTPLA to act with regard to the lease renewal would be futile given the impending ban on the industry, and that their existing lease, which expires in 2027, provided CGRC all the certainty and protection that it needed to conduct its affairs until the ban commences.
- The CGRC has filed an appeal in this matter, but a hearing date for the appeal has not yet been set. The CGRC were also successful in obtaining an award of costs against the ACT in this matter until 29 November 2018 (the date on which the laws banning greyhound racing were passed in the Assembly). From that date, each party is to bear their own costs.
- On 2 November 2017, the CGRC also filed an application in the Federal Court seeking damages in relation to an alleged breach of the CGRC lease; a declaration that laws relating to ACTTAB and the control of race field information are invalid; a declaration that the instruments made under those laws are also or alternatively invalid; and a declaration that the *Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Act 2017* is invalid. A date for hearing has not yet been set.

Recent media

- The CGRC have made public statements about the timeframe provided for comment on the draft mandatory code of practice. TCCS received written feedback on the draft code from the CGRC, the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, RSPCA Australia, RSPCA ACT, ACT Greyhound Support Network, Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, Australian Veterinary Association, the ACT Veterinary Surgeons Board, Greyhound Racing NSW and the NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
- Following a media release from the CGRC, the *Canberra Times* reported on 25 April 2018 that Chris Redmond, CEO of Woden Community Service, had mistakenly sent an email intended for a colleague to an industry participant who had approached the service to discuss support for rehoming greyhounds. The report stated that the industry participant was offended and upset

by the tone of the email and the CGRC media release mistakenly identified Mr Redmond as a Taskforce official. Mr Redmond has publicly apologised for the incident.

- On 1 May 2018, the Australian Workers Union released a media release that was used as the basis for a news item by the Canberra Times on 2 May 2018, claiming incorrectly that aspects of training such as use of lures and starting boxes were unlawful. These claims were addressed in the TCCS/AC information session with industry participants on 1 May 2018. Further clarification will be provided to industry participants in the week beginning 7 May 2018 to ensure all participants are aware of what is required.

Re-homing support for ex-racing greyhounds

- In October 2017, the Taskforce met separately with the three main organisations who work to re-home greyhounds in the ACT – Canberra Region Greyhound Connections (CRGC), the ACT Greyhound Support Network (ACTGSN) and the RSPCA (ACT). These were general discussions about the about options for providing support to greyhounds being rehomed in the event that there was an influx of dogs surrendered due to the incoming ban on greyhound racing in the ACT.
- Establishment of the re-homing support application process was assisted by information about re-homing arrangements and the needs of ex-racing greyhounds, provided in these face to face meetings and in addition information provided by ACTGSN via email.
- The numbers of greyhounds owned by ACT residents that have been surrendered to date appears low, and there is no evidence of an influx of surrenders associated with the ban on racing.
- In May, Woden Community Service have worked on making direct contact with organisations involved re-homing greyhounds in the ACT to advise of the availability of transition support and their capacity to support people making applications. This has included writing directly to organisations and attending a greyhound socialisation event.

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Racing ban

- As of 30 April, the ACT has become the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- This follows our earlier decision to cease providing funding to the industry, and the passage of legislation in the Assembly in November 2017.
- The ACT Government has taken these steps in response to the documented and acknowledged animal welfare failures in the greyhound racing industry in NSW.
- NSW owners and trainers represented a significant majority of participants in greyhound racing in the ACT. As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT. We wanted to do what we could to prevent these kinds of abuses from coming across the border to ACT.

Breeding, training and registration

- While the ban on racing has commenced, it is still lawful for ACT residents to breed, train and own racing greyhounds here, subject to a range of measures designed to better protect ACT greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted. This includes a review of the Code of Practice after twelve months of operation.

Transition support

- The Attorney-General announced in July 2017 that the Government would provide \$1.033 million in transition support for the small number of people, businesses and dogs that would be impacted by the end of greyhound racing in Canberra.

- The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce was established soon after the Government's announcement to assist the people and animals involved in the industry to transition out of it.
- In August 2017, the Taskforce opened the process for receiving applications for transition support.
- Those exiting the industry have until 30 June 2018 to apply for a Transition Support Package, with packages to be rolled out until 30 September 2018.
- The needs of each eligible applicant are considered on an individual basis and, through consultation, a package developed to address their specific circumstances.
- Transition Support Packages can be built from a range of options including training and re-skilling opportunities; short term financial support; business skills support; specialist advice, guidance and planning about future career options; financial counselling and planning services; no-interest or micro-credit loans.
- Free counselling is also available to anyone impacted by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package. This could include affected industry members, or those involved in re-homing retired racing greyhounds.
- ACT greyhounds who are leaving the racing industry as a result of the ban on racing in the Territory are also eligible for support to find new homes.
- To be eligible for re-homing assistance, an ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident, and have been surrendered on or after 23 June 2017 (which was the date on which the Government confirmed its intention to end the industry in the ACT).
- These parameters are designed to ensure that support funded by ACT taxpayers is directed to the greyhounds and people within this jurisdiction who have been directly affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- While assistance provided by the ACT Government is directed to those people and greyhounds resident in the ACT, the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce will consider exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated that the ACT ban has significantly impacted the racing capacity of a greyhound in the wider Canberra region.

Contract with Woden Community Services

- The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce engaged Woden Community Service to provide dedicated support, counselling, case management, and referral services to people affected by greyhound industry transition and people wishing to consider support package options.
- As part of the suite of services available to assist in transition support, Woden Community Service is also able to assist in the application and documentation process for those seeking financial support to re-home greyhounds.
- The contract with Woden Community Service, which is for a period of 11 months, came at a total cost of just under \$105,000.
- Woden Community Service were chosen as the provider of these services due to their depth of experience in providing support to members of our community at difficult times in their lives.
- They established a dedicated phone line and identified case manager to provide the most direct path for people wishing to access their services. They have made direct contact with industry members and their union representative, as well as people involved in greyhound re-homing.
- While Woden Community Service has had a range of conversations with affected parties, to date there have been no formal applications for either transition support packages or re-homing assistance.

Expenditure

Expense	Total YTD expenditure
Woden Community Service	\$52,456
Advertising	\$19,824
Meeting supplies	\$370
Senior manager salary	\$58,550 <i>*total employee salary cost is \$117,100</i>
Total	\$131,200
Known expenses (yet to be billed)	Expected expenditure

Reimburse JACS for expenditure on greyhound matters before Racing Appeal Tribunal	\$6,000
Reimburse TCCS and Access Canberra for additional costs of increased monitoring and compliance activity	\$30,000
Woden Community Service (final payment)	\$52,456
Total	\$88,456

Total YTD expenditure	\$131,200
Total known expenses (not yet billed)	\$88,456
Grand total	\$219,656

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Thursday, 7 June 2018 1:59 PM
To: White, Michael; Thomas, Brooke
Cc: ACDLO; Stankevicius, Adam
Subject: QTB - Ex-racing greyhound rehoming - June 2018 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: QTB - Ex-racing greyhound rehoming - June 2018.docx

Importance: High

Dear Michael and Brooke

Please find QTB slightly revised. New sections in talking points and background are highlighted.

Please call if you'd like more.

Cheers
Belinda

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: EX-RACING GREYHOUND RE-HOMING SUPPORT

Talking points:

- The ACT Government has been clear that re-homing of greyhounds is a key aspect of its transition activities following the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- This support is designed to ensure that ex-racing greyhounds in the ACT, who were retired due to the ban on racing, are in the best position to be successfully re-homed.
- As part of the suite of services available to assist in transition support, Woden Community Service is able to assist in the application and documentation process for those seeking support to re-home greyhounds.
- We continue to encourage anybody who is interested in this support to contact Woden Community Service, as the case managers for greyhound industry transition, to speak in detail about their options.
- To be eligible for transition support, an ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident, and have been surrendered on or after 23 June 2017 (which was the date on which the Government confirmed its intention to end the industry in the ACT).
- The amount of support available for each ex-racing greyhound is assessed according to need, and is capped at \$2,000 per hound (unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the needs of a particular hound).
- These parameters are designed to ensure that support funded by ACT taxpayers is directed to the greyhounds and people within this jurisdiction who have been directly affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- We know from the findings in the Durkin Report that only a small number of racing greyhounds are based in the ACT, and that almost all the hounds who previously raced here were from NSW. To date, we have not seen

evidence of an influx of surrendered greyhounds associated with the ban on racing.

- While it is essential that assistance provided by the ACT Government is directed to those people and greyhounds resident in the ACT, the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce will consider 'exceptional circumstances' where it can be demonstrated that the ACT ban has significantly impacted the racing capacity of a greyhound in the wider Canberra region.
- An example of exceptional circumstances is where there is evidence that a significant proportion (at least 60%) of that greyhound's racing activity was carried out at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club.
- There is also capacity to apply for financial assistance that is greater than the \$2000 cap if there is evidence that a particular hound has significant injuries, behavioural issues, dental problems or other veterinary needs that could be addressed to increase that greyhound's chances of successful re-homing.

Application process

- Applications for re-homing support may be made until 30 June 2018 and approved funds may be expended until 30 September 2018. I would strongly encourage re-homing groups to apply where appropriate.
- The Taskforce has created a specific application form for re-homing assistance that outlines the eligibility requirements for re-homing support and the options available.
- Anybody seeking assistance should contact **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** from the Greyhound Industry Transition Program, on (02) 6181 2895 or via email at **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** [@wcs.org.au](mailto:sch2.2(a)(ii)@wcs.org.au).
- In addition, anybody affected by the transition of the greyhound industry in the ACT (including people involved in re-homing greyhounds) can access free counselling through Woden Community Service by calling (02) 6181 2895.
- After a request from one group involved in re-homing, the Taskforce also issued further guidance last week on what might be considered exceptional circumstances. This has been distributed by Woden Community Services, as case managers for transition support.

- Establishment of the re-homing support application process was assisted by information about re-homing arrangements and the needs of ex-racing greyhounds, provided by the three main organisations involved in re-homing.

Contact with re-homing organisations

- In October 2017, the Taskforce met separately with the three main organisations who work to re-home greyhounds in the ACT – Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, the ACT Greyhound Support Network and the RSPCA (ACT).
- I understand that these were general discussions about the about options for providing support to greyhounds being rehomed in the event that there was an influx of dogs surrendered due to the incoming ban on greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The ACT Greyhound Support Network also had contact with the Taskforce in January 2018 and April 2018 to further explore options and parameters for support.
- I met with representatives of the ACT Greyhound Support Network on 17 May 2018 to discuss their concerns about the eligibility requirements for re-homing assistance.
- In May/June 2018, Woden Community Service made direct contact with organisations involved re-homing greyhounds in the ACT to advise of the availability of transition support and their capacity to support people making applications. This has included writing directly to organisations and attending a greyhound socialisation event run by one of the groups who re-home ex-racing greyhounds in the ACT

Key Information

- The deadline for applications for assistance to re-home greyhounds is 30 June 2018, with all approved expenditure to be finalised by 30 September 2018.
- According to the Durkin Report, 94% of the greyhounds that raced in the ACT in 2016 were based in NSW.
- The Durkin Report also indicated that at the time there were approximately 70 Canberra residents who were active participants (i.e. owners, breeders and trainers) in greyhound racing in the ACT. Approximately 52 racing greyhounds were both owned by ACT residents and based here.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- The numbers of greyhounds owned by ACT residents that have been surrendered to date appears low, and there is no evidence of an influx of surrenders associated with the ban on racing.
- Sch 2.2(a)(ii) from ACT Greyhound Support Network contacted the Taskforce on 9 April 2018 via email to express interest in applying for support for greyhounds that had been surrendered to that organisation.
- Following advice from the Taskforce on 10 April 2018 that eligibility for support is limited to greyhounds previously owned by ACT residents, Sch 2.2(a)(ii) sent a follow up email making representations about the desirability of extending support to NSW based hounds who have had a racing connection to Canberra. Minister Ramsay met Sch 2.2(a)(ii) on 17 May 2018 to discuss her representations.
- On 31 May 2018, in his responses to nine letters received in May from supporters of ACT Greyhound Support Network about eligibility requirements, Minister Ramsay advised that anybody seeking assistance to re-home greyhounds should contact Woden Community Service.
- A media release from the Taskforce issued on 1 June 2018 (and shared by Woden Community Service on the same date) and an update newsletter from the Taskforce sent on 5 June 2018 re-stated this advice.
- In June 2018, Sch 2.2(a)(ii) from Woden Community Service also wrote directly to five organisations (ACT Greyhound Support Network, Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, ACT Rescue and Foster Dogs, RSPCA (ACT) and Friends of the Hound) to provide information about the application process and the support that WCS can provide.
- Woden Community Service have distributed the further detail provide by the Taskforce on what might constitute exceptional circumstances in the context of applications for support. These include:
 - An ex-racing greyhound who was previously owned by a non-ACT resident if a significant proportion (at least 60%) of that greyhound's racing activity was carried out at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club; or
 - An ex-racing greyhound who has significant injuries, behavioural issues, dental problems or other veterinary needs (at a cost exceeding the \$2000 cap on support available), that could be addressed to increase the greyhound's chances of successful re-homing.

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Thursday, 7 June 2018 1:59 PM
To: White, Michael; Thomas, Brooke
Cc: ACDLO; Stankevicius, Adam
Subject: QTB - Ex-racing greyhound rehoming - June 2018 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: QTB - Ex-racing greyhound rehoming - June 2018.docx

Importance: High

Dear Michael and Brooke

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Cheers
Belinda

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: EX-RACING GREYHOUND RE-HOMING SUPPORT

Talking points:

- The ACT Government has been clear that re-homing of greyhounds is a key aspect of its transition activities following the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- This support is designed to ensure that ex-racing greyhounds in the ACT, who were retired due to the ban on racing, are in the best position to be successfully re-homed.
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From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Thursday, 7 June 2018 2:22 PM
To: Thomas, Brooke
Cc: Stankevicius, Adam
Subject: QTB - Greyhound Racing - June 2018 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: QTB - Greyhound Racing - June 2018.docx

Hi Brooke
As discussed just now.
Cheers
Belinda

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Racing ban

- As of 30 April, the ACT has become the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- This follows our earlier decision to cease providing funding to the industry, and the passage of legislation in the Assembly in November 2017.
- The ACT Government has taken these steps in response to the documented and acknowledged animal welfare failures in the greyhound racing industry in NSW.
- NSW owners and trainers represented a significant majority of participants in greyhound racing in the ACT. As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT. We wanted to do what we could to prevent these kinds of abuses from coming across the border to ACT.

Breeding, training and registration

- While the ban on racing has commenced, it is still lawful for ACT residents to breed, train and own racing greyhounds here, subject to a range of measures designed to better protect ACT greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.
- More regular racing registration renewals, new licencing requirements on owners, trainers and breeders and a mandatory Code of Practice for people who have day-to-day control of greyhounds registered for racing, are now in place to improve our oversight of these practices in the ACT.

- The new legal framework for monitoring is designed to give us a better line of sight on the entire lifetime of greyhounds here in the ACT. For example, registering new litters within seven days now means that every young greyhound is to be accounted for, whether or not it is later registered as a racing dog.

Code of practice

- The new mandatory *Code of Practice for the Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds* commenced on 30 April.
- Over a dozen stakeholders (including the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, the RSPCA, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club, the Australian Veterinary Association, greyhound welfare organisations and interstate racing authorities) provided feedback during consultation on the Code.
- All feedback was carefully considered in the Code's development. The ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code, and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions. Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted. This includes a review of the Code of Practice after twelve months of operation.

Fees for racing greyhounds in the ACT

- The ACT Government has been clear that ACT residents will be able to continue to own, breed and train greyhounds for racing elsewhere only on the basis that it is at no cost to the broader ACT community.
- The new fees that have been determined for registering a racing greyhound and obtaining a racing greyhound controller licence reflect this decision. They account for the cost of monitoring the welfare of greyhounds who are involved in racing, including tracking of greyhounds, regular inspections of premises and any necessary compliance activity.
- The ACT registration and licensing fees for racing greyhounds are distinct from the licencing required by greyhound racing controlling bodies. People who wish to race their ACT based dogs outside the Territory will still need

to comply with the requirements of the relevant controlling body (such as Greyhound Racing NSW).

- Anyone with questions about registration, licensing and compliance and the Code of Practice, can contact Domestic Animal Services via Access Canberra on 13 22 81 to discuss their individual circumstances.

Collaborative approach to compliance

- The Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) Directorate, in collaboration with Access Canberra, is responsible for ensuring that any illegal conduct at the premises of the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club in Symonston is detected, investigated and appropriate action taken.
- Now that the ban has commenced, TCCS and Access Canberra are implementing a comprehensive approach to engage, educate and enforce the legislation and ensure that illegal activity does not take place.
- A range of written information has been provided to industry participants, including key contacts for people who wish to seek further information on the detail of the ban and its implementation. Information on the racing ban and the ACT's new regulatory framework for racing greyhounds is also available at www.act.gov.au/greyhound.
- An information session was held at Canberra Greyhound Racing Club on 2 May 2018 with representatives from TCCS and Access Canberra present to explain the new legislation and answer questions about how participants are expected to conduct themselves as they pursue the legally permissible aspects of owning, breeding and training greyhounds.
- At the information session, participants were strongly encouraged to make contact with regulatory officers within TCCS to enable a case-specific approach to be taken and ensure that all industry participants are aware of and compliant with the requirements.
- This approach is already proving successful, with a number of participants making contact with TCCS in the days following this information session.

Participant and animal welfare

- This government's priority is the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing and the people who will be affected by the end of racing in the ACT.
- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce and why the Taskforce has engaged Woden Community Service which is so experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.
- The Government strongly encourages anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT to contact either the Transition Taskforce or Woden Community Service to access this support.
- Free counselling is also available to anyone impacted by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package.
- This can be accessed by contacting Woden Community Service, who have been engaged to provide dedicated support, case management, information and counselling services for those affected by greyhound industry transition and those wishing to consider support package options.
- As part of the suite of services available to assist in transition support, Woden Community Service is able to assist in the application and documentation process for those seeking support to re-home greyhounds.
- To be eligible for transition support, an ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident, and have been surrendered on or after 23 June 2017 (which was the date on which the Government confirmed its intention to end the industry in the ACT).
- These parameters are designed to ensure that support funded by ACT taxpayers is directed to the greyhounds and people within this jurisdiction who have been directly affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- While it is essential that assistance provided by the ACT Government is directed to those people and greyhounds resident in the ACT, the

Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce will consider exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated that the ACT ban has significantly impacted the racing capacity of a greyhound in the Canberra region. This would include a significant proportion of their races having occurred in Canberra. Any such circumstances can be discussed with Woden Community Service as the case managers for greyhound industry transition.

- Anybody seeking assistance should contact Sch 2.2(a)(ii) from the Greyhound Industry Transition Program, on (02) 6181 2895 or via email at [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)@wcs.org.au](mailto:Sch 2.2(a)(ii)@wcs.org.au).
- While some industry lobbyists have publicly stated that they do not intend to engage with the transition process, we strongly encourage individual members of the industry to consider their own futures and engage with the Taskforce while the opportunity is available.
- Conversations with the Taskforce or with Woden Community Service are confidential.

The role of Woden Community Service

- Mr Redmond, the CEO of Woden Community Service (WCS), is not a member of the ACT Government's Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce. The Taskforce is made up of senior executives from across ACT Government.
- WCS has provided support to members of the ACT community for 49 years.
- Given the range of services that WCS is able to offer (including counselling, personal support and linkage with a wide range of Canberra's community services) together with their long and respected history in supporting the people of Canberra, the Taskforce engaged their services to assist those Canberra residents who are affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- Among the range of programs they offer the people of the ACT, they have experience in assisting people in times of change and personal distress – as shown by their work with people affected by the presence of Mr Fluffy

asbestos in their homes, and those affected by the Canberra bushfires in 2003.

- WCS worked with the ACT Asbestos Taskforce in its early stages, offering to host members of the personal support team and to offer support to homeowners and residents of affected houses. This included holding a support group for affected residents, particularly older people who had lived in their houses for decades.
- Their volunteer coordinator also engaged a number of volunteers who worked closely with people seeking assistance with transport, packing boxes and liberating plants for their moves to new homes.
- Woden Community Service's CEO, Chris Redmond, has been an active member of the Asbestos Taskforce Community and Expert Reference Group since its inception in 2015, attending many community meetings following the announcement of the buy-back scheme and working with home owners affected by the scheme over the last three years
- In 2016, WCS also worked with nine individuals who lost their homes to produce a digital story telling project called, "Surrender" which helped these participants deal with their loss and find some closure and healing through sharing their personal stories.
- WCS also worked with the Bushfire Recovery Taskforce in the days immediately following the January 2003 bushfires and worked intensively with people living in the three forestry settlements of Pierces Creek, Uriarra and Stromlo for a number of years following the fires. This work extended to providing personal support to residents and their families displaced by the bushfires, many of them Housing ACT residents, as they resettled in other parts of the ACT or moved interstate.
- WCS also worked with the communities as they were redeveloped as public/private developments, having previously been Housing ACT settlements.
- WCS was a member of the Bushfire Recovery Community and Expert Reference Group. WCS hosted the ACT Government funded counsellor who operated out of the community centre for a number of years.

- WCS continued to host monthly “forestry settlement gatherings” for 10 years at Lanyon Homestead which assisted residents to maintain contact with one another and assist their recovery. WCS also worked with those communities. For years WCS volunteered at the Tharwa Fair, a senior outside school hours care coordinator ran a weekly program at the Tharwa primary school for children whose families were affected by the bushfires, and WCS delivered Home and Community Care services to people in these regions during the recovery period.

Advertising relating to the ban

- Noting the regional interest and previous travel to the ACT region by NSW greyhound industry for racing, regional advertising took place to inform of the racing ban and changed requirements as at 30 April 2018
- This was to ensure that the regional industry and community had awareness of the changes and any associated compliance activities
- This advertising was predominantly print-based with the advertisements informing of the racing ban, of transition support for those in the ACT industry and directing interested parties to www.act.gov.au/greyhound where they could find additional information.
- It complemented information provided through other channels, including direct engagement with those impacted by the changes in the local industry.
- This advertising came in at about \$30,000 and included approximately 26 publications and three radio stations. As the advertising was under \$40,000 it did not require review by the Government Campaign Independent Reviewer.
- The advertising was a one-off and intensive campaign.

Legal proceedings

- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT. As these matters are still before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

Key Information

- Those exiting the industry have until 30 June 2018 to apply for transition support, and the Government has extended the roll-out of the available funding for an extra three months to 30 September 2018.
- To assist with the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT, an independent consultant, Ms Mary Durkin, was engaged to provide an analysis of options to support the transition. The Government agreed with Ms Durkin's recommendations.
- According to the Durkin Report, 94% of the greyhounds that raced in the ACT in 2016 were based in NSW.
- The Durkin Report also indicated that at the time there were approximately 70 Canberra residents who were active participants (i.e. owners, breeders and trainers) in greyhound racing in the ACT. Approximately 52 racing greyhounds were both owned by ACT residents and based here.
- Significant penalties now apply for the conduct of racing and trialling, those penalties being a maximum monetary penalty of \$15,000 and/or maximum 1 year imprisonment.
- Further, the penalties for anyone involved with arranging, conducting or knowingly participating in illegal betting activities are significant and, similar to the penalties for racing and trialling, involve significant financial penalties and/or a period of imprisonment.
- The new fees include a 12 month registration fee for a racing greyhound set at \$612; and an annual application fee for a greyhound racing controller licence at \$640.
- Racing greyhound owners no longer need to obtain a specific permit to keep their dogs sexually entire, as this is provided for as part of the annually renewable racing greyhound registration.
- Some additional fees may apply, consistent with the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act that apply to all dogs, for example a licence is required to breed a litter from any dog (\$397.80 for two years), and a multiple dog license is required for keeping of 4 or more dogs (\$117.30 initially and \$32.70 to renew annually).
- Given the length of time involved in the transition to implement the ban on greyhound racing, trialling and betting, the ACT Government is proposing a strong regulatory response to any individual or association that is found to be knowingly engaging in conduct that constitutes an offence in this regard.
- In order to maximise inspection activity and ensure that all relevant agencies are represented, a joint agency initiative incorporating Access Canberra and the Transport

Canberra and City Services Directorate has been established to provide for an appropriate coverage of inspection activity and ensure that any response to unlawful conduct is timely and dealt with by the appropriate agency.

- The specific provisions in the mandatory Code of Practice and the fee regime have been finalised and made public recently. The final version of the Code and fee instruments were notified on 30 April 2018. These are matters of great relevance and impact on industry participants and consistent with the Government's concern for people affected by the legislative changes, the focus of compliance activities in this regard will be on engaging and educating in the first instance. Nonetheless, in accordance with established regulatory approaches, wilful or recidivist non-compliance will be dealt with in a rigorous manner.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- Parliamentary Agreement Commitment 13.1 is to end Government funding for greyhound racing at the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding and take active steps to transition to end the operation of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The 2016-17 Budget Review stated that:

“The Government will cease grant funding for the greyhound industry in the ACT, effective from the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding on 30 June 2017. The grant funding of \$1.033 million in 2017-18 will be redirected to a transition program to assist workers to re-skill, as well as rehome and care for the greyhounds”.
- The ban on racing has seen significant media interest and this is likely to continue. Inspection activity may also reach the spotlight dependent on the frequency of any news agencies attending the venue.
- The ACT is the only Australian jurisdiction to have implemented a ban on greyhound racing, which may lead to nation-wide interest.

Durkin Report

- To date, 16 of the 18 recommendations in the Durkin Report have been completed. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing, the scope of transition support to be made available and finalising the regulatory framework. Two recommendations, relating to the provision of transition support will be finalised by 30 September 2018.

NSW position on greyhound racing

- Greyhound racing will continue in NSW. The NSW Government will spend \$41 million over the next five years to implement the recommendations of its Greyhound Industry Reform Panel. Of this, \$11 million is allocated towards the establishment of the integrity commission with the remainder to improve animal welfare standards.

- The NSW reforms are being phased in over 18 months, with the Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission expected to commence operation later in 2018. A statutory review of the new legislation will take place after three years.
- This followed an earlier inquiry by the Honourable Michael McHugh AC QC into the greyhound industry in NSW which exposed wide-spread live baiting practices and animal cruelty. A subsequent ban of greyhound racing announced by the NSW Government, which was to take effect from 1 July 2017, was reversed on 11 October 2016.

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club's (CGRC) position

- The CGRC has two legal challenges against the ACT Government on foot.
- On 23 February 2018, the ACT Supreme Court handed down its decision in a matter brought by the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) against the ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA) regarding the lease over the greyhound track at Symonston. The Court found that ACTPLA should have made a decision in regard to CGRC's application for a renewal of its current lease (due to expire in 2027) and that it was unreasonable to delay making a decision because of the possibility of legislative change that would ban greyhound racing. However, the Court found that ACTPLA should not now be ordered to make a decision regarding the lease because legislation has now been passed that will ban racing from 30 April 2018. The Court found that to require ACTPLA to act with regard to the lease renewal would be futile given the impending ban on the industry, and that their existing lease, which expires in 2027, provided CGRC all the certainty and protection that it needed to conduct its affairs until the ban commences.
- The CGRC has filed an appeal in this matter, but a hearing date for the appeal has not yet been set. The CGRC were also successful in obtaining an award of costs against the ACT in this matter until 29 November 2018 (the date on which the laws banning greyhound racing were passed in the Assembly). From that date, each party is to bear their own costs.
- On 2 November 2017, the CGRC also filed an application in the Federal Court seeking damages in relation to an alleged breach of the CGRC lease; a declaration that laws relating to ACTTAB and the control of race field information are invalid; a declaration that the instruments made under those laws are also or alternatively invalid; and a declaration that the *Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Act 2017* is invalid. A date for hearing has not yet been set.

Recent media

- The CGRC have made public statements about the timeframe provided for comment on the draft mandatory code of practice. TCCS received written feedback on the draft code from the CGRC, the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, RSPCA Australia, RSPCA ACT, ACT Greyhound Support Network, Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, Australian Veterinary Association, the ACT Veterinary Surgeons Board, Greyhound Racing NSW and the NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
- Following a media release from the CGRC, the *Canberra Times* reported on 25 April 2018 that Chris Redmond, CEO of Woden Community Service, had mistakenly sent an email intended for a colleague to an industry participant who had approached the service to discuss support for rehoming greyhounds. The report stated that the industry participant was offended and upset

by the tone of the email and the CGRC media release mistakenly identified Mr Redmond as a Taskforce official. Mr Redmond has publicly apologised for the incident.

- On 1 May 2018, the Australian Workers Union released a media release that was used as the basis for a news item by the Canberra Times on 2 May 2018, claiming incorrectly that aspects of training such as use of lures and starting boxes were unlawful. These claims were addressed in the TCCS/AC information session with industry participants on 1 May 2018. Further clarification will be provided to industry participants in the week beginning 7 May 2018 to ensure all participants are aware of what is required.

Re-homing support for ex-racing greyhounds

- In October 2017, the Taskforce met separately with the three main organisations who work to re-home greyhounds in the ACT – Canberra Region Greyhound Connections (CRGC), the ACT Greyhound Support Network (ACTGSN) and the RSPCA (ACT). These were general discussions about the about options for providing support to greyhounds being rehomed in the event that there was an influx of dogs surrendered due to the incoming ban on greyhound racing in the ACT.
- Establishment of the re-homing support application process was assisted by information about re-homing arrangements and the needs of ex-racing greyhounds, provided in these face to face meetings and in addition information provided by ACTGSN via email.
- The numbers of greyhounds owned by ACT residents that have been surrendered to date appears low, and there is no evidence of an influx of surrenders associated with the ban on racing.
- In May, Woden Community Service have worked on making direct contact with organisations involved re-homing greyhounds in the ACT to advise of the availability of transition support and their capacity to support people making applications. This has included writing directly to organisations and attending a greyhound socialisation event.

**MINISTER FOR REGULATORY SERVICES
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTION

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

Thursday, 7 June 2018

MS LE COUTEUR: My question is to the minister for gambling and racing and relates to the greyhound transition scheme. Minister, what is the eligibility for people to be retrained or otherwise assisted under the scheme? How many have been assisted and how much money has been spent on this?

MR RAMSAY: I thank Ms Le Couteur for the question. In relation to the second and third parts of the question, I will take those parts on notice. In terms of the eligibility for the scheme, certainly one of the key things is the ACT government has been very clear from day one that the rehoming of greyhounds is an absolute priority as part of the overall work that we have been doing in this area and, as part of the suite of services available to transition support, Woden Community Service has been providing that level of support.

It is important that the transition support is focused on people who have strong connections to the ACT. An ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident or must have been surrendered on or after 23 June. That was the date that the government confirmed its intention to end the industry.

The amount of support that is available for each ex-racing greyhound is assessed according to need but is capped at \$2,000 per hound unless there are exceptional circumstances. That ensures that the support that is funded by ACT taxpayers is focused here in the ACT.

We do note that there are some exceptional circumstances and we are encouraging people to continue to make contact with local community services who have the ability to assist people in the application process. One example of the exceptional circumstances would be where there is evidence of a significant proportion—and that may be recent racing of around 60 per cent or more—of the activity carried out at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club.

There is also the capacity to apply for financial assistance that goes beyond the \$2,000 cap, again if there are exceptional circumstances, and that may relate to behavioural issues, dental problems or other ones of the dog itself.

MS LE COUTEUR: Minister, how many dogs have been rehomed under the scheme and how much money has been spent? I am asking that on the assumption that you have given me the full list of exceptional circumstances. If there are any more you would like to elaborate on, I would love to hear them.

MR RAMSAY: In relation to the detail of those two questions, I will take those on notice and provide those.

MR RAMSAY: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

There have been no applications for transition support submitted to the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce, from either people seeking support to exit the industry, or from people seeking assistance to re-home greyhounds.

While Woden Community Service has had a range of conversations with affected parties, these have not yet resulted in formal applications. Consequently, there have been no funds expended on individual transition support packages or re-homing assistance to date.

The Taskforce will accept applications until 30 June 2018, and Woden Community Service remains available to assist in preparing and submitting applications by that deadline.

With respect to the exceptional circumstances under which the Taskforce may approve additional re-homing support, there are two main categories of cases.

The first category is where there is evidence that a significant proportion (at least 60%) of an ex-racing greyhound's racing activity was carried out at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club.

The second category is where financial assistance in excess of the \$2000 cap is sought, if there is evidence that a particular greyhound has injuries, behavioural issues, dental problems or other veterinary needs that could be addressed to increase that hound's chances of successful re-homing.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



Gordon Ramsay MLA
Minister for Regulatory Services

Date: 19/6/18

From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) @wcs.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 14 June 2018 3:44 PM
To: Barnard, Belinda
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: Transition Support [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: 6 Monthly Report - Greyhound Industry Transition Program.docx

Hi Belinda,

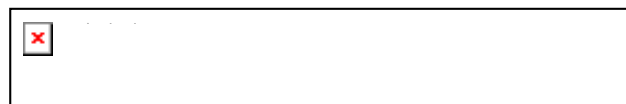
Thanks you for your email and for clarifying all of that. Would you be available to meet with Sch 2.2(a)(ii) and myself on Monday (18th June) at 2pm, here at Woden Youth Centre?

Please find *attached* 6 Monthly Report. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you require any additional information.

With kind regards,

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Team Leader, Ability Service Delivery
 Woden Youth Centre | 29 Callam St | Woden ACT 2606
 P: (02) 6221 9527 | Sch 2 s2(a)(ii) | www.wcs.org.au



Woden Community Service acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional owners of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We also acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have come from other nations to live on Ngunnawal land. We pay our respects to their cultures, ancestors and elders past, present and future.

From: Barnard, Belinda [mailto:Belinda.Barnard@act.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 14 June 2018 10:21 AM
To: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: Transition Support [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

H Sch 2 2(a)(ii)

Thanks so much for your email.

1. I'm so pleased Sch 2.2(a)(ii) has made contact. There is no room to provide funding to ACTGSN itself to carry out that work but we anticipated that this would be part of the service that WCS provide in terms of assisting applicants to prepare applications. Depending on the number of applications they wish to make, I suspect this might mean an influx of work for Sch 2 2(a)(ii) but given the low level of demand so far hopefully this can be managed. If Sch 2.2(a)(ii) is intending to put in applications with respect to greyhounds that she suspects would have an argument for exceptional circumstances, then I am happy to come out and meet you ASAP to establish an efficient process for facilitating those applications (ie figuring out the quickest way to obtain and verify records).
2. I'm aware of the numbers Sch 2.2(a)(ii) has been talking about, and I believe she has made similar representations directly to the Minister. We can only work with the parameters for eligibility that have been set.
3. Thanks for the update on the report.

Out of Scope

All the best
Belinda

From: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted]@wcs.org.au
Sent: Wednesday, 13 June 2018 10:40 AM
To: Barnard, Belinda <Belinda.Barnard@act.gov.au>
Cc: Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted] >
Subject: Transition Support

Hi Belinda,

Greyhound Program

1. Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted] received a call from Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted] from the ACT Greyhound Support Network yesterday and spoke at length about transition support options. Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted] said that they had 120 greyhounds surrendered in the last 12 months but could only clearly show racing history and kennel details for two of the greyhounds. Is there room in the transition packages to apply for support in finding the records and microchip details of the greyhounds? Our other thought is that the ACT Gov may already have access to this information? Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted] has let Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted] know that he will get back to her by the end of the week with a response.
2. Feedback from Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted] was that the Taskforce was unrealistic about the number of dogs in Canberra as the majority of dogs race out of Canberra and the ones that stay use the ACT as a stepping stone to race in NSW where prize money is higher and there are better standard races.
3. I am just finalising the 6 monthly report and will get this to you as soon as possible.

Out of Scope

With kind regards,

Sch 2.2(a)(ii) [redacted]

Team Leader, Ability Service Delivery

Woden Youth Centre | 29 Callam St | Woden ACT 2606

P: (02) 6221 9527 | Sch 2 s2(a)(ii) [redacted] | www.wcs.org.au



Woden Community Service acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as the traditional owners of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We also acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who have come from other nations to live on Ngunnawal land. We pay our respects to their cultures, ancestors and elders past, present and future.

This email, and any attachments, may be confidential and also privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete all copies of this transmission along with any attachments immediately. You should not copy or use it for any purpose, nor disclose its contents to any other person.

Greyhound Racing Industry Transition Program

Program Objectives

Following the passage of the *Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Act 2017*, Woden Community Service was engaged by the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce to support ACT residents affected by the closure of the ACT Greyhound Racing Industry to access transition support. The program objectives were to:

Objective 1: Provide free counselling to anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they applied for a Transition Support Package.

Objective 2: Provide the 70 Canberra residents who were active participants (owners, breeders and trainers) in greyhound racing in the ACT with:

- a. Support to apply for an individually tailored Transition Support Package;
- b. Holistic case management to transition out of the greyhound racing industry.

Objective 3: Provide assistance to greyhound rehoming organisations, and other applicable persons, to apply for a greyhound rehoming support package for ex-racing greyhounds owned by ACT residents and surrendered on or before 23 June 2017.

Project Outputs

1. Documentation used / developed

Intake form	Taskforce Recommendations form
Participant Handbook	Re-homing Support Application form
Assessment form	Participant feedback form
World Health Organisation Quality of Life Inventory (WHOQOL)	FAQ – Greyhound Industry Transition Program

2. Outreach Activities

Activity	Details
Connect and Participate Expo	FAQ, Next Step and OneLink flyers distributed x 10
'Run and Play', run by Canberra Greyhound Racing Connections	FAQ, Next Step and OneLink flyers distributed x 30. Discussion regarding Transition Support x1
Letter offering support for people exiting the industry	CGRC Employees x4
Letter offering support for Greyhound Rehoming	Greyhound Rehoming Organisations x 5

3. Communication Strategy developed in partnership with the ACT Government

Communication	Number
Social Media – Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+	6
WCS website articles	3
Radio Interviews (Canberra Times and ABC Radio Canberra)	2
Newspaper Interview	1
WCS newsletter – reaches staff, board, 113 volunteers, 160 external subscribers	1
Information sent through Greyhound Taskforce	2

4. Contact with other Stakeholders

Stakeholders	Details
Australia Worker's Union	Formal meeting, letter introducing the program
CGRC Board Member	Informal meeting, offer to speak at Board Meeting
Canberra Greyhound Racing President	Letter introducing the program and offering support to CGRC members
Canberra Greyhound Racing Connections	Informal meeting, telephone and email support
Transport City Services	Email correspondence

5. Engagement with participants

Activity	Number
Participant meetings	3
Telephone calls offering support	4
Telephone calls exploring options for support	14
Email contact offering support	3
Email contact exploring options for support	12
Telephone calls received from people seeking assistance, referred to the Taskforce	4
Emails to greyhound rehoming organisations offering Transition support for greyhounds	5
Emails to greyhound rehoming organisations exploring options for support	1
Draft recommendations, not proceeding to Taskforce	2

Project Outcomes

1. All reasonable avenues pursued to connect with, and provide information on transition support to, ACT residents affected by the closure of the ACT Greyhound Racing Industry.
2. 14 telephone calls and 12 emails from potential participants, and 1 email from greyhound rehoming organisations, supported applicants to understand their transition support options. Two were assisted to make draft applications for Transition Support Packages.
3. The potential participants and rehoming organisation reached used their knowledge to inform other potential participants of the program.

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Friday, 15 June 2018 11:34 AM
To: Ingham, Alexander
Subject: RE: QTB - Greyhound Racing - June 2018 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED, DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: 07. Greyhound Racing.docx; QTB - Ex-racing greyhound rehoming - June 2018.docx; QTB - Greyhound Racing - June 2018.docx

Hi Alex

I don't think so – here's the most recent QTBs (two separate ones) I have and also our Budget Estimates brief, if that helps? I only just got the cleared version of the Estimates Brief back.

Cheers
 B

From: Ingham, Alexander
Sent: Friday, 15 June 2018 11:14 AM
To: Barnard, Belinda <Belinda.Barnard@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: QTB - Greyhound Racing - June 2018 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED, DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Hey Belinda

Just calling to see if there had been any recent changes to the QTB as we preparing briefings for estimates?

Cheers

Alex Ingham | A/g Director | Liquor, Racing and Gaming Policy
 Phone (02) 6207 0305 | Email: alexander.ingham@act.gov.au
Legislation, Policy and Programs | Justice and Community Safety Directorate | **ACT Government**
 Level 4, 12 Moore Street Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Tuesday, 29 May 2018 5:13 PM
To: ACDLO <ACDLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: Ingham, Alexander <Alexander.Ingham@act.gov.au>; Access Canberra Government Business & Coordination <AccessCanberraGBC@act.gov.au>; Alegria, Stephen <Stephen.Alegria@act.gov.au>
Subject: QTB - Greyhound Racing - June 2018 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED, DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Good evening

Please find attached an updated QTB for greyhound racing. The new sections are highlighted, otherwise it is the same as for the last sitting period.

Please let me know if the Minister would like anything additional or different.

All the best
 Belinda

Belinda Barnard

Senior Manager, Greyhound Industry Transition

Policy and Cabinet

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

M: 0405 539 109 | P: 02 6207 7525 | E: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Racing ban

- As of 30 April, the ACT has become the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- This follows our earlier decision to cease providing funding to the industry, and the passage of legislation in the Assembly in November 2017.
- The ACT Government has taken these steps in response to the documented and acknowledged animal welfare failures in the greyhound racing industry in NSW.
- NSW owners and trainers represented a significant majority of participants in greyhound racing in the ACT. As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT. We wanted to do what we could to prevent these kinds of abuses from coming across the border to ACT.

Breeding, training and registration

- While the ban on racing has commenced, it is still lawful for ACT residents to breed, train and own racing greyhounds here, subject to a range of measures designed to better protect ACT greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted. This includes a review of the Code of Practice after twelve months of operation.

Transition support

- The Attorney-General announced in July 2017 that the Government would provide \$1.033 million in transition support for the small number of people, businesses and dogs that would be impacted by the end of greyhound racing in Canberra.

- The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce was established soon after the Government's announcement to assist the people and animals involved in the industry to transition out of it.
- In August 2017, the Taskforce opened the process for receiving applications for transition support.
- Those exiting the industry have until 30 June 2018 to apply for a Transition Support Package, with packages to be rolled out until 30 September 2018.
- The needs of each eligible applicant are considered on an individual basis and, through consultation, a package developed to address their specific circumstances.
- Transition Support Packages can be built from a range of options including training and re-skilling opportunities; short term financial support; business skills support; specialist advice, guidance and planning about future career options; financial counselling and planning services; no-interest or micro-credit loans.
- Free counselling is also available to anyone impacted by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package. This could include affected industry members, or those involved in re-homing retired racing greyhounds.
- ACT greyhounds who are leaving the racing industry as a result of the ban on racing in the Territory are also eligible for support to find new homes.
- To be eligible for re-homing assistance, an ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident, and have been surrendered on or after 23 June 2017 (which was the date on which the Government confirmed its intention to end the industry in the ACT).
- These parameters are designed to ensure that support funded by ACT taxpayers is directed to the greyhounds and people within this jurisdiction who have been directly affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- While assistance provided by the ACT Government is directed to those people and greyhounds resident in the ACT, the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce will consider exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated that the ACT ban has significantly impacted the racing capacity of a greyhound in the wider Canberra region.

Contract with Woden Community Services

- The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce engaged Woden Community Service to provide dedicated support, counselling, case management, and referral services to people affected by greyhound industry transition and people wishing to consider support package options.
- As part of the suite of services available to assist in transition support, Woden Community Service is also able to assist in the application and documentation process for those seeking financial support to re-home greyhounds.
- The contract with Woden Community Service, which is for a period of 11 months, came at a total cost of just under \$105,000.
- Woden Community Service were chosen as the provider of these services due to their depth of experience in providing support to members of our community at difficult times in their lives.
- They established a dedicated phone line and identified case manager to provide the most direct path for people wishing to access their services. They have made direct contact with industry members and their union representative, as well as people involved in greyhound re-homing.
- While Woden Community Service has had a range of conversations with affected parties, to date there have been no formal applications for either transition support packages or re-homing assistance.

Expenditure

Expense	Total YTD expenditure
Woden Community Service	\$52,456
Advertising	\$19,824
Meeting supplies	\$370
Senior manager salary	\$58,550 <i>*total employee salary cost is \$117,100</i>
Total	\$131,200
Known expenses (yet to be billed)	Expected expenditure

Reimburse JACS for expenditure on greyhound matters before Racing Appeal Tribunal	\$6,000
Reimburse TCCS and Access Canberra for additional costs of increased monitoring and compliance activity	\$30,000
Woden Community Service (final payment)	\$52,456
Total	\$88,456

Total YTD expenditure	\$131,200
Total known expenses (not yet billed)	\$88,456
Grand total	\$219,656

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: EX-RACING GREYHOUND RE-HOMING SUPPORT

Talking points:

- The ACT Government has been clear that re-homing of greyhounds is a key aspect of its transition activities following the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- This support is designed to ensure that ex-racing greyhounds in the ACT, who were retired due to the ban on racing, are in the best position to be successfully re-homed.
- As part of the suite of services available to assist in transition support, Woden Community Service is able to assist in the application and documentation process for those seeking support to re-home greyhounds.
- We continue to encourage anybody who is interested in this support to contact Woden Community Service, as the case managers for greyhound industry transition, to speak in detail about their options.
- To be eligible for transition support, an ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident, and have been surrendered on or after 23 June 2017 (which was the date on which the Government confirmed its intention to end the industry in the ACT).
- The amount of support available for each ex-racing greyhound is assessed according to need, and is capped at \$2,000 per hound (unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the needs of a particular hound).
- These parameters are designed to ensure that support funded by ACT taxpayers is directed to the greyhounds and people within this jurisdiction who have been directly affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- We know from the findings in the Durkin Report that only a small number of racing greyhounds are based in the ACT, and that almost all the hounds who previously raced here were from NSW. To date, we have not seen

evidence of an influx of surrendered greyhounds associated with the ban on racing.

- While it is essential that assistance provided by the ACT Government is directed to those people and greyhounds resident in the ACT, the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce will consider 'exceptional circumstances' where it can be demonstrated that the ACT ban has significantly impacted the racing capacity of a greyhound in the wider Canberra region.
- An example of exceptional circumstances is where there is evidence that a significant proportion (at least 60%) of that greyhound's racing activity was carried out at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club.
- There is also capacity to apply for financial assistance that is greater than the \$2000 cap if there is evidence that a particular hound has significant injuries, behavioural issues, dental problems or other veterinary needs that could be addressed to increase that greyhound's chances of successful re-homing.

Application process

- Applications for re-homing support may be made until 30 June 2018 and approved funds may be expended until 30 September 2018. I would strongly encourage re-homing groups to apply where appropriate.
- The Taskforce has created a specific application form for re-homing assistance that outlines the eligibility requirements for re-homing support and the options available.
- Anybody seeking assistance should contact **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** from the Greyhound Industry Transition Program, on (02) 6181 2895 or via email at **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** [@wcs.org.au](mailto:sch2.2(a)(ii)@wcs.org.au).
- In addition, anybody affected by the transition of the greyhound industry in the ACT (including people involved in re-homing greyhounds) can access free counselling through Woden Community Service by calling (02) 6181 2895.
- After a request from one group involved in re-homing, the Taskforce also issued further guidance last week on what might be considered exceptional circumstances. This has been distributed by Woden Community Services, as case managers for transition support.

- Establishment of the re-homing support application process was assisted by information about re-homing arrangements and the needs of ex-racing greyhounds, provided by the three main organisations involved in re-homing.

Contact with re-homing organisations

- In October 2017, the Taskforce met separately with the three main organisations who work to re-home greyhounds in the ACT – Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, the ACT Greyhound Support Network and the RSPCA (ACT).
- I understand that these were general discussions about the about options for providing support to greyhounds being rehomed in the event that there was an influx of dogs surrendered due to the incoming ban on greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The ACT Greyhound Support Network also had contact with the Taskforce in January 2018 and April 2018 to further explore options and parameters for support.
- I met with representatives of the ACT Greyhound Support Network on 17 May 2018 to discuss their concerns about the eligibility requirements for re-homing assistance.
- In May/June 2018, Woden Community Service made direct contact with organisations involved re-homing greyhounds in the ACT to advise of the availability of transition support and their capacity to support people making applications. This has included writing directly to organisations and attending a greyhound socialisation event run by one of the groups who re-home ex-racing greyhounds in the ACT

Key Information

- The deadline for applications for assistance to re-home greyhounds is 30 June 2018, with all approved expenditure to be finalised by 30 September 2018.
- According to the Durkin Report, 94% of the greyhounds that raced in the ACT in 2016 were based in NSW.
- The Durkin Report also indicated that at the time there were approximately 70 Canberra residents who were active participants (i.e. owners, breeders and trainers) in greyhound racing in the ACT. Approximately 52 racing greyhounds were both owned by ACT residents and based here.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- The numbers of greyhounds owned by ACT residents that have been surrendered to date appears low, and there is no evidence of an influx of surrenders associated with the ban on racing.
- Sch 2.2(a)(ii) from ACT Greyhound Support Network contacted the Taskforce on 9 April 2018 via email to express interest in applying for support for greyhounds that had been surrendered to that organisation.
- Following advice from the Taskforce on 10 April 2018 that eligibility for support is limited to greyhounds previously owned by ACT residents, Sch 2.2(a)(ii) sent a follow up email making representations about the desirability of extending support to NSW based hounds who have had a racing connection to Canberra. Minister Ramsay met Sch 2.2(a)(ii) on 17 May 2018 to discuss her representations.
- On 31 May 2018, in his responses to nine letters received in May from supporters of ACT Greyhound Support Network about eligibility requirements, Minister Ramsay advised that anybody seeking assistance to re-home greyhounds should contact Woden Community Service.
- A media release from the Taskforce issued on 1 June 2018 (and shared by Woden Community Service on the same date) and an update newsletter from the Taskforce sent on 5 June 2018 re-stated this advice.
- In June 2018, Sch 2.2(a)(ii) from Woden Community Service also wrote directly to five organisations (ACT Greyhound Support Network, Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, ACT Rescue and Foster Dogs, RSPCA (ACT) and Friends of the Hound) to provide information about the application process and the support that WCS can provide.
- Woden Community Service have distributed the further detail provide by the Taskforce on what might constitute exceptional circumstances in the context of applications for support. These include:
 - An ex-racing greyhound who was previously owned by a non-ACT resident if a significant proportion (at least 60%) of that greyhound's racing activity was carried out at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club; or
 - An ex-racing greyhound who has significant injuries, behavioural issues, dental problems or other veterinary needs (at a cost exceeding the \$2000 cap on support available), that could be addressed to increase the greyhound's chances of successful re-homing.

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Racing ban

- As of 30 April, the ACT has become the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- This follows our earlier decision to cease providing funding to the industry, and the passage of legislation in the Assembly in November 2017.
- The ACT Government has taken these steps in response to the documented and acknowledged animal welfare failures in the greyhound racing industry in NSW.
- NSW owners and trainers represented a significant majority of participants in greyhound racing in the ACT. As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT. We wanted to do what we could to prevent these kinds of abuses from coming across the border to ACT.

Breeding, training and registration

- While the ban on racing has commenced, it is still lawful for ACT residents to breed, train and own racing greyhounds here, subject to a range of measures designed to better protect ACT greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.
- More regular racing registration renewals, new licencing requirements on owners, trainers and breeders and a mandatory Code of Practice for people who have day-to-day control of greyhounds registered for racing, are now in place to improve our oversight of these practices in the ACT.

- The new legal framework for monitoring is designed to give us a better line of sight on the entire lifetime of greyhounds here in the ACT. For example, registering new litters within seven days now means that every young greyhound is to be accounted for, whether or not it is later registered as a racing dog.

Code of practice

- The new mandatory *Code of Practice for the Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds* commenced on 30 April.
- Over a dozen stakeholders (including the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, the RSPCA, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club, the Australian Veterinary Association, greyhound welfare organisations and interstate racing authorities) provided feedback during consultation on the Code.
- All feedback was carefully considered in the Code's development. The ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code, and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions. Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted. This includes a review of the Code of Practice after twelve months of operation.

Fees for racing greyhounds in the ACT

- The ACT Government has been clear that ACT residents will be able to continue to own, breed and train greyhounds for racing elsewhere only on the basis that it is at no cost to the broader ACT community.
- The new fees that have been determined for registering a racing greyhound and obtaining a racing greyhound controller licence reflect this decision. They account for the cost of monitoring the welfare of greyhounds who are involved in racing, including tracking of greyhounds, regular inspections of premises and any necessary compliance activity.
- The ACT registration and licensing fees for racing greyhounds are distinct from the licencing required by greyhound racing controlling bodies. People who wish to race their ACT based dogs outside the Territory will still need

to comply with the requirements of the relevant controlling body (such as Greyhound Racing NSW).

- Anyone with questions about registration, licensing and compliance and the Code of Practice, can contact Domestic Animal Services via Access Canberra on 13 22 81 to discuss their individual circumstances.

Collaborative approach to compliance

- The Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) Directorate, in collaboration with Access Canberra, is responsible for ensuring that any illegal conduct at the premises of the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club in Symonston is detected, investigated and appropriate action taken.
- Now that the ban has commenced, TCCS and Access Canberra are implementing a comprehensive approach to engage, educate and enforce the legislation and ensure that illegal activity does not take place.
- A range of written information has been provided to industry participants, including key contacts for people who wish to seek further information on the detail of the ban and its implementation. Information on the racing ban and the ACT's new regulatory framework for racing greyhounds is also available at www.act.gov.au/greyhound.
- An information session was held at Canberra Greyhound Racing Club on 2 May 2018 with representatives from TCCS and Access Canberra present to explain the new legislation and answer questions about how participants are expected to conduct themselves as they pursue the legally permissible aspects of owning, breeding and training greyhounds.
- At the information session, participants were strongly encouraged to make contact with regulatory officers within TCCS to enable a case-specific approach to be taken and ensure that all industry participants are aware of and compliant with the requirements.
- This approach is already proving successful, with a number of participants making contact with TCCS in the days following this information session.

Participant and animal welfare

- This government's priority is the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing and the people who will be affected by the end of racing in the ACT.
- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce and why the Taskforce has engaged Woden Community Service which is so experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.
- The Government strongly encourages anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT to contact either the Transition Taskforce or Woden Community Service to access this support.
- Free counselling is also available to anyone impacted by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they are pursuing a transition support package.
- This can be accessed by contacting Woden Community Service, who have been engaged to provide dedicated support, case management, information and counselling services for those affected by greyhound industry transition and those wishing to consider support package options.
- As part of the suite of services available to assist in transition support, Woden Community Service is able to assist in the application and documentation process for those seeking support to re-home greyhounds.
- To be eligible for transition support, an ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident, and have been surrendered on or after 23 June 2017 (which was the date on which the Government confirmed its intention to end the industry in the ACT).
- These parameters are designed to ensure that support funded by ACT taxpayers is directed to the greyhounds and people within this jurisdiction who have been directly affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- While it is essential that assistance provided by the ACT Government is directed to those people and greyhounds resident in the ACT, the

Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce will consider exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated that the ACT ban has significantly impacted the racing capacity of a greyhound in the Canberra region. This would include a significant proportion of their races having occurred in Canberra. Any such circumstances can be discussed with Woden Community Service as the case managers for greyhound industry transition.

- Anybody seeking assistance should contact Sch 2.2(a)(ii) from the Greyhound Industry Transition Program, on (02) 6181 2895 or via email at [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)@wcs.org.au](mailto:Sch 2.2(a)(ii)@wcs.org.au).
- While some industry lobbyists have publicly stated that they do not intend to engage with the transition process, we strongly encourage individual members of the industry to consider their own futures and engage with the Taskforce while the opportunity is available.
- Conversations with the Taskforce or with Woden Community Service are confidential.

The role of Woden Community Service

- Mr Redmond, the CEO of Woden Community Service (WCS), is not a member of the ACT Government's Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce. The Taskforce is made up of senior executives from across ACT Government.
- WCS has provided support to members of the ACT community for 49 years.
- Given the range of services that WCS is able to offer (including counselling, personal support and linkage with a wide range of Canberra's community services) together with their long and respected history in supporting the people of Canberra, the Taskforce engaged their services to assist those Canberra residents who are affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.
- Among the range of programs they offer the people of the ACT, they have experience in assisting people in times of change and personal distress – as shown by their work with people affected by the presence of Mr Fluffy

asbestos in their homes, and those affected by the Canberra bushfires in 2003.

- WCS worked with the ACT Asbestos Taskforce in its early stages, offering to host members of the personal support team and to offer support to homeowners and residents of affected houses. This included holding a support group for affected residents, particularly older people who had lived in their houses for decades.
- Their volunteer coordinator also engaged a number of volunteers who worked closely with people seeking assistance with transport, packing boxes and liberating plants for their moves to new homes.
- Woden Community Service's CEO, Chris Redmond, has been an active member of the Asbestos Taskforce Community and Expert Reference Group since its inception in 2015, attending many community meetings following the announcement of the buy-back scheme and working with home owners affected by the scheme over the last three years
- In 2016, WCS also worked with nine individuals who lost their homes to produce a digital story telling project called, "Surrender" which helped these participants deal with their loss and find some closure and healing through sharing their personal stories.
- WCS also worked with the Bushfire Recovery Taskforce in the days immediately following the January 2003 bushfires and worked intensively with people living in the three forestry settlements of Pierces Creek, Uriarra and Stromlo for a number of years following the fires. This work extended to providing personal support to residents and their families displaced by the bushfires, many of them Housing ACT residents, as they resettled in other parts of the ACT or moved interstate.
- WCS also worked with the communities as they were redeveloped as public/private developments, having previously been Housing ACT settlements.
- WCS was a member of the Bushfire Recovery Community and Expert Reference Group. WCS hosted the ACT Government funded counsellor who operated out of the community centre for a number of years.

- WCS continued to host monthly “forestry settlement gatherings” for 10 years at Lanyon Homestead which assisted residents to maintain contact with one another and assist their recovery. WCS also worked with those communities. For years WCS volunteered at the Tharwa Fair, a senior outside school hours care coordinator ran a weekly program at the Tharwa primary school for children whose families were affected by the bushfires, and WCS delivered Home and Community Care services to people in these regions during the recovery period.

Advertising relating to the ban

- Noting the regional interest and previous travel to the ACT region by NSW greyhound industry for racing, regional advertising took place to inform of the racing ban and changed requirements as at 30 April 2018
- This was to ensure that the regional industry and community had awareness of the changes and any associated compliance activities
- This advertising was predominantly print-based with the advertisements informing of the racing ban, of transition support for those in the ACT industry and directing interested parties to www.act.gov.au/greyhound where they could find additional information.
- It complemented information provided through other channels, including direct engagement with those impacted by the changes in the local industry.
- This advertising came in at about \$30,000 and included approximately 26 publications and three radio stations. As the advertising was under \$40,000 it did not require review by the Government Campaign Independent Reviewer.
- The advertising was a one-off and intensive campaign.

Legal proceedings

- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT. As these matters are still before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

Key Information

- Those exiting the industry have until 30 June 2018 to apply for transition support, and the Government has extended the roll-out of the available funding for an extra three months to 30 September 2018.
- To assist with the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT, an independent consultant, Ms Mary Durkin, was engaged to provide an analysis of options to support the transition. The Government agreed with Ms Durkin's recommendations.
- According to the Durkin Report, 94% of the greyhounds that raced in the ACT in 2016 were based in NSW.
- The Durkin Report also indicated that at the time there were approximately 70 Canberra residents who were active participants (i.e. owners, breeders and trainers) in greyhound racing in the ACT. Approximately 52 racing greyhounds were both owned by ACT residents and based here.
- Significant penalties now apply for the conduct of racing and trialling, those penalties being a maximum monetary penalty of \$15,000 and/or maximum 1 year imprisonment.
- Further, the penalties for anyone involved with arranging, conducting or knowingly participating in illegal betting activities are significant and, similar to the penalties for racing and trialling, involve significant financial penalties and/or a period of imprisonment.
- The new fees include a 12 month registration fee for a racing greyhound set at \$612; and an annual application fee for a greyhound racing controller licence at \$640.
- Racing greyhound owners no longer need to obtain a specific permit to keep their dogs sexually entire, as this is provided for as part of the annually renewable racing greyhound registration.
- Some additional fees may apply, consistent with the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act that apply to all dogs, for example a licence is required to breed a litter from any dog (\$397.80 for two years), and a multiple dog license is required for keeping of 4 or more dogs (\$117.30 initially and \$32.70 to renew annually).
- Given the length of time involved in the transition to implement the ban on greyhound racing, trialling and betting, the ACT Government is proposing a strong regulatory response to any individual or association that is found to be knowingly engaging in conduct that constitutes an offence in this regard.
- In order to maximise inspection activity and ensure that all relevant agencies are represented, a joint agency initiative incorporating Access Canberra and the Transport

Canberra and City Services Directorate has been established to provide for an appropriate coverage of inspection activity and ensure that any response to unlawful conduct is timely and dealt with by the appropriate agency.

- The specific provisions in the mandatory Code of Practice and the fee regime have been finalised and made public recently. The final version of the Code and fee instruments were notified on 30 April 2018. These are matters of great relevance and impact on industry participants and consistent with the Government's concern for people affected by the legislative changes, the focus of compliance activities in this regard will be on engaging and educating in the first instance. Nonetheless, in accordance with established regulatory approaches, wilful or recidivist non-compliance will be dealt with in a rigorous manner.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- Parliamentary Agreement Commitment 13.1 is to end Government funding for greyhound racing at the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding and take active steps to transition to end the operation of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The 2016-17 Budget Review stated that:

“The Government will cease grant funding for the greyhound industry in the ACT, effective from the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding on 30 June 2017. The grant funding of \$1.033 million in 2017-18 will be redirected to a transition program to assist workers to re-skill, as well as rehome and care for the greyhounds”.
- The ban on racing has seen significant media interest and this is likely to continue. Inspection activity may also reach the spotlight dependent on the frequency of any news agencies attending the venue.
- The ACT is the only Australian jurisdiction to have implemented a ban on greyhound racing, which may lead to nation-wide interest.

Durkin Report

- To date, 16 of the 18 recommendations in the Durkin Report have been completed. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing, the scope of transition support to be made available and finalising the regulatory framework. Two recommendations, relating to the provision of transition support will be finalised by 30 September 2018.

NSW position on greyhound racing

- Greyhound racing will continue in NSW. The NSW Government will spend \$41 million over the next five years to implement the recommendations of its Greyhound Industry Reform Panel. Of this, \$11 million is allocated towards the establishment of the integrity commission with the remainder to improve animal welfare standards.

- The NSW reforms are being phased in over 18 months, with the Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission expected to commence operation later in 2018. A statutory review of the new legislation will take place after three years.
- This followed an earlier inquiry by the Honourable Michael McHugh AC QC into the greyhound industry in NSW which exposed wide-spread live baiting practices and animal cruelty. A subsequent ban of greyhound racing announced by the NSW Government, which was to take effect from 1 July 2017, was reversed on 11 October 2016.

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club's (CGRC) position

- The CGRC has two legal challenges against the ACT Government on foot.
- On 23 February 2018, the ACT Supreme Court handed down its decision in a matter brought by the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) against the ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA) regarding the lease over the greyhound track at Symonston. The Court found that ACTPLA should have made a decision in regard to CGRC's application for a renewal of its current lease (due to expire in 2027) and that it was unreasonable to delay making a decision because of the possibility of legislative change that would ban greyhound racing. However, the Court found that ACTPLA should not now be ordered to make a decision regarding the lease because legislation has now been passed that will ban racing from 30 April 2018. The Court found that to require ACTPLA to act with regard to the lease renewal would be futile given the impending ban on the industry, and that their existing lease, which expires in 2027, provided CGRC all the certainty and protection that it needed to conduct its affairs until the ban commences.
- The CGRC has filed an appeal in this matter, but a hearing date for the appeal has not yet been set. The CGRC were also successful in obtaining an award of costs against the ACT in this matter until 29 November 2018 (the date on which the laws banning greyhound racing were passed in the Assembly). From that date, each party is to bear their own costs.
- On 2 November 2017, the CGRC also filed an application in the Federal Court seeking damages in relation to an alleged breach of the CGRC lease; a declaration that laws relating to ACTTAB and the control of race field information are invalid; a declaration that the instruments made under those laws are also or alternatively invalid; and a declaration that the *Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Act 2017* is invalid. A date for hearing has not yet been set.

Recent media

- The CGRC have made public statements about the timeframe provided for comment on the draft mandatory code of practice. TCCS received written feedback on the draft code from the CGRC, the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, RSPCA Australia, RSPCA ACT, ACT Greyhound Support Network, Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, Australian Veterinary Association, the ACT Veterinary Surgeons Board, Greyhound Racing NSW and the NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.
- Following a media release from the CGRC, the *Canberra Times* reported on 25 April 2018 that Chris Redmond, CEO of Woden Community Service, had mistakenly sent an email intended for a colleague to an industry participant who had approached the service to discuss support for rehoming greyhounds. The report stated that the industry participant was offended and upset

by the tone of the email and the CGRC media release mistakenly identified Mr Redmond as a Taskforce official. Mr Redmond has publicly apologised for the incident.

- On 1 May 2018, the Australian Workers Union released a media release that was used as the basis for a news item by the Canberra Times on 2 May 2018, claiming incorrectly that aspects of training such as use of lures and starting boxes were unlawful. These claims were addressed in the TCCS/AC information session with industry participants on 1 May 2018. Further clarification will be provided to industry participants in the week beginning 7 May 2018 to ensure all participants are aware of what is required.

Re-homing support for ex-racing greyhounds

- In October 2017, the Taskforce met separately with the three main organisations who work to re-home greyhounds in the ACT – Canberra Region Greyhound Connections (CRGC), the ACT Greyhound Support Network (ACTGSN) and the RSPCA (ACT). These were general discussions about the about options for providing support to greyhounds being rehomed in the event that there was an influx of dogs surrendered due to the incoming ban on greyhound racing in the ACT.
- Establishment of the re-homing support application process was assisted by information about re-homing arrangements and the needs of ex-racing greyhounds, provided in these face to face meetings and in addition information provided by ACTGSN via email.
- The numbers of greyhounds owned by ACT residents that have been surrendered to date appears low, and there is no evidence of an influx of surrenders associated with the ban on racing.
- In May, Woden Community Service have worked on making direct contact with organisations involved re-homing greyhounds in the ACT to advise of the availability of transition support and their capacity to support people making applications. This has included writing directly to organisations and attending a greyhound socialisation event.

applicant	Date	Nature of application	Support sought	Next steps	Comments
Sch 2.2(a)(ii)		Sch 2.2(a)(ii)			

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Tuesday, 24 July 2018 2:11 PM
To: ACDLO
Cc: Gioffre, Tina; Alegria, Stephen; Ingham, Alexander; Stankevicius, Adam
Subject: QTB - Greyhound Racing - August 2018 [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: QTB - Greyhound Racing - August 2018.docx

Dear Kylie

Please find attached a Greyhound QTB for Minister Ramsay, incorporating updates from TCCS and Access Canberra, and cleared by Adam Stankevicius.

Please note we are also preparing a shorter version for the Chief Minister.

Thank you for your patience.

cheers
Belinda

Belinda Barnard
Senior Manager, Strategic Policy
Policy and Cabinet
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

M: 0405 539 109 | P: 02 6207 7525 | E: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au

Portfolio/s Regulatory Services
Transport & City Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Racing ban and transition support

- On 30 April 2018, the ACT became the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT.
- The NSW greyhound racing industry has demonstrated systemic failures in its animal welfare. The ACT cannot allow a sport to continue where people who repeatedly breach animal welfare laws are allowed to cross the border and race here in the ACT.
- Owning, breeding, and training greyhounds remains permissible in the ACT in accordance with the provisions of the Animal Welfare (Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds in the ACT) Mandatory Code of Practice 2018.
- This government's priority is the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing, and the people who have been affected by the end of racing in the ACT.
- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce, and why the Taskforce engaged Woden Community Service which is so experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.
- Transition support has been central to support the process of ending greyhound racing and trialling in the ACT. The ACT Government announced the availability of over \$1m in transition support when we announced the decision to prohibit racing and trialling, over a year ago.
- Applications for transition support, and support to rehome ex-racing greyhounds, closed on 30 June 2018.

- The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce received applications from a range of people, businesses and re-homing organisations for support.
- To protect the confidentiality of the individuals involved, I am unable to discuss these applications in detail.
- The Taskforce, with assistance from Woden Community Service, is now in the process of considering all applications that were lodged and making arrangements to disburse funds for eligible applicants.
- Free counselling will continue to be available to anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they have sought or are eligible for a Transition Support Package. Counselling can be accessed by contacting Woden Community Service.

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club conducting races at Goulburn

- While the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club is no longer able to conduct races in the ACT, it still has capacity to reach agreement with clubs in NSW to continue its racing. Any issues that occur during any of these races are a matter for NSW.

Collaborative approach to compliance

- The Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) Directorate, in collaboration with Access Canberra, is responsible for ensuring that any illegal conduct at the premises of the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club in Symonston is investigated and appropriate action taken.
- Upon commencement of the ban, TCCS and Access Canberra implemented a comprehensive approach to engage, educate and enforce the legislation. This has included an initial intensive compliance program lasting for two weeks from the date of the ban commencing, with compliance activities ongoing since then.
- Access Canberra and TCCS provided a range of written information to industry participants, including key contacts for people who wished to seek further information. Information on the racing ban and the ACT's new regulatory framework for racing greyhounds is available at www.act.gov.au/greyhound.

- TCCS and Access Canberra engaged closely with industry participants, with inspectors from both agencies attending an information session at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club on 2 May 2018 to explain the new legislation and answer questions. A further information session was held on 13 June 2018.
- Between 30 April 2018 and 13 May 2018, TCCS and Access Canberra conducted a total of **23** inspections of the Greyhound Racing Club as part of the initial intensive compliance program.
- During these inspections no racing, trialling or illegal betting activities were identified at the premises.
- Inspectors from both agencies have continued to conduct inspections of the venue and have at times attended Wednesday evening training sessions held at the venue with no issues being identified.

Breeding, training and registration

- As indicated previously, it is still lawful for ACT residents to breed, train and own racing greyhounds here, subject to a range of measures designed to better protect ACT greyhounds who will continue to race interstate.
- More regular racing registration renewals, new licensing requirements on owners, trainers and breeders and a mandatory Code of Practice for people who have day-to-day control of greyhounds registered for racing, are now in place to improve our oversight of these practices in the ACT.
- This framework is designed to give us a better line of sight on the entire lifetime of greyhounds here in the ACT. For example, registering new litters within seven days now means that every young greyhound is to be accounted for, whether or not it is later registered as a racing dog.

Code of practice

- The *Code of Practice for the Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds* commenced on 30 April 2018.

- Over a dozen stakeholders (including the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, the RSPCA, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club, the Australian Veterinary Association, greyhound welfare organisations and interstate racing authorities) provided feedback during consultation on the Code.
- All feedback was carefully considered in the Code's development. The ACT Government will continue to monitor the implementation of the Code, and the development of similar codes in other jurisdictions. Ongoing conversations with the industry will be part of this monitoring process.
- An ongoing review of greyhound breeding and training practices over the next two years will also help the Government assess whether any further intervention is warranted. This includes a review of the Code within twelve months of operation.

Fees for racing greyhounds in the ACT

- The ACT Government has been clear that ACT residents will be able to continue to own, breed and train greyhounds for racing elsewhere only on the basis that it is at no cost to the broader ACT community.
- The fees that have been determined for registering a racing greyhound and obtaining a racing greyhound controller licence reflect this decision. They account for the anticipated costs of monitoring the welfare of greyhounds who are involved in racing, including tracking of greyhounds, regular inspections of premises and any necessary compliance activity.
- Engagement with keepers of ACT-based racing greyhounds has identified high levels of compliance with key welfare-related conditions such as kennelling facilities. A review of fees is being undertaken to ensure that fees accurately reflect the cost of service and do not unduly impact on the ability of otherwise compliant keepers to continue to train racing greyhounds in ACT. Opportunities to align with the new NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission are also being explored.
- The ACT registration and licensing fees for racing greyhounds are distinct from the licencing required by greyhound racing controlling bodies. People who wish to race their ACT based dogs outside the Territory still

need to comply with the requirements of the relevant controlling body (such as the NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission).

- Opportunities to streamline processes between NSW and ACT, and ensure the highest standard of welfare for racing greyhounds are being considered.
- The NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission commenced on 1 July 2018 as an independent regulator of the greyhound racing industry in NSW, and was a key recommendation of the Greyhound Industry Reform Panel set up in NSW.
- Anyone with questions about registration, licensing and compliance and the Code of Practice, are encouraged to contact Domestic Animal Services via Access Canberra on 13 22 81 to discuss their individual circumstances.

The role of Woden Community Service

- Mr Redmond, the CEO of Woden Community Service (WCS), is not a member of the ACT Government's Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce. The Taskforce is made up of senior executives from across ACT Government.
- WCS has provided support to members of the ACT community for 49 years.
- Given the range of services that WCS is able to offer (including counselling, personal support and linkage with a wide range of Canberra's community services) together with their long and respected history in supporting the people of Canberra, the Taskforce engaged their services to assist those Canberra residents who are affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.

Legal proceedings

- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT.

- As these matters are still before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

Key Information

- Those exiting the industry previously had until 30 June 2018 to apply for transition support, however the Government has extended the roll-out of the available funding for an extra three months to 30 September 2018.
- The Government engaged independent consultant Ms Mary Durkin to provide an analysis of options to support the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT. The Government agreed with Ms Durkin's recommendations.
- According to the Durkin Report, 94% of the greyhounds that raced in the ACT in 2016 were based in NSW.
- The Durkin Report estimated that at the time there were approximately 70 Canberra residents who were active participants (i.e. owners, breeders and trainers) in greyhound racing in the ACT. Approximately 52 racing greyhounds were both owned by ACT residents and based here.
- Significant penalties now apply for the conduct of racing and trialling: a monetary penalty of up to \$15,000 and maximum 1 year imprisonment.
- Further, the penalties for anyone involved with arranging, conducting or knowingly participating in illegal betting activities are significant and also involve significant financial penalties and/or a period of imprisonment.
- The new fees include a 12 month registration fee for a racing greyhound set at \$612; and an annual application fee for a greyhound racing controller licence at \$640.
- Racing greyhound owners no longer need to obtain a specific permit to keep their dogs sexually entire, as this is provided for as part of the annually renewable racing greyhound registration.
- Some additional fees may apply, consistent with the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act that apply to all dogs, for example a licence is required to breed a litter from any dog (\$397.80 for two years).
- Given the length of time involved in the transition to implement the ban on greyhound racing, trialling and betting, the ACT Government is proposing a strong regulatory response to any individual or association that is found to be knowingly engaging in conduct that constitutes an offence in this regard.
- Access Canberra and the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate established a joint agency initiative to provide appropriate inspection activity and

ensure that any response to unlawful conduct is timely and dealt with by the appropriate agency.

- The Code of Practice and fee instruments were notified on 30 April 2018. Consistent with the Government's concern for people affected by the legislative changes, the focus of compliance activities has been on engaging and educating in the first instance. Nonetheless, in accordance with established regulatory approaches, wilful or recidivist non-compliance will be dealt with in a rigorous manner.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- Parliamentary Agreement Commitment 13.1 is to end Government funding for greyhound racing at the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding and take active steps to transition to end the operation of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The Government ceased funding the greyhound industry on 30 June 2017 as part of the 2016-17 Budget Review. The funding was redirected to an industry transition program.
- The ban on racing has seen significant media interest and this is likely to continue. Inspection activity may also attract media attention. The intensive inspection activity involving daily visits for the first two weeks of the ban did not attract media attention.

Durkin Report

- To date, 16 of the 18 recommendations in the Durkin Report have been completed. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing, the scope of transition support to be made available and finalising the regulatory framework. Two recommendations, relating to the provision of transition support, will be finalised by 30 September 2018.

NSW position on greyhound racing

- The NSW Government announced a ban of greyhound racing to take effect from 1 July 2017 but reversed the decision on 11 October 2016. This followed an earlier inquiry by the Honourable Michael McHugh AC QC into the greyhound industry in NSW which exposed wide-spread live baiting practices and animal cruelty
- The NSW Government will spend \$41 million over the next five years to implement the recommendations of its Greyhound Industry Reform Panel. Of this, \$11 million is allocated towards the establishment of an integrity commission with the remainder to improve animal welfare standards. The Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission commenced operation on 1 July 2018. A statutory review of the new legislation will take place after three years.

Legal challenges - Canberra Greyhound Racing Club

- The CGRC has two legal challenges against the ACT Government on foot.
- On 23 February 2018, the ACT Supreme Court handed down its decision in a matter brought by the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) against the ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA) regarding the lease over the greyhound track at Symonston. The Court found that

ACTPLA should have made a decision in regard to CGRC's application for a renewal of its current lease (due to expire in 2027) and that it was unreasonable to delay making a decision because of the possibility of legislative change that would ban greyhound racing. However, the Court found that ACTPLA should not now be ordered to make a decision regarding the lease because legislation has now been passed that will ban racing from 30 April 2018. The Court found that to require ACTPLA to act with regard to the lease renewal would be futile given the impending ban on the industry, and that their existing lease, which expires in 2027, provided CGRC all the certainty and protection that it needed to conduct its affairs until the ban commences.

- The CGRC has filed an appeal in this matter, and the appeal will be heard on 15 November 2018. The CGRC were also successful in obtaining an award of costs against the ACT in this matter until 29 November 2017 (the date on which the laws banning greyhound racing were passed in the Assembly). From that date, each party is to bear their own costs.
- On 2 November 2017, the CGRC also filed an application in the Federal Court seeking damages in relation to an alleged breach of the CGRC lease; a declaration that laws relating to ACTTAB and the control of race field information are invalid; a declaration that the instruments made under those laws are also or alternatively invalid; and a declaration that the *Domestic Animals (Racing Greyhounds) Amendment Act 2017* is invalid. A hearing date has not yet been set.

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Thursday, 26 July 2018 5:35 PM
To: ACDLO
Cc: Stankevicius, Adam
Subject: RE: 08. Greyhound Racing - CM [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: Greyhound Racing - Min Ramsay.docx

Dear Kylie

Thank you for that feedback, please see attached revised draft (with changes highlighted).

All the best
 Belinda

Belinda Barnard
Senior Manager, Greyhound Industry Transition
 Policy and Cabinet
 Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

M: 0405 539 109 | P: 02 6207 7525 | E: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au

From: Jenkins, Kylie **On Behalf Of** ACDLO
Sent: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 3:50 PM
To: Barnard, Belinda <Belinda.Barnard@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: 08. Greyhound Racing - CM [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Hi Belinda

The MO likes the background but has said “we need to be able to quote numbers of transition applications reviewed & under consideration” please.

This will obviously need to be updated fairly regularly.

Thanks

Kylie

Kylie Jenkins | Regulatory Services DLO
 Ph: 02 6205 4007 | Mob: 0466 029 193 | Email: ACDLO@act.gov.au

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Tuesday, 24 July 2018 4:46 PM
To: ACDLO <ACDLO@act.gov.au>
Subject: 08. Greyhound Racing - CM [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Hi Kylie

As discussed, let me know what you think of this one.

Cheers
Belinda

Portfolio/s Chief Minister
Regulatory Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Racing ban and transition support

- On 30 April 2018, the ACT became the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT.
- The NSW greyhound racing industry has demonstrated systemic failures in its animal welfare. The ACT cannot allow a sport to continue where people who repeatedly breach animal welfare laws are allowed to cross the border and race here in the ACT.
- Owning, breeding, and training greyhounds remains permissible in the ACT in accordance with the provisions of the Animal Welfare (Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds in the ACT) Mandatory Code of Practice 2018.
- This government's priority is the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing, and the people who have been affected by the end of racing in the ACT.
- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce, and why the Taskforce engaged Woden Community Service which is so experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.
- Transition support has been central to support the process of ending greyhound racing and trialling in the ACT. The ACT Government announced the availability of over \$1m in transition support when we announced the decision to prohibit racing and trialling, over a year ago.
- Applications for transition support, and support to rehome ex-racing greyhounds, closed on 30 June 2018.

- From August 2017 to June 2018, the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce received approximately 195 'expressions of interest' in transition support.
- Immediately prior to the 30 June deadline for applications, the Taskforce received correspondence from a greyhound industry representative that included a large number of attachments that were identical versions of an unsigned letter, submitted in 186 different names.
- These letters did not in themselves constitute a valid application for a transition support package, due to the lack of necessary detail and authority. Regardless, the Taskforce accepted these letters as valid expressions of interest and offered the people involved an extended period until 16 July to make a final application.
- Woden Community Service, on behalf of the Taskforce, ultimately received formal applications for transition support for five people, one business and 72 re-homed greyhounds.
- The Woden Community Service is now in the process of assessing all applications that were lodged and making recommendations for consideration by the Taskforce.
- Two applications with recommended packages of support have so far been submitted by Woden Community Service to the Taskforce for approval.
- The balance of applications submitted are currently undergoing verification and refinement before packages of support will be recommended by WCS to the Taskforce.
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Canberra Greyhound Racing Club conducting races at Goulburn

- While the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club is no longer able to conduct races in the ACT, it still has capacity to reach agreement with clubs in NSW to continue its racing. Any issues that occur during any of these races are a matter for NSW.

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- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- As these matters are still before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

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- The Government engaged independent consultant Ms Mary Durkin to provide an analysis of options to support the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT. The Government agreed with Ms Durkin's recommendations.
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- Significant penalties now apply for the conduct of racing and trialling: a monetary penalty of up to \$15,000 and maximum 1 year imprisonment.
- Further, the penalties for anyone involved with arranging, conducting or knowingly participating in illegal betting activities are significant and also involve significant financial penalties and/or a period of imprisonment.
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Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

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Durkin Report

To date, 16 of the 18 recommendations in the Durkin Report have been completed. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing, the scope of transition support to be made available and finalising the regulatory framework. Two recommendations, relating to the provision of transition support, will be finalised by 30 September 2018.



ACT

OMITTED INTERNAL MINUTE

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

3.3.18

2.2(a)(ii)

The first condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.

The second condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.

- The third condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The fourth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The fifth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.

The sixth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.

- The seventh condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The eighth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The ninth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The tenth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The eleventh condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The twelfth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The thirteenth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The fourteenth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.
- The fifteenth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.

The sixteenth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.

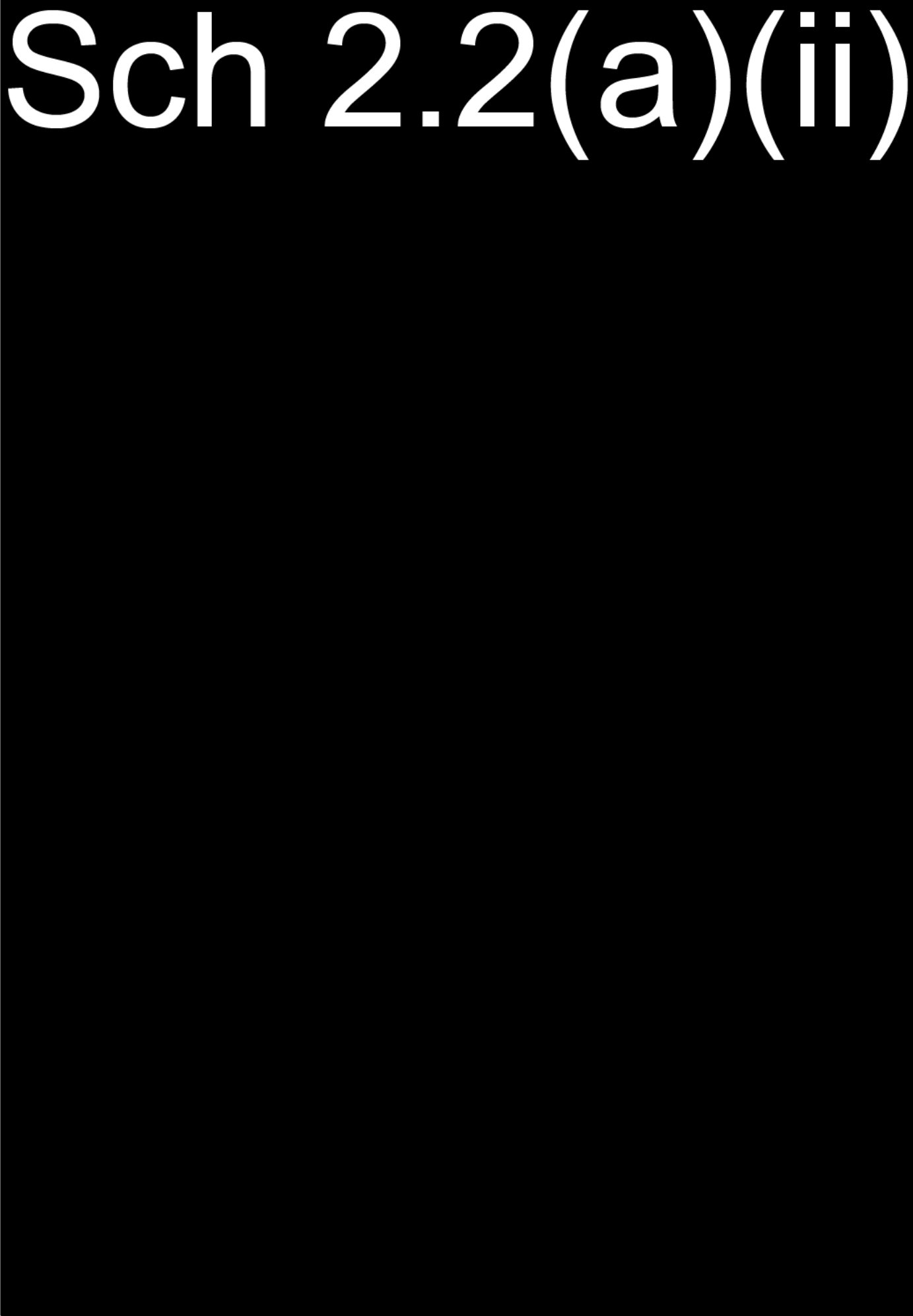
The seventeenth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

The eighteenth condition is that the person must be a resident of the United Kingdom at the time of the death. This is satisfied by the deceased in the present case.

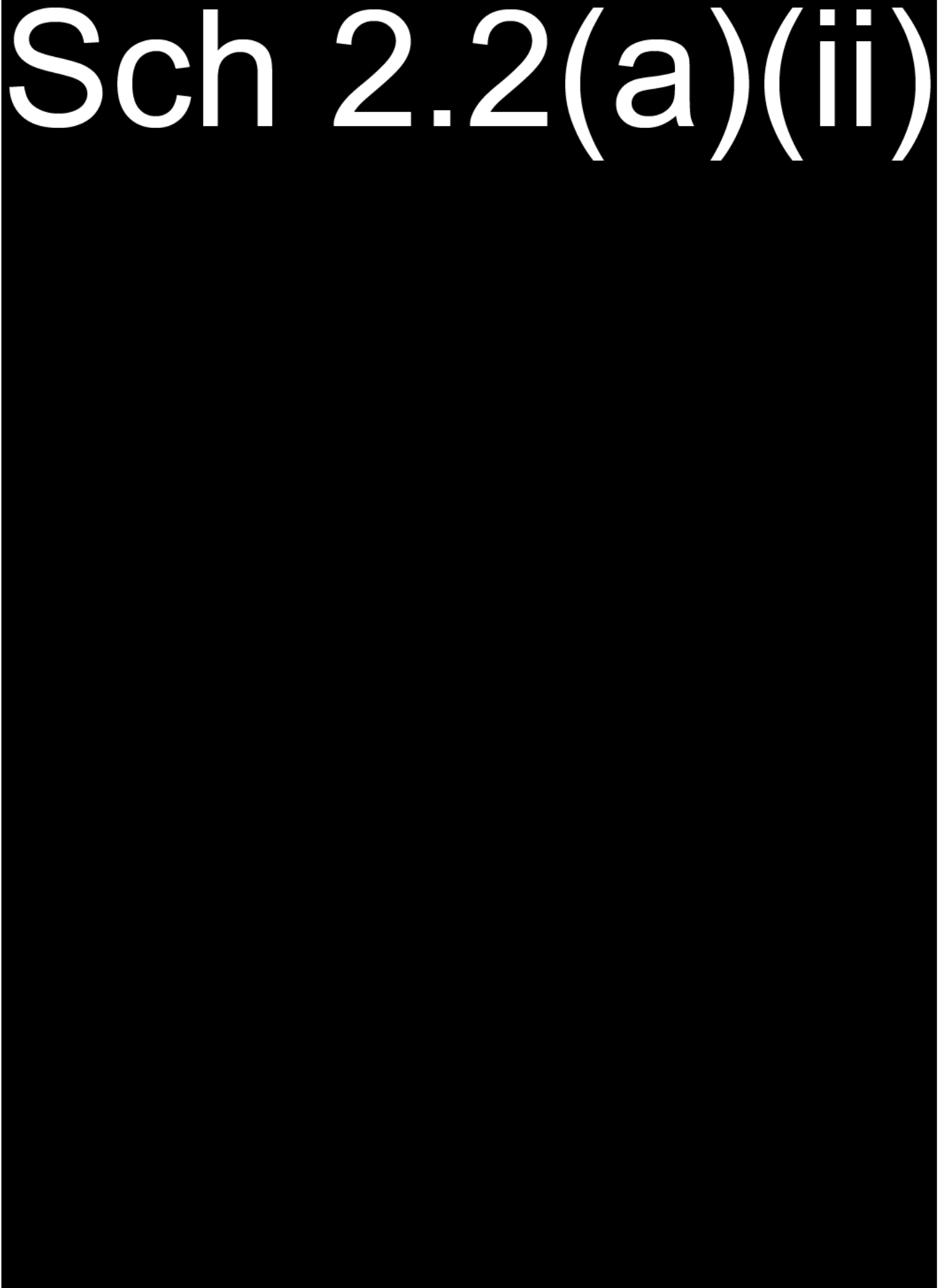
Sch 2.2(a)(ii)



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Sch 2.2(a)(ii)



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Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

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Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2 s2(a)(ii)

From: Barnard, Belinda
Sent: Monday, 13 August 2018 10:58 AM
To: ACDLO
Cc: Gioffre, Tina
Subject: Slightly revised QTB - Greyhound Racing - Min Ramsay [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: Greyhound Racing - Min Ramsay.docx

Dear Kevin

Please find attached a revised QTB on greyhounds for this week's sittings.

Revisions are highlighted.

Please let me know if the MO would like anything further.

All the best
Belinda

Belinda Barnard | Senior Manager
Strategic Policy | Policy & Cabinet Division
Ph: +61 2 6207 7525 | Mob: 0405 539 109
Email: belinda.barnard@act.gov.au
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government
Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

Portfolio/s Chief Minister
Regulatory Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Racing ban and transition support

- On 30 April 2018, the ACT became the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.
- As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT.
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- Transition support has been central to support the process of ending greyhound racing and trialling in the ACT. The ACT Government announced the availability of over \$1m in transition support when we announced the decision to prohibit racing and trialling, over a year ago.
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- From August 2017 to June 2018, the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce received approximately 195 'expressions of interest' in transition support.
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- Woden Community Service is now in the process of assessing all applications that were lodged and making recommendations for consideration by the Taskforce.
- The Taskforce has approved two applications with recommended packages of support submitted by Woden Community Service for people involved in the greyhound industry.
- The balance of applications submitted are currently undergoing verification and refinement before packages of support will be recommended by WCS to the Taskforce.
- The Taskforce has also approved 23 applications for greyhound re-homing support. Arrangements are now in train to disburse transition support funds to the volunteer organisations that applied for these funds.
- The process of verifying the information provided by organisations with respect to the 72 hounds seeking re-homing support was lengthy as it required the sourcing of racing information from another jurisdiction. Neither of the re-homing organisations are legally incorporated, so work is being undertaken to determine the most appropriate and transparent method to disburse these funds being mindful of the need not to impose

complex accountabilities for these volunteer run groups who already work so hard in support of greyhounds.

- Free counselling services continue to be available to anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they have sought or are eligible for a Transition Support Package.
- Counselling can be accessed by contacting Woden Community Service.

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- While the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club is no longer able to conduct races in the ACT, it still has capacity to reach agreement with clubs in NSW to continue its racing. Any issues that occur during any of these races are a matter for NSW.

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- To date, 16 of the 18 recommendations in the Durkin Report have been completed. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing, the scope of transition support to be made available and finalising the regulatory framework. Two recommendations, relating to the provision of transition support, will be finalised by 30 September 2018.

**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate**

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

To:	Minister for Regulatory Services	Tracking No.: Click here to enter text.
Date:	13 August 2018	
CC:	Click here to enter text.	
From:	Director, Government and Regulatory Reform	
Subject:	Greyhound Industry Transition Support	
Critical Date:	As soon as possible	
Critical Reason:	To enable a timely announcement about the transition support being made available to individuals and rehomed greyhounds.	

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief about decisions made by the Chair of the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce with respect to:
a) two applications for individual Transition Support Packages; and
b) 70 applications for ex-racing greyhound rehoming support

Noted / Please Discuss

2. Agree to provide an additional \$10,000 each to the ACT Greyhound Support Network and Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, in recognition of their significant volunteer work to support ex-racing greyhounds in the ACT region.

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please DiscussGordon Ramsay MLA *G Ramsay* 13/8/18

Minister's Office Feedback

- matters referred to in para 28
must be resolved prior to any decision
re announcement.

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

Background

1. Since August 2017, the ACT Government has offered transition support to the people, businesses and dogs exiting the industry as a result of the ban on greyhound racing in the ACT (which came into effect on 30 April 2018).

Eligibility criteria

2. Transition support packages were offered to three categories of applicant. Those that are eligible must have either been:
 - Directly employed in the ACT by the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) (regardless of where they live);
 - Contractors or businesses providing services to the CGRC that were directly related to racing activities and where these activities comprised a significant component of their business income or their business would be significantly affected by the ban; or
 - ACT residents who were registered with Greyhound Racing NSW as owners, breeders or trainers and active as at 23 June 2017.
3. Transition support applicants build an individualised package of support from a range of options. The options available for transition support were advertised as follows:
 - Training and re-skilling opportunities (e.g. subsidised places in training programs)
 - Short term financial support – employees or those significantly dependent on greyhound racing for income (and can't access a redundancy payment)
 - Business skills support (e.g. subsidised assistance in business planning)
 - Specialist career advice, guidance and planning about future options
 - Financial counselling and planning services
 - No-interest loans to meet immediate individual needs
 - Micro-credit loans to re-direct existing small businesses, or support new small business ventures; and
 - Counselling to provide emotional support for anybody involved in the industry transition.
4. An additional element of the transition support made available was support to assist in the re-homing of ex-racing greyhounds, to ensure that hounds that were retired due to the ban on racing would be in the best position to be successfully re-homed.
5. To be eligible for re-homing support, an ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident, and have been surrendered on or after 23 June 2017.
6. The amount of support available for each ex-racing greyhound was capped at \$2,000 per hound (unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the needs of a particular hound).
7. Greyhounds outside the eligibility criteria, or with re-homing related needs exceeding the \$2000 cap were able to apply for further support in exceptional circumstances.

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

8. The distribution of additional information about exceptional circumstances (at Attachment A) was agreed by your Office on 1 June 2018. 'Exceptional circumstances' include a greyhound who was previously owned by a non-ACT resident if at least 60% of that greyhound's racing activity was carried out at the CGRC; or an ex-racing greyhound with who has significant injuries, behavioural issues, dental problems or other veterinary needs that could be addressed to increase the chance of successful re-homing.

Transition Support Package applications

9. Woden Community Service (WCS) was contracted by the Taskforce in November 2017 to provide case management and support to those affected by the end of greyhound racing.
10. Of the approximately 195 number of expressions of interest submitted, WCS has to date sent two complete Transition Support Package applications to the Taskforce for consideration – one from an individual and one from a business. The applications were developed in conjunction with the WCS case manager, and included his recommendations for support.

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

13. The Chair of the Taskforce approved both applications on 8 August 2018.
14. In order to access their approved transition support package, each applicant will be required to sign an agreement with the Territory that they are exiting the greyhound racing industry. The ACT Government Solicitor's Office is assisting with the drafting of agreements for these individuals.

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Applications for greyhound re-homing support

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

Tracking No.: [Click here to enter text.](#)

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

Additional support for re-homing organisations

24. You have indicated that you would like to provide additional financial support for the two greyhound-specific re-homing organisations, in recognition of the significant volunteer work they do to re-home retired racing greyhounds in the ACT region that do not strictly meet the eligibility criteria for transition support.
25. You have proposed an additional \$10,000 to both the ACTGSN and CRGC to support their ongoing animal welfare work in re-homing former racing greyhounds, and in recognition of the contribution they will continue to make post the end of formal transition support on 30 September 2018.
26. These funds would be paid using the same payment process as identified in paragraph 23 above.

Financial Implications

27. Funds for re-homing support will be drawn from the \$1.033 million made available in the 2017-18 Budget to support greyhound industry transition.

Consultation

28. The Taskforce will notify WCS of the successful applications on 13 August 2018.

Work Health and Safety

29. Nil response.

Benefits/Sensitivities

30. The provision of additional funding the ACTGSN and CRGC may prompt questions about whether the government considered additional payments outside the published criteria for industry applicants and may also prompt other animal welfare organisations who have re-homed greyhounds to ask whether they should also be provided with additional support, outside the published criteria.
31. The CGRC continues to challenge the government's decision to end greyhound racing and criticise the industry transition support effort. Industry participants have stated that they do not think the government is genuine in seeking to provide transition support, and that the support offered is not genuine.
32. ACTGSN has made a number of representations to you and to the Member for Murrumbidgee, Caroline Le Couteur MLA, about the desirability of extending rehoming support to need to capture more greyhounds who have raced in the region.
33. CRGC is the re-homing organisation that is affiliated with the CGRC. This group will obtain significantly more funds from transition support than ACTGSN due to the fact that most ACT based hounds were re-homed through the club affiliated organisation.

Communications, media and engagement implications

34. Greyhound industry transition and the support that Government provides is likely to continue to attract media attention.

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

Signatory Name: Adam Stankevicius

Phone: x50468

Action Officer: Belinda Barnard

Phone: x77525

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Exceptional circumstances information

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

Tracking No.: Click here to enter text.

Eligibility for re-homing support for ex-racing greyhounds

The ACT Government is providing assistance to re-home greyhounds as a component of the transition support available following the end of greyhound racing in the Territory.

This support is designed to ensure that ex-racing greyhounds in the ACT who were retired due to the ban on racing are in the best position to be successfully re-homed.

Financial support is available to help with the costs of re-homing of ex-racing greyhounds who were owned by ACT residents; and surrendered on or after the government's announcement on 23 June 2017.

Evidence to establish a greyhound's eligibility for support and to substantiate specific needs will need to be provided as part of the application process.

The amount of support available for each ex-racing greyhound is assessed according to need, and is capped at \$2000 per hound (unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the needs of a particular hound).

Applications for re-homing support may be made until 30 June 2018 and approved funds may be expended until 30 September 2018.

Hayden Page at Woden Community Service is available to assist in completing applications or compiling evidence, and can be contacted on 6282 3037 or by emailing hayden.page@wcs.org.au.

Exceptional circumstances

The Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce also has the capacity to grant support for the re-homing of greyhounds outside the above parameters under exceptional circumstances.

Exceptional circumstances may include:

- An ex-racing greyhound who was previously owned by a non-ACT resident if a significant proportion (at least 60%) of that greyhound's racing activity was carried out at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club.

Evidence in support could include race books, microchip number, ear brand, racing name, and name of previous trainer/s.

- An ex-racing greyhound who has significant injuries, behavioural issues, dental problems or other veterinary needs (at a cost exceeding the \$2000 cap on support available), that could be addressed to increase the greyhound's chances of successful re-homing.

Evidence in support could include reports or treatment records from a veterinary surgeon, or receipts for services delivered by a veterinary surgeon or behavioural specialist.

**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic
Development Directorate**

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

To:	Minister for Regulatory Services	Tracking No.: CMTEDD2018/4272
Date:	20 August 2018	
From:	Director, Government and Regulatory Reform	
Subject:	Greyhound Industry Transition Support	
Critical Date:	20 August 2018	
Critical Reason:	To enable a timely announcement about the transition support being made available to individuals and rehomed greyhounds.	

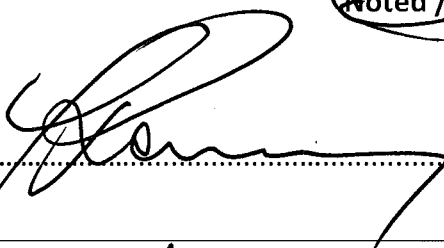
Recommendations

That you:

1. Agree to provide an additional \$10,000 each to the ACT Greyhound Support Network and Canberra Region Greyhound Connections, in recognition of their significant volunteer work to support ex-racing greyhounds in the ACT region.

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

2. Note that Woden Community Service will auspice the re-homing funds and the additional \$10,000 in support for both greyhound re-homing organisations.

Noted / Please DiscussGordon Ramsay MLA  20/8/18

Minister's Office Feedback

*Please raise with my office
re Anacts / Annals*

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

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 - ACT residents who were registered with Greyhound Racing NSW as owners, breeders or trainers and active as at 23 June 2017.
3. Transition support applicants build an individualised package of support from a range of options. The options available for transition support were advertised as follows:
 - Training and re-skilling opportunities (e.g. subsidised places in training programs)
 - Short term financial support – employees or those significantly dependent on greyhound racing for income (and can't access a redundancy payment)
 - Business skills support (e.g. subsidised assistance in business planning)
 - Specialist career advice, guidance and planning about future options
 - Financial counselling and planning services
 - No-interest loans to meet immediate individual needs
 - Micro-credit loans to re-direct existing small businesses, or support new small business ventures; and
 - Counselling to provide emotional support for anybody involved in the industry transition.
4. An additional element of the transition support made available was support to assist in the re-homing of ex-racing greyhounds, to ensure that hounds that were retired due to the ban on racing would be in the best position to be successfully re-homed.
5. To be eligible for re-homing support, an ex-racing greyhound must have been owned by an ACT resident, and have been surrendered on or after 23 June 2017.
6. The amount of support available for each ex-racing greyhound was capped at \$2,000 per hound (unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the needs of a particular hound).
7. Greyhounds outside the eligibility criteria, or with re-homing related needs exceeding the \$2000 cap were able to apply for further support in exceptional circumstances.

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

8. The distribution of additional information about exceptional circumstances (at Attachment A) was agreed by your Office on 1 June 2018. 'Exceptional circumstances' include a greyhound who was previously owned by a non-ACT resident if at least 60% of that greyhound's racing activity was carried out at the CGRC; or an ex-racing greyhound with who has significant injuries, behavioural issues, dental problems or other veterinary needs that could be addressed to increase the chance of successful re-homing.

Transition Support Package applications

9. In a brief on 13 August 2018, you noted the support provided to individuals through transition support packages.

Applications for greyhound re-homing support

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Additional support for re-homing organisations

19. You have indicated that you would like to provide additional financial support for the two greyhound-specific re-homing organisations, in recognition of the significant volunteer work they do to re-home retired racing greyhounds in the ACT region that do not strictly meet the eligibility criteria for transition support.
20. You have proposed an additional \$10,000 to both the ACTGSN and CRGC to support their ongoing animal welfare work in re-homing former racing greyhounds, and in recognition of the contribution they will continue to make post the end of formal transition support on 30 September 2018.
21. These funds will be disbursed and acquitted under the same auspicing arrangement enabled by the deed of grant to WCS that is identified in paragraph 18 above.

Financial Implications

22. Funds for re-homing support will be drawn from the \$1.033 million made available in the 2017-18 Budget to support greyhound industry transition.

Consultation

23. The Taskforce notified WCS of the successful transition support applications on 13 August 2018.
24. The GSO has been engaged to prepare agreements between individuals and the Territory to underpin transition support packages, and to prepare a deed of grant for rehoming assistance.

Work Health and Safety

25. Nil response.

Benefits/Sensitivities

26. The provision of additional funding the ACTGSN and CRGC may prompt questions about whether the government considered additional payments outside the published criteria for industry applicants and may also prompt other animal welfare organisations who have re-homed greyhounds to ask whether they should also be provided with additional support, outside the published criteria.
27. ACTGSN has made a number of representations to you and to the Member for Murrumbidgee, Caroline Le Couteur MLA, about the desirability of extending rehoming support to need to capture more greyhounds who have raced in the region.

28. Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

Communications, media and engagement implications

29. Greyhound industry transition and the support that Government provides is likely to continue to attract media attention.

Signatory Name: Adam Stankevicius

Phone: x50468

Action Officer: Belinda Barnard

Phone: x77525

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Exceptional circumstances information

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL

Portfolio/s Chief Minister
Regulatory Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Transition support

- For over 12 months, the Government has been encouraging people affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory to consider the assistance offered through transition support packages
- We are rapidly approaching the end of the period for obtaining transitional support. Any transition support packages approved by the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce must be rolled out by 30 September 2018.
- Woden Community Service is continuing work with affected individuals who are considering the transition support options available to them.
- Free counselling services continue to be available to anyone affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT, whether or not they have sought or are eligible for a Transition Support Package.
- Counselling can be accessed by contacting Woden Community Service.
- This Government's priority is the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing, and also the people who have been affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce, and why the Taskforce has engaged Woden Community Service which is so experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.
- Transition support has been central to facilitate the process of ending greyhound racing and trialling in the ACT. The ACT Government announced the availability of over \$1 million in transition support when we announced the decision to prohibit racing and trialling, over a year ago.

- Applications for transition support, and support to re-home ex-racing greyhounds, closed on 30 June 2018.
- From August 2017 to June 2018, the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce received approximately 195 'expressions of interest' in transition support.
- Immediately prior to the 30 June deadline for applications, the Taskforce received correspondence from a greyhound industry representative that included a large number of attachments that were identical versions of an unsigned letter, submitted in 186 different names.
- These letters did not in themselves constitute a valid application for a transition support package, due to the lack of necessary detail and authority. Regardless, the Taskforce accepted these letters as valid expressions of interest and offered the people involved an extended period until 16 July to make a final application.
- Woden Community Service, on behalf of the Taskforce, ultimately received formal applications for transition support for five people, one business and 72 re-homed greyhounds.
- The Taskforce has approved two applications with recommended packages of support submitted by Woden Community Service for people involved in the greyhound industry.

Re-homing support

- The Taskforce has also approved 23 applications for greyhound re-homing support to a value of \$24,400. Arrangements are now in place to disburse re-homing support funds to the volunteer organisations that made these applications.
- The Government also decided to provide an additional one-off grant of \$10,000 each to both ACT Greyhound Support Network and Canberra Region Greyhound Connections in recognition of the significant ongoing voluntary work they do to re-home former racing greyhounds in the ACT region.

Racing ban

- On 30 April 2018, the ACT became the first jurisdiction in Australia to prohibit the racing and trialling of greyhounds.

- As the Durkin Report showed, it's impossible to divorce the NSW industry from racing in the ACT.
- The NSW greyhound racing industry has demonstrated systemic failures in its animal welfare. The ACT cannot allow a sport to continue where people who repeatedly breach animal welfare laws are allowed to cross the border and race here in the ACT.
- Owning, breeding, and training greyhounds remains permissible in the ACT in accordance with the provisions of the Animal Welfare (Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds in the ACT) Mandatory Code of Practice 2018.

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club conducting races at Goulburn

- While the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club is no longer able to conduct races in the ACT, it still has capacity to reach agreement with clubs in NSW to continue its racing. Any issues that occur during any of these races are a matter for NSW.

Legal proceedings

- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- As these matters are still before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

Key Information

- Those exiting the industry previously had until 30 June 2018 to apply for transition support, however the Government has extended the roll-out of the available funding for an extra three months to 30 September 2018.
- The Government engaged independent consultant Ms Mary Durkin to provide an analysis of options to support the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT. The Government agreed with Ms Durkin's recommendations.
- According to the Durkin Report, 94 per cent of the greyhounds that raced in the ACT in 2016 were based in NSW.
- Significant penalties now apply for the conduct of racing and trialling: a monetary penalty of up to \$15,000 and maximum 1 year imprisonment.

- Further, the penalties for anyone involved with arranging, conducting or knowingly participating in illegal betting activities are significant and also involve significant financial penalties and/or a period of imprisonment.
- The new fees include a 12 month registration fee for a racing greyhound set at \$612; and an annual application fee for a greyhound racing controller licence at \$640.
- Racing greyhound owners no longer need to obtain a specific permit to keep their dogs sexually entire, as this is provided for as part of the annually renewable racing greyhound registration.
- Some additional fees may apply, consistent with the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act that apply to all dogs, for example a licence is required to breed a litter from any dog (\$397.80 for two years).
- Access Canberra and the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate established a joint agency initiative to provide appropriate inspection activity and ensure that any response to unlawful conduct is timely and dealt with by the appropriate agency.

Background Information – may not be suitable for public disclosure

- Parliamentary Agreement Commitment 13.1 is to end Government funding for greyhound racing at the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding and take active steps to transition to end the operation of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The Government ceased funding the greyhound industry on 30 June 2017 as part of the 2016-17 Budget Review. The funding was redirected to the industry transition program.
- The ban on racing has seen significant media interest and this is likely to continue. Inspection activity may also attract media attention. The intensive inspection activity involving daily visits for the first two weeks of the ban did not attract media attention.
- To date, 16 of the 18 recommendations in the Durkin Report have been completed. They largely relate to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing, the scope of transition support to be made available and finalising the regulatory framework. Two recommendations, relating to the provision of transition support, will be finalised by 30 September 2018.



Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

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agreement, the time available in which to roll these funds out was extended 30 September 2018.

Risks/ Sensitivities

16. The CGRC continues to challenge the government's decision to end greyhound racing and criticise the industry transition support effort. Industry participants have stated that they do not think the government is genuine in seeking to provide transition support, and that the support offered is not genuine.

Media

17. Greyhound industry transition is likely to continue to attract media attention. Any correspondence from the Taskforce to individuals has a high risk of becoming public.

Belinda Barnard

Phone: 6207 7525/0405 539 109

Portfolio/s Chief Minister
Regulatory Services

ISSUE: GREYHOUND RACING

Talking points:

Transition support

- For over 12 months, the Government encouraged people affected by the end of greyhound racing in the Territory to consider the assistance offered through transition support packages.
- The period for transition support ended on 30 September 2018.

- **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)**

- In order to protect the confidentiality of applicants for transition support, it is not appropriate for me to give any further details about these packages or the recipients.

- **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)**

- In addition, the Government decided to provide an additional one-off grant of \$10,000 each to both ACT Greyhound Support Network and Canberra Region Greyhound Connections in recognition of the significant ongoing voluntary work they do to re-home former racing greyhounds in the ACT region.
- Woden Community Service is disbursing payments to all approved recipients.

History of transition support

- This Government's priority has been the welfare of greyhounds, which are put at unacceptable risk through racing, and also the people who were affected by the end of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- That's why the Government established the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce, and why the Taskforce engaged Woden

Community Service, whose staff are experienced in providing support to members of our community at a difficult times in their lives.

- Transition support was central to facilitate the process of ending greyhound racing and trialling in the ACT. The ACT Government announced the availability of over \$1 million in transition support when we announced the decision to prohibit racing and trialling, well over a year ago.
- Applications for transition support, and support to re-home ex-racing greyhounds, closed on 30 June 2018.
- From August 2017 to June 2018, the Greyhound Industry Transition Taskforce received approximately 195 'expressions of interest' in transition support.
- Immediately prior to the 30 June deadline for applications, the Taskforce received correspondence from a greyhound industry representative that included a large number of attachments that were identical versions of an unsigned letter, submitted in 186 different names.
- These letters did not in themselves constitute a valid application for a transition support package, due to the lack of necessary detail and authority. Regardless, the Taskforce accepted these letters as valid expressions of interest and offered the people involved an extended period until 16 July to make a final application.
- Woden Community Service, on behalf of the Taskforce, ultimately received formal applications for transition support for five people, one business and 72 re-homed greyhounds.

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- Owning, breeding, and training greyhounds remains permissible in the ACT in accordance with the provisions of the Animal Welfare (Keeping and Breeding of Racing Greyhounds in the ACT) Mandatory Code of Practice 2018.

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Legal proceedings

- The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has proceedings before the Supreme Court and the Federal Court to challenge various matters to do with the end of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- As these matters are still before the Court, it is inappropriate to make any further comment.

Key Information

- Those exiting the industry previously had until 30 June 2018 to apply for transition support, and until 30 September 2018 to finalise packages.
- The Taskforce approved four applications with recommended packages of support submitted by Woden Community Service for people involved in the greyhound industry. Two people decided not to continue with their applications after they were approved by the Taskforce.
- The Government engaged independent consultant Ms Mary Durkin to provide an analysis of options to support the transition to end the greyhound racing industry in the ACT. The Government agreed with Ms Durkin's recommendations.
- According to the Durkin Report, 94 per cent of the greyhounds that raced in the ACT in 2016 were based in NSW.
- Significant penalties now apply for the conduct of racing and trialling: a monetary penalty of up to \$15,000 and maximum 1 year imprisonment.
- Further, the penalties for anyone involved with arranging, conducting or knowingly participating in illegal betting activities are significant and also involve significant financial penalties and/or a period of imprisonment.
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Background Information

- Parliamentary Agreement Commitment 13.1 is to end Government funding for greyhound racing at the expiry of the current Memorandum of Understanding and take active steps to transition to end the operation of greyhound racing in the ACT.
- The Government ceased funding the greyhound industry on 30 June 2017 as part of the 2016-17 Budget Review. The funding was redirected to the industry transition program.
- The ending of the period of for transition support will see the completion of all 18 recommendations in the Durkin Report. Ms Durkin's recommendations largely related to the introduction of legislation to end greyhound racing, the scope of transition support to be made available and finalising the regulatory framework.