

Hurrell, Erica

From: GENTLEMAN
Sent: Thursday, 7 July 2016 1:58 PM
To: Cross, Narelle
Subject: FW: NSW TO END GREYHOUND RACING IN THE STATE

I apologise for the lot of these that are about to come your way

Eben Leifer | Office Manager
Office of Mick Gentleman MLA | Member for Brindabella
Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Racing and Gaming
Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
Manager for Government Business
t: 620 50218 | e: eben.leifer@act.gov.au

From: FITZHARRIS
Sent: Thursday, 7 July 2016 1:35 PM
To: GENTLEMAN
Subject: FW: NSW TO END GREYHOUND RACING IN THE STATE

Hi,

One for your office.

Cheers,

Charlotte Barclay | Office Manager and Adviser
Office of Meegan Fitzharris MLA
Member for Molonglo and Gungahlin
Minister for Higher Education, Training and Research
Minister for Transport, and City Services
Assistant Minister for Health
P: (02) 6205 0051 | E: charlotte.barclay@act.gov.au



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 7 July 2016 12:36 PM
To: BERRY; FITZHARRIS; RATTENBURY
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: NSW TO END GREYHOUND RACING IN THE STATE

Dear Yvette, Meegan and Shane,

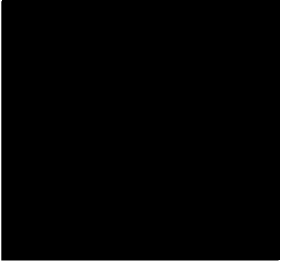
The NSW Government has just announced it will end greyhound racing in the state from July 1, 2017, following an inquiry which found evidence of systemic animal cruelty
<http://ab.co/29vBYtw>

With NSW currently regulating greyhound racing in the ACT, who will regulate it when the NSW industry is closed down?

With an ACT election coming up, expect some very heavy lobbying from those of us who see this as the perfect opportunity to close it in the ACT also, and stop government funds (taxpayers money) flowing into the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club.

These views are mine.

Kind regards





COMPLETED m@iled

1 AUG 2016

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Racing and Gaming
Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email in support of ending Greyhound racing in the ACT. I have received numerous emails and letters of support since the announcement and it is great to know that so many in the community are behind this change.

On 7 July 2016, the Government announced that following the findings from the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound industry, it is untenable to continue allowing, and financially supporting the practice of greyhound racing in the ACT.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

During the next 12 months there may be dogs which need rehoming after they retire from racing. If you would like to consider adopting a Greyhound please contact the RSPCA at <https://www.rspca.org.au/adopt-pet>.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Yours sincerely



*THANKS [REDACTED] FOR YOUR SUPPORT
IT IS WELCOMED.*


Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Racing and Gaming

28/7/16

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Phone (02) 6205 0218 Email gentleman@act.gov.au

 @GENTLEMANMick  MickGentleman





ANDREW BARR MLA
CHIEF MINISTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Treasurer
 Minister for Economic Development
 Minister for Urban Renewal
 Minister for Tourism and Events

MAILED
 5/9/16

Member for Molonglo



Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 18 July 2016 in support of ending greyhound racing in the Australian Capital Territory. I also commend the work of the [REDACTED] across Australia to bring the plight of racing greyhounds to the public's attention.

The numerous emails and letters of support I have received since my response to the release of the findings from the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry, demonstrates that the Canberra community takes animal welfare matters seriously.

As you may be aware, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has a reciprocal arrangement with Greyhound Racing NSW to license all ACT trainers and to investigate matters relevant to ACT racing, therefore the shutdown of the NSW greyhound industry would effectively end the greyhound industry in Canberra.

As required by law, we are currently formally considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT Racing Industry.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
 Phone + 61 2 6205 0011 Fax + 61 2 6205 0157 Email barr@act.gov.au



@ABarrMLA

Andrew.Barr.MLA

andrewbarr

The safety and welfare of all animals and those that are part of the racing industry is a priority for the ACT Government. In this respect, the ACT Government has made recent changes to the *Animal Welfare Act 1992* and *Domestic Animal Act 2000* to regulate breeding and introduce a duty of all owners and carers to care for all animals. These changes demonstrate my government's commitment to improving animal welfare outcomes.

The ACT Government will continue to work on ways to improve the welfare of all dogs, particularly greyhounds. This may be through further changes to the *Domestic Animals Act 2000* around the requirement for muzzling and a review of the *Code of Practice for the Welfare of Greyhounds in the ACT* to enhance re-homing opportunities for greyhounds that are retired from the racing industry.

I am advised representatives from the ACT Government have already attended a meeting of animal welfare groups hosted by the [REDACTED] where possible strategies to support re-homing of retired racing greyhounds in the ACT was discussed.


Thank you for your support in this important matter.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister



02 SEP 2016



18 July 2016


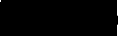
Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 260

Dear Chief Minister

 and all  congratulate you on your decisive response to the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in New South Wales and announcement by the NSW Premier and Deputy Premier to end greyhound racing in NSW in 2017.


The evidence presented is compelling. It depicts an industry where illegal live baiting remains entrenched and dogs are 'dispensable commercial commodities', with up to 68,448 healthy greyhounds being killed over the last 12 years simply because they were not fast enough. It reports that 21 percent of dogs competing in a meeting are likely to suffer an injury and rearing and socialisation practices are inadequate to prepare most greyhounds to be pets post-racing.

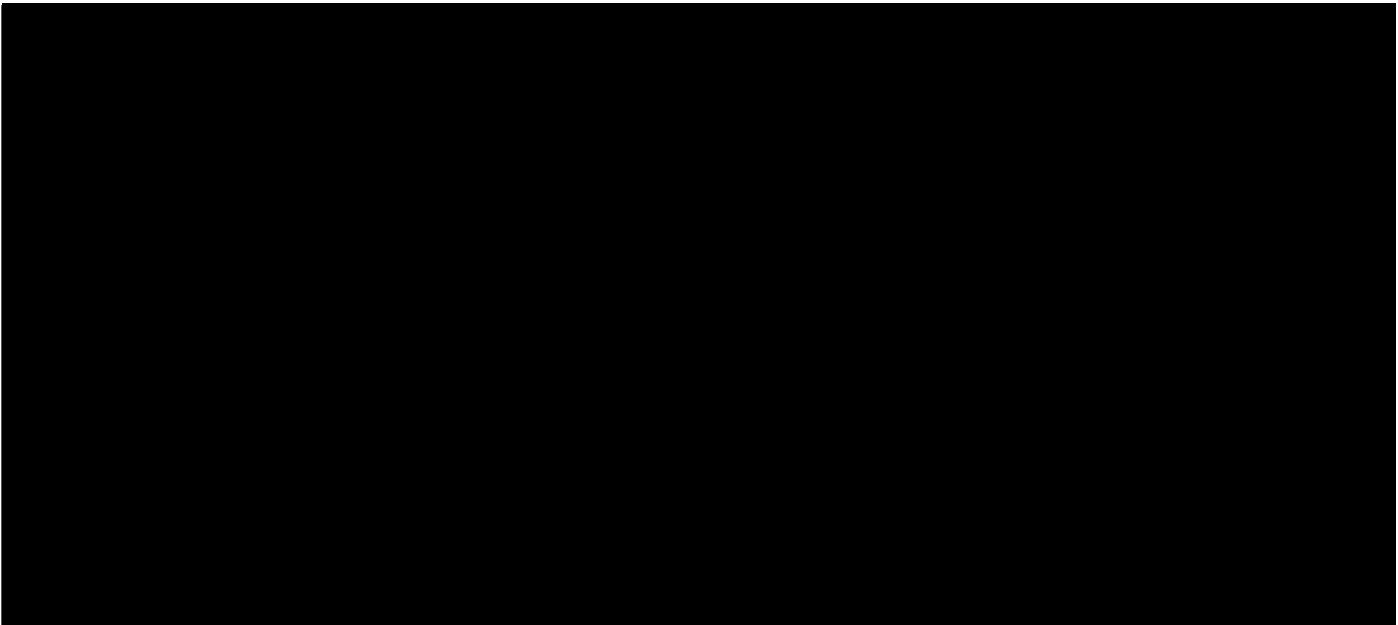
That thousands of greyhounds have been exported to countries where their treatment is known to be inhumane is indicative of the prevailing culture within the industry.

 has long expressed concern about animal welfare problems in the industry and has been frustrated by challenges in enforcing legislation around complaints of live baiting. Our own policy says that if the problems in the greyhound industry are not effectively resolved,  does not support greyhound racing.

As the most comprehensive report of its kind globally, the Special Commission of Inquiry makes it clear that even with regulatory and behavioural reform, the significant animal welfare problems inherent in the NSW greyhound racing industry cannot be adequately addressed.

As the report detailed, the social licence of the greyhound industry has been in decline for several decades. This is consistent with our own market research which revealed that the welfare of greyhounds in the racing industry is of concern to three out of every four Australians.

As Australia's leaders in animal welfare, we wholeheartedly support your decision to end greyhound racing in the ACT and will help  as needed as they assist the Government with the transition processes over the next 12 months. The unprecedented response on social media and overwhelming positive feedback we have received from supporters clearly shows that caring Australians applaud the priority you are giving to greyhound welfare.



16/1804

7



9-7-16

Dear Chief Minister,

I write to thank you sincerely for your support for Premier Baird's strong leadership in ending the cruel greyhound industry.

I urge you to please stand firm against resistance from this rotting, dying industry. Please never forget this industry includes people who rip the teeth and claws from kittens and possums with pliers. This type of cruelty is intrinsic to the greyhound industry.

Your decision gives many good people around Australia hope.

yours sincerely
[Redacted Signature]

Thank
you!

12/07/2016

Dear Mr Barn (Chief Minister)

From the bottom of my heart,

Thank you for your compassion to
and courage stand against the
cruelty in the greyhound industry.

Please know that you have our

wholehearted community support in the
ACT, and please, please, don't
back down in the face of opposition
from those who profit from misery.

Wishing you and your government
all the very best,

Dear Mr Bar

I wanted to say a big
THANK YOU for announcing

that you don't support

greyhound racing for the

ACI.

Thank you for putting the

welfare of these animals

first.

Regards

[Redacted]



COMPLETED POSTED
Bmb1179k

ANDREW BARR MLA
CHIEF MINISTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Treasurer
Minister for Economic Development
Minister for Urban Renewal
Minister for Tourism and Events

Member for Molonglo

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter supporting my announcement on 7 July 2016 that it is untenable for the ACT Government to continue allowing, and financially supporting the practice of greyhound racing following the findings from the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

During the next 12 months there may be dogs which need re-homing after they retire from racing. If you would like to consider adopting a Greyhound, please contact the RSPCA at <https://www.rspca.org.au/adopt-pet>.

Thank you again for your support and letter of encouragement. It is always refreshing to receive support from the public about the directions that my Government is undertaking.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

28 JUL 2016

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
Phone + 61 2 6205 0011 Fax + 61 2 6205 0157

GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
Email barr@act.gov.au



@ABarrMLA

Andrew.Barr.MLA

andrewbarr

Hurrell, Erica

From: Bron, Benjamin on behalf of BARR
Sent: Friday, 8 July 2016 4:50 PM
To: CMTEDD MLO
Subject: FW: thankyou for banning greyhound racing

Hi,

For response please.

Thanks.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 7 July 2016 8:43 PM
To: BARR
Subject: thankyou for banning greyhound racing

Thankyou Chief Minister for your plans to ban greyhound racing.

My concern is that if the breeders and trainers are not put under a microscope some of them will act irresponsibly and cruelly and dispose of their "cash cows" without outside scrutiny.

What is your plan to deal with the huge amount of unwanted greyhounds that will be dumped now and into the future. To avoid the inevitable dumping and cruel and inhumane deaths of dogs by the heartless 20% consider a multi layered plan that will target most breeders and trainers.

Thank you for your consideration



COMPLETED

ANDREW BARR MLA
CHIEF MINISTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Treasurer
 Minister for Economic Development
 Minister for Urban Renewal
 Minister for Tourism and Events

RECEIVED
 28/16

Member for Molonglo

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your email in support of ending greyhound racing in the ACT. The Government has received numerous emails and letters of support since the announcement and it is great to know that so many in the community are behind this change.

On 7 July 2016, the Government announced that following the findings from the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry, it is untenable for the ACT Government to continue allowing, and financially supporting the practice of greyhound racing in the ACT.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

I note your concerns about the greyhounds and during the next 12 months the Government understands that there may be dogs which need re-homing after they retire from racing. If you would like to consider adopting a Greyhound, please contact the RSPCA at <https://www.rspca.org.au/adopt-pet>.

Thank you again for your support and your interest in this important matter.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Barr MLA
 Chief Minister

28 JUL 2016

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
 Phone + 61 2 6205 0011 Fax + 61 2 6205 0157

GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
 Email barr@act.gov.au



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Andrew.Barr.MLA

andrewbarr

13

From: NationBuilder <notifications@nationbuilder.com>

Date: 11 July 2016 1:32:10 am GMT+2

To: Gai Brodtmann Mp <Gai.Brodtmann.MP@aph.gov.au>

Subject: [REDACTED] left feedback on Contact



NationBuilder

[REDACTED] left feedback on Contact

"Dear Ms Brodtmann, I am a 63 yr old life long Labor supporter. I campaigned for 8 weeks in Eden-Monaro despite a severe disability. I was planning to campaign for Labor in the ACT election. I have never met a greyhound or a trainer but I am deeply disturbed by the decision to deprive people of their livelihoods without warning and without proof of wrong-doing by the majority of this industry. There is no social justice in this decision and I am very heartened that NSW Labor can see this, sincerely [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

You received this notification because you are following contact.
You can adjust your email notifications in your NationBuilder control panel

Created with NationBuilder

COMPLETED

POSTED



ANDREW BARR MLA
 CHIEF MINISTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Treasurer
 Minister for Economic Development
 Minister for Urban Renewal
 Minister for Tourism and Events

Member for Molonglo

Ms Gai Brödtmann MP
 PO Box 6022
 Parliament House
 CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Brodtmann

Gai

Thank you for the email I received from your office on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED] who does not support the ending of greyhound racing in the ACT.

It should be noted that I have received numerous emails and letters of support to end greyhound racing in the ACT.

On 7 July 2016, the Government announced that following the findings from the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry, it is untenable for the ACT Government to continue allowing, and financially supporting the practice of greyhound racing in the ACT.

The ACT Government appreciates that the local greyhound racing industry provides economic and social contributions to the ACT through employment, community events and charity sponsorship. Furthermore, the ACT Government and I care deeply about ensuring the safety and welfare of all animals, including those that are part of our racing industry. All elements will be properly considered in determining the future of the local greyhound industry.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform. This work will guide decisions about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
 Phone + 61 2 6205 0011 Fax + 61 2 6205 0157 Email barr@act.gov.au



@ABarrMLA



Andrew.Barr.MLA



andrewbarr

POSTED

During the next 12 months, there may be dogs that need re-homing after they retire from racing. We are urging those who would like to consider adopting a Greyhound, to contact the RSPCA at <https://www.rspca.org.au/adopt-pet>. This may also be of interest to your constituent.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

- 3 AUG 2016



Hurrell, Erica

From: Minister's Office - ACT Government [minister@act.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 July 2016 1:09 PM
To: Cross, Narelle
Subject: Ministerial correspondence assigned to you

Correspondence Assigned Notification

Assigned By Eben Leifer at 13/07/2016 01.08 PM

Do not reply to this email - Please login to the CRM to view/respond

Subject

grey hound racing

Question Reference # 160708-002048

Minister Mick Gentleman

Date Created: 08/07/2016 05.25 PM

Date Last Updated: 13/07/2016 01.08 PM

Status: In Progress

Note By (Eben Leifer) (13/07/2016 01.08 PM)

Hey Narelle can i get a DLO response to this

Auto Note By (Administrator) (11/07/2016 02.20 PM)

Minister Reassignment: The office of Minister Andrew Barr has deemed this incident to be part of the portfolio of Mick Gentleman and has re-assigned this incident accordingly.

Auto Note By (Administrator) (08/07/2016 05.25 PM)

The Minister that the customer selected at time of incident submission was Andrew Barr.

Customer By CSS Web [REDACTED] (08/07/2016 05.25 PM)

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Correspondence: If you ban grey hound racing in the ACT because of drugs and corruption and death of dog that are not suitable for racing, then we need to apply the same to horse racing, pideon racing etc, leave us alone you are only one term wounders, stop making laws that reduce our freedom, and the freedom future generations, dont make laws because a few abuse amnials think of the people that love the sport of racing who love there grey hounds. stop making knee recations, you and your labour so called government are second rate. By the way I have no intrest in Grey hound racing



CONFIDENTIAL

E-MAILED

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Racing and Gaming
Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

[REDACTED]
via Contact My Minister

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email on 8 July 2016 about the greyhound racing industry in Canberra. I am responding on behalf of the ACT Government because this matter falls within my portfolio responsibilities. I note you request that the ACT Government should not support a ban on greyhound racing in the Territory nor other forms of animal racing.

The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has a reciprocal arrangement with Greyhound Racing NSW to licence all ACT trainers and to investigate matters relevant to ACT racing. Therefore the shutdown of the NSW greyhound industry will have a profound effect on the greyhound industry in Canberra.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking shortly into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT Racing Industry. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Yours sincerely


Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Racing and Gaming

9/8/16

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Phone (02) 6205 0218 Email gentleman@act.gov.au



 @GENTLEMANMick  MickGentleman

Thank you,
[REDACTED]

From: GENTLEMAN [mailto:GENTLEMAN@act.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 April, 2016 10:47 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Greyhound racing in ACT

Dear Nick

Please find attached correspondence from Minister Mick Gentleman MLA – Minister for Gaming and Racing.

Kind regards,

Abigail Gallagher | Office Manager
Office of Mick Gentleman MLA | Member for Brindabella
Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Racing and Gaming
Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
Manager for Government Business
t: 620 50218 | e: abigail.gallagher@act.gov.au

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 7 April 2016 12:02 PM
To: GENTLEMAN
Subject: Greyhound racing in ACT

Dear Mick,

Why does the ACT Government fund cruelty via greyhound racing with my taxes?

Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]

urrell, Erica

From: GENTLEMAN
Sent: Thursday, 7 July 2016 1:59 PM
To: Cross, Narelle
Subject: FW: Greyhound racing in ACT

Eben Leifer | Office Manager
 Office of Mick Gentleman MLA | Member for Brindabella
 Minister for Planning and Land Management
 Minister for Racing and Gaming
 Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
 Manager for Government Business
 t: 620 50218 | e: eben.leifer@act.gov.au

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 7 July 2016 1:48 PM
To: GENTLEMAN
Subject: RE: Greyhound racing in ACT

Dear Mick,

Further to my email from yesterday, why has NSW announced a ban on greyhound racing, with the Premier describing the practice as 'chilling, confronting, horrific' yet you justify funding this practice in our territory?

Do you believe Mike Baird's decision is wrong?

<http://www.smh.com.au/sport/nsw-premier-mike-baird-announces-ban-on-greyhound-racing-after-special-commission-of-inquiry-20160707-gq0fw3.html>

I await your response.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 July, 2016 4:37 PM.
To: 'GENTLEMAN' <GENTLEMAN@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Greyhound racing in ACT

Dear Abigail and Mick,

Thank you for your letter.

I am concerned that the economic and social contributions you speak of do not offset the cruelty of the greyhound racing industry nor the annual \$1 million of taxpayer money which the ACT Government provides to the industry.

Could you please advise me:

Who receives the \$1 million and what is this funding used for?

Please let me know the answer to my question so I can continue my investigation into government-sanctioned animal cruelty in the ACT and also make an informed consideration on whether to vote Labor or Green in the upcoming ACT election.



MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Racing and Gaming
Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella



Thank you for your correspondence of April 7 about your concern on the issue of Greyhound racing in the ACT. I am responding to you on behalf of the Government as Minister for Gaming and Racing.

The ACT Government and I care deeply about ensuring the safety and welfare of all animals, including those that are part of our racing industry. I can assure you the ACT Gambling and Racing Commission closely monitors animal welfare concerns and compliance with industry standards. The Commission have conducted enquiries into the local greyhound racing industry, and no incidents of live baiting or mistreatment of greyhounds has been identified in the ACT.

A review of animal welfare laws from the Minister responsible for animal welfare in the ACT, particularly in relation to the issue of live baiting, was conducted in June 2015. No reports of animals being mistreated were found. In addition, Territory and Municipal Services (TAMS) found no record of live baiting cases.

The local greyhound racing industry provides economic and social contributions to the ACT including in the form of community events and charity sponsorship.

I note your request that the ACT Government should support a ban on greyhound racing in the territory. While the Government's current position is to continue to support a sustainable and ethical racing industry, I recognise the recent calls to ban greyhound racing. Such a ban would require legislative reform and, as such, would be a matter for consideration by the Legislative Assembly.

The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club is required to conduct all races in line with relevant ACT legislation and NSW racing rules, in the approved and regulated manner. Animal welfare concerns in the racing industry will continue to be monitored.

I thank you once again for taking the time to write about this important issue.

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Phone (02) 6205 0218 Email gentleman@act.gov.au

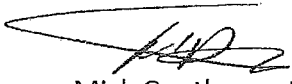


@GENTLEMANMick



MickGentleman

Yours sincerely,



Mick Gentleman MLA

11/14/16





COMPLETED

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Racing and Gaming
Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella



EMAILED



Thank you for your email seeking information about ACT Government support to Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC).

The ACT Government provides grant funding to many sporting organisations in Canberra and this includes the Territory's racing organisations of which the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (the Club) is one. At present, the Club receives approximately \$1 million in government grants each year. As with all grant funding, these arrangements are reviewed on a regular basis.

This funding is used by the club to support their ongoing operational costs. I can advise that the Club has 151 members (as at February 2016) and conducts trials twice a week, and hosts at least 44 race meets per year.

Analysis undertaken as part of the 2011 *Investigation into the ACT racing industry* review by the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission (ICRC) showed that the racing industry was delivering an overall economic benefit to the ACT at that time. This study included Thoroughbred Racing, Harness Racing and Greyhound Racing.

A copy of the ICRC's analysis is available at http://www.icrc.act.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Report_2_of_2011_April_2011.pdf (refer to the Economic contribution chapter).

Current developments

As you will know on 7 July 2016 the outcomes of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry were released. The Government is concerned by the findings and is investigating the implications for the ACT.

As has been publicly stated, the government considers it very unlikely that, given the NSW ban, the ACT Industry will remain financially viable into the future.

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Phone (02) 6205 0218 Email gentleman@act.gov.au



@GENTLEMANMick



MickGentleman



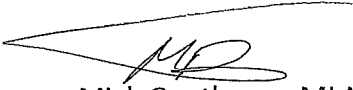
CANBERRA

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT racing industry shortly. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

Thank you for taking the time to write on this matter. I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

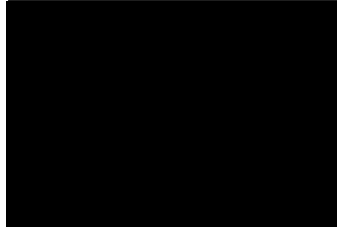
0311 3344
16/8/16



Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Racing and Gaming

16/8/16

Mr Mick Gentleman MLA
Member for Brindabella
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
Canberra ACT 2601



Dear Minister,

It is my belief that the responses in the media from ACT Government officials stating 'Greyhound Racing has no future in the ACT' is a knee jerk reaction to issues in NSW that were highlighted in a report that did not incorporate the ACT, and that is now facing a legal challenge due to acknowledged flaws.

It is my concern that the ACT Government has not taken the positive reputation and exemplary behavior of the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC) participants into consideration.

Queensland and South Australia are expanding their Greyhound Industries, Tasmania and the RSPCA have come to an agreement to continue greyhound racing while the Victorian, Northern Territory and Western Australian Governments have been strong in their continued support of greyhound racing. The ACT Government is in a position where it can work with the CGRC to ensure growth and the continuation of a perfect animal welfare record well into the future.

The announcement of the ACT Governments plan to introduce legislation to ban the sport is plainly bad governance. It fails to follow proper processes and indeed, the law.

Can you please answer the following questions?

1. The *Gambling and Racing Control Act* states only the Gambling and Racing Commission can revoke the CGRC's right to run greyhound races in the ACT. As the Government has no power to ban greyhound racing under ACT laws do you support the notion that the Government can make decisions outside of legislation and without procedural fairness?
2. Do you support the shutting down of an industry that, according to the ACT Treasury, injects at least \$1.8 million dollars into the local economy whilst employing 50 people, both directly and indirectly, along with the Governments acknowledgement that CGRC has kept a perfect animal welfare over its 37 years of operation?

I would appreciate a response in writing as soon as possible so that I am best informed as to which party I should vote for in the upcoming election. To be very clear, I will not vote for a party that condones any Government making decisions outside of legislation or procedural fairness.

Thank-you,



18 August 2016

Hurrell, Erica

From: Minister's Office - ACT Government [minister@act.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 July 2016 1:13 PM
To: Cross, Narelle
Subject: Ministerial correspondence assigned to you

Correspondence Assigned Notification
Assigned By Eben Leifer at 13/07/2016 01.12 PM

Do not reply to this email - Please login to the CRM to view/respond

Subject

TO MICK GENTLEMAN greyhound racing

Question Reference # 160622-002007

Minister Mick Gentleman
Date Created: 22/06/2016 02.51 PM
Date Last Updated: 13/07/2016 01.12 PM
Status: Updated

Note By (Eben Leifer) (13/07/2016 01.12 PM)

Is there an update to this following the ban

Customer By CSS Email [REDACTED] (23/06/2016 11.31 AM)

I don't care that there have been and that u say care deeply etc.

You need to stop greyhounds being exploited and

Let their trainers do it instead

It does no good for the act at all

An your letter means very little

Just polly waffle

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On 23 Jun 2016, at 10:47, Minister's Office - ACT Government
<minister@act.gov.au> wrote:

Response By Email (Abigail Gallagher) (23/06/2016 10.47 AM)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter about your concern on the issue of Greyhound racing in the ACT.

The ACT Government and I care deeply about ensuring the safety and welfare of all animals, including those that are part of our racing industry. I can assure you the ACT Gambling and Racing Commission closely monitors animal welfare concerns and compliance with industry standards. The Commission have conducted enquiries into the local greyhound racing industry, and no incidents of live baiting or mistreatment of greyhounds has been identified in the ACT.

A review of animal welfare laws from the Minister responsible for animal welfare in the ACT, particularly in relation to the issue of live baiting, was conducted in June 2015. No reports of animals being mistreated were found. In addition, Territory and Municipal Services (TAMS) found no record of live baiting cases.

The local greyhound racing industry provides economic and social contributions to the ACT including in the form of community events and charity sponsorship.

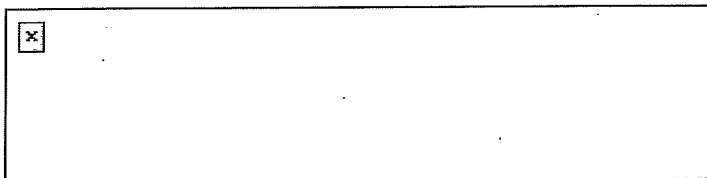
I note your request that the ACT Government should support a ban on greyhound racing in the territory. While the Government's current position is to continue to support a sustainable and ethical racing industry, I recognise the recent calls to ban greyhound racing. Such a ban would require legislative reform and, as such, would be a matter for consideration by the Legislative Assembly.

The Canberra Greyhound Racing Club is required to conduct all races in line with relevant ACT legislation and NSW racing rules, in the approved and regulated manner. Animal welfare concerns in the racing industry will continue to be monitored.

I thank you once again for taking the time to write about this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Mick Gentleman MLA



Auto Note By (Administrator) (22/06/2016 02:51 PM)

The Minister that the customer selected at time of incident submission was Mick Gentleman:

Customer By CSS Web [REDACTED] (22/06/2016 02:51 PM)

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Correspondence: to mick gentleman

we could not possibly vote for a person who thinks it is ok for dogs to be treated as they are being done so, by

trainers both here possibly and certainly in new south wales. the n.s.w. trainers race their dogs here.

we personally own a rescue greyhound and they are the most placid, beautiful dogs.

methinks if the trainers want to race, let them do it themselves. their body, their legs.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW MONEY FROM PEOPLE'S POCKETS HERE IN CANBERRA
CONTINUE TO BE USED FOR THIS SO CALLED SPORT [REDACTED]



MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
 Minister for Racing and Gaming
 Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
 Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

[REDACTED] MAILED

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response on 23 June 2016 to my email in relation to greyhound racing in the ACT. I note that in your response you requested that the ACT Government should ban greyhound racing in the Territory.

As you will know on 7 July 2016 the outcomes of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry were released. The Government is concerned by the findings and is investigating the implications for the ACT.

It should be noted that in controlling greyhound racing in the ACT, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has a reciprocal arrangement with Greyhound Racing NSW to license all ACT trainers and to investigate matters relevant to ACT racing, therefore the shutdown of the NSW greyhound industry will have a profound effect on the greyhound industry in Canberra. The ACT Government is not considering developing an expensive regulatory scheme for racing greyhounds to replace the one in NSW.

As has been publicly stated, the government considers it very unlikely that, given the NSW ban, the ACT Industry will remain financially viable into the future.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT racing industry shortly. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

During the next 12 months there may be dogs which need re-homing after they retire from racing. If you would like to consider adopting a Greyhound, please contact the RSPCA at <https://www.rspca.org.au/adopt-pet>.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Yours sincerely


 Mick Gentleman MLA
 Minister for Racing and Gaming

16/8/16

Hurrell, Erica

From: Minister's Office - ACT Government [minister@act.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 7 July 2016 1:49 PM
To: Cross, Narelle
Subject: Ministerial correspondence assigned to you

Correspondence Assigned Notification

Assigned By Eben Leifer at 07/07/2016 01.48 PM

Do not reply to this email - Please login to the CRM to view/respond

Subject

Greyhound Racing in ACT

Question Reference # 160707-001507

Minister Mick Gentleman

Date Created: 07/07/2016 01.33 PM

Date Last Updated: 07/07/2016 01.48 PM

Status: Forwarded to Agency

Note By (Eben Leifer) (07/07/2016 01.48 PM)

Is there a DLO for this or is it too soon.

Auto Note By (Administrator) (07/07/2016 01.33 PM)

The Minister that the customer selected at time of incident submission was Mick Gentleman.

Customer By CSS Web [REDACTED] (07/07/2016 01.33 PM)

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Correspondence: I hear that NSW has just banned greyhound racing, please follow suit. No excuses now. The problem is that all those operators from NSW will descend on the ACT. ACT NOW



BM16/1731

COMPLETED

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
 Minister for Racing and Gaming
 Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
 Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

COMPLETED

via Contact My Minister

Dear Ms Peek

Thank you for your email about the 7 July 2016 announcement by the NSW Government to shut down the greyhound industry in NSW. I note your request for the ACT Government to support a ban on greyhound racing in the Territory.

As you will know on 7 July 2016 the outcomes of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry were released. The Government is concerned by the findings and is investigating the implications for the ACT.

It should be noted that in controlling greyhound racing in the ACT, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has a reciprocal arrangement with Greyhound Racing NSW to license all ACT trainers and to investigate matters relevant to ACT racing, therefore the shutdown of the NSW greyhound industry will have a profound effect on the greyhound industry in Canberra. The ACT Government is not considering developing an expensive regulatory scheme for racing greyhounds to replace the one in NSW.

As has been publicly stated, the government considers it very unlikely that, given the NSW ban, the ACT Industry will remain financially viable into the future.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT racing industry shortly. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Yours sincerely


 Mick Gentleman MLA
 Minister for Racing and Gaming

16/8/16

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Phone (02) 6205 0218 Email gentleman@act.gov.au



CANBERRA



@GENTLEMANMick



MickGentleman

Orubuloye, Chris

From: Morgan, Anneliese
Sent: Tuesday, 19 July 2016 2:50 PM
To: CMTEDD MLO
Cc: Cross, Narelle
Subject: RE: Grant to Greyhound Racing [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Andrew,

Yes for us.

From: Tyrie, Andrew **On Behalf Of** CMTEDD MLO
Sent: Monday, 18 July 2016 2:00 PM
To: Morgan, Anneliese
Subject: FW: Grant to Greyhound Racing [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Anneliese

Another one for your area?

Thanks
Andrew

From: BARR
Sent: Monday, 18 July 2016 1:01 PM
To: CMTEDD MLO
Subject: FW: Grant to Greyhound Racing

Hi Team

The adviser has asked for a response to be prepared for the Minister for Gaming and Racing acknowledging the CM in the response please.

regards

Cassia Payne
Office of the Chief Minister
T| 6205 9481 F| 6205 0157
E| cassia.payne@act.gov.au
www.chiefminister.act.gov.au

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 12 July 2016 9:48 AM
To: BARR
Subject: Grant to Greyhound Racing

Would you please consider giving to the RSPCA (ACT) the one million dollars grant which you have previously given to the NSW greyhound racing industry? Or at least give \$500,000 instead of the very low amount currently given, which is not at all adequate. Such a gesture would raise your profile considerably with those concerned with animal welfare.

Regards,
[REDACTED]

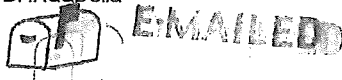


COMPLETED

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
 Minister for Racing and Gaming
 Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
 Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella



Dear 

Thank you for your email on 12 July 2016 to the Chief Minister, about funding for the RSPCA in light of recent announcements about the local greyhound industry. I am responding on behalf of the ACT Government because this matter falls within my portfolio responsibilities.

As you will know on 7 July 2016 the outcomes of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry were released. The Government is concerned by the findings and is investigating the implications for the ACT.

As has been publicly stated, the government considers it very unlikely that, given the NSW ban, the ACT Industry will remain financially viable into the future.

I have received numerous emails and letters of support since the announcement and it is great to know that so many in the community are behind this change.

The ACT Government provides a grant of \$1 million annually to the local greyhound racing industry. Under current arrangements, the Government will be honouring this payment in 2016-17.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT Racing Industry shortly. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, and the possible options for reallocation of grant funding currently provided to the greyhound industry.

The ACT Government and I care deeply about ensuring the safety and welfare of all animals, including those that are part of our racing industry. The promotion of animal welfare and the important role of RSPCA ACT will be included in any discussions about future funding opportunities.

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Phone (02) 6205 0218 Email gentleman@act.gov.au



I note you have requested that funding currently provided for greyhound racing be redirected to the RSPCA ACT. Funding of the RSPCA, like any other grant, is part of a Budget process. This year, an additional \$300,000 was allocated in support of improved animal welfare services, and a further \$150,000 for the redesign of the Domestic Animal Shelter, including dog kennels and cattery. Additional funding is reliant on Budget bids that clearly detail the case for additional resourcing relative to other community needs and budget priorities.

I thank you once again for taking your time to write about this important issue.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Racing and Gaming

16/8/16



RECEIVED
24 JUN 2016



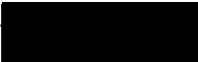

E-MAILED

19 June 2016

Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Gaming & Racing
GPO Box 1020
Canberra 2601

Dear Mr Gentleman

Re: **Funding of Greyhound Racing**

I refer to the article in the Canberra Times on 18 June in which 
 requested that the ACT Government ends funding of the greyhound racing industry.

It's outrageous that the government donates a million dollars annually to this industry for apparently little or no return to the ACT. You cite "economic and social contributions" by the greyhound racing industry without spelling these out. I would really like to know how much this industry contributes to charity and what it pays in taxes, and how many ACT citizens it employs full time.

My local tennis club, of which I am treasurer, receives no grant from the ACT Government (sure, we can apply for one, but only on a dollar for dollar basis). We pay Land Rent of \$2447.52 annually, plus general rates of \$3304.70 (usually more than this but we have been given a 5 year reprieve on the Fixed Charge component) as well as water/sewerage and electricity. Our courts are available for public hire and I consider that the social contribution to the community of a tennis club is far greater than that of a greyhound racing club. Perhaps you might like to do a survey of public opinion.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely



Orubuloye, Chris

From: GENTLEMAN
Sent: Friday, 24 June 2016 4:26 PM
To: Cross, Narelle
Subject: FW: Correspondence
Attachments: 20160624161533266.pdf

Hi Narelle

Can you please get a gaming and racing response. For this, [REDACTED] original corro is attached.

Abigail Gallagher | Office Manager
Office of Mick Gentleman MLA | Member for Brindabella
Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Racing and Gaming
Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
Manager for Government Business
t: 620 50218 | e: abigail.gallagher@act.gov.au

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 24 June 2016 12:33 PM
To: GENTLEMAN
Subject: Re: Correspondence

Dear Mr Gentleman

I note your reply to my recent letter to you questioning the ACT Government's \$1,000,000 p.a. funding of the greyhound racing industry. I get the distinct impression that you have not read my letter and chose to churn out a generic reply.

In this instance I had not even mentioned cruelty or live baiting etc. I was merely asking what the ACT Government received in taxes and benefits from the greyhound racing industry. Your response was a vague referral to social benefits and charity sponsorship without giving details. Neither did you mention what this industry pays in taxes, if any. I told you what my tennis club pays and naturally I would like to know what the greyhound racing industry pays so I could form a comparison.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

On Fri, Jun 24, 2016 at 10:52 AM, GENTLEMAN <GENTLEMAN@act.gov.au> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of June 19 about your concern on the issue of Greyhound racing in the ACT.

The ACT Government and I care deeply about ensuring the safety and welfare of all animals, including those that are part of our racing industry. I can assure you the ACT Gambling and Racing Commission closely monitors animal welfare concerns and compliance with industry standards. The Commission have



COMPLETED

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
 Minister for Racing and Gaming
 Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
 Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella



EMAILED



Dear 

Thank you for your email of 24 June 2016 seeking information about the greyhound racing industry in the ACT. I have provided responses to the questions raised, as well as providing information on current developments in the greyhound racing industry in NSW and ACT.

As I have mentioned previously, analysis undertaken as part of the 2011 *Investigation into the ACT racing industry* review by the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission (ICRC) showed that the racing industry was delivering an overall economic benefit to the ACT at that time. This study included Thoroughbred Racing, Harness Racing and Greyhound Racing.

A copy of the ICRC's analysis is available at http://www.icrc.act.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/0h2/Report_2_of_2011_April_2011.pdf (refer to the Economic contribution chapter).

In response to your query about contributions from the greyhound racing industry to the ACT economy, historically this practise has been more popular and created more economic turnover through interstate visitation, infrastructure and employment.

As you will note in the information below, the government is doing an updated investigation which will examine the benefits of each code of racing individually.

Current developments

As you will know on 7 July 2016 the outcomes of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry were released. The Government is concerned by the findings and is investigating the implications for the ACT.

As has been publicly stated, the government considers it very unlikely that, given the NSW ban, the ACT Industry will remain financially viable into the future.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT racing industry shortly. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW. I would also like to note that I am conscious of the non-supportive views expressed by the vast majority of constituents, like you, who have made representations regarding the future of the industry.

Thank you for taking the time to write on this matter. I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely


Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Racing and Gaming

16/8/11

Hurrell, Erica

From: Minister's Office - ACT Government [minister@act.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 8 July 2016 12:58 PM
To: Cross, Narelle
Subject: Ministerial correspondence assigned to you

Correspondence Assigned Notification

Assigned By Eben Leifer at 08/07/2016 12.57 PM

Do not reply to this email - Please login to the CRM to view/respond

Subject

Greyhound racing

Question Reference # 160707-001933

Minister Mick Gentleman

Date Created: 07/07/2016 03.27 PM

Date Last Updated: 08/07/2016 12.57 PM

Status: In Progress

Note By (Eben Leifer) (08/07/2016 12.57 PM)

Can I have DLO response to this please

Auto Note By (Administrator) (07/07/2016 03.27 PM)

The Minister that the customer selected at time of incident submission was Mick Gentleman.

Customer By CSS Web ([REDACTED]) (07/07/2016 03.27 PM)

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Correspondence: Minister Gentleman

I hope that now Premier Baird has come to his senses, so will you and you will finally support a ban on greyhound racing in the ACT. It is well past time.

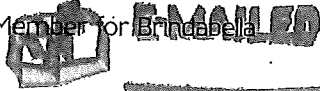


COMPLETED

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
 Minister for Racing and Gaming
 Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
 Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella



via Contact My Minister

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting me in support of winding down the Greyhound racing industry in the ACT. I have received numerous emails and letters of support since the announcement and it is great to know that so many in the community are behind this change.

As you will know on 7 July 2016 the outcomes of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry were released. The Government is concerned by the findings and is investigating the implications for the ACT.

It should be noted that in controlling greyhound racing in the ACT, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has a reciprocal arrangement with Greyhound Racing NSW to license all ACT trainers and to investigate matters relevant to ACT racing, therefore the shutdown of the NSW greyhound industry will have a profound effect on the greyhound industry in Canberra. The ACT Government is not considering developing an expensive regulatory scheme for racing greyhounds to replace the one in NSW.

As has been publicly stated, the government considers it very unlikely that, given the NSW ban, the ACT Industry will remain financially viable into the future.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT racing industry shortly. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Yours sincerely

Mick Gentleman MLA
 Minister for Racing and Gaming

18/8/16.

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Phone (02) 6205 0218 Email gentleman@act.gov.au





8-7-2016

Dear Chief Minister,

Thank you for your stand against cruelty to animals.

I think you have done a great job stopping Greyhound Dog racing.

I would vote for you if I lived in the ACT.

I thank you again and so do my adult children and their partners and my husband and my sisters and their families and my friends and their families.

You have done a really great thing. God bless and keep you. You will always be in our prayers.

Hurrell, Erica

From: Minister's Office - ACT Government [minister@act.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 8 July 2016 12:57 PM
To: Cross, Narelle
Subject: Ministerial correspondence assigned to you

Correspondence Assigned Notification

Assigned By Eben Leifer at 08/07/2016 12.57 PM

Do not reply to this email - Please login to the CRM to view/respond

Subject

NSW ends greyhound racing, it's time to end it in the ACT too

Question Reference # 160707-001907

Minister Mick Gentleman

Date Created: 07/07/2016 03.17 PM

Date Last Updated: 08/07/2016 12.57 PM

Status: Forwarded to Agency

Note By (Eben Leifer) (08/07/2016 12.57 PM)

Can I get a DLO response to this Please

Auto Note By (Administrator) (07/07/2016 03.17 PM)

The Minister that the customer selected at time of incident submission was Mick Gentleman.

Customer By CSS Web [REDACTED] (07/07/2016 03.17 PM)

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Correspondence: Dear Mr Gentleman,

As I am sure you have heard from other constituents already, NSW Premier has just announced greyhound racing is to end 1 July 2017. With the current memorandum of understanding with the industry ending June 2017, I urge you to review the findings of the Special Commission of Inquiry and follow the lead set by the NSW Government to bring an end to greyhound racing in the ACT too.

Regards,

[REDACTED]



COMPLETED

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
 Minister for Racing and Gaming
 Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
 Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

via Contact My Minister

E-MAILED

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email in support of ending Greyhound racing in the ACT. I have received numerous emails and letters of support since the announcement and it is great to know that so many in the community are behind this change.

As you will know on 7 July 2016 the outcomes of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry were released. The Government is concerned by the findings and is investigating the implications for the ACT.

It should be noted that in controlling greyhound racing in the ACT, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has a reciprocal arrangement with Greyhound Racing NSW to license all ACT trainers and to investigate matters relevant to ACT racing, therefore the shutdown of the NSW greyhound industry will have a profound effect on the greyhound industry in Canberra. The ACT Government is not considering developing an expensive regulatory scheme for racing greyhounds to replace the one in NSW.

As has been publicly stated, the government considers it very unlikely that, given the NSW ban, the ACT Industry will remain financially viable into the future.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT Racing Industry shortly. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Yours sincerely

Mick Gentleman MLA
 Minister for Racing and Gaming

17/8/16

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Phone (02) 6205 0218 Email gentleman@act.gov.au



Bogiatzis, Patti

From: Minister's Office - ACT Government [minister@act.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 8 July 2016 12:59 PM
To: Cross, Narelle
Subject: Ministerial correspondence assigned to you

Correspondence Assigned Notification

Assigned By Eben Leifer at 08/07/2016 12.58 PM

Do not reply to this email - Please login to the CRM to view/respond

Subject

Subsidisation of greyhound racing industry

Question Reference # 160707-002310

Minister Mick Gentleman

Date Created: 07/07/2016 07.32 PM

Date Last Updated: 08/07/2016 12.58 PM

Status: In Progress

Note By (Eben Leifer) (08/07/2016 12.58 PM)

Can I have a DLO response to this one too,, sorry for the large number of them today.

Auto Note By (Administrator) (07/07/2016 07.32 PM)

The Minister that the customer selected at time of incident submission was Mick Gentleman.

Customer By CSS Web [REDACTED] (07/07/2016 07.32 PM)

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Correspondence: Dear Minister

I would like an explanation as to why the ACT government is providing a \$1 million subsidy to the greyhound industry. Why should our tax payer rates and taxes be supporting an gambling industry as well as one that promotes cruelty to animals? I am appalled that this amount of money is provided to this industry where it could be used in so many other areas.

I would appreciate a prompt response to this enquiry.



COMPLETED

Bm16/1739

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management
 Minister for Racing and Gaming
 Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations
 Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

via Contact My Minister



E-MAILED

24/08/2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 7 July 2016 about ACT Government support to the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club (CGRC).

As you will know on 7 July 2016 the outcomes of the Special Commission of Inquiry into the NSW greyhound racing industry were released. The Government is concerned by the findings and is investigating the implications for the ACT.

It should be noted that in controlling greyhound racing in the ACT, the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club has a reciprocal arrangement with Greyhound Racing NSW to license all ACT trainers and to investigate matters relevant to ACT racing, therefore the shutdown of the NSW greyhound industry will have a profound effect on the greyhound industry in Canberra. The ACT Government is not considering developing an expensive regulatory scheme for racing greyhounds to replace the one in NSW.

As has been publicly stated, the government considers it very unlikely that, given the NSW ban, the ACT Industry will remain financially viable into the future.

We are currently considering the Special Inquiry Report and the NSW program of reform alongside the review we will be undertaking into the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT Racing Industry shortly. This work will guide a decision about the future of greyhound racing locally, noting that most participants actually reside in NSW.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Yours sincerely

Mick Gentleman MLA
 Minister for Racing and Gaming

23/8/16

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Phone (02) 6205 0218 Email gentleman@act.gov.au



CANBERRA



@GENTLEMANMick



MickGentleman