

INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO THE GOVERNANCE OF THE GREYHOUND RACING INDUSTRY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Terms of reference

August 2023

The Government of South Australia has established an independent inquiry into the regulatory regime, operations, culture, governance and practices of the greyhound racing industry in South Australia.

Objectives

The purpose of the inquiry is to obtain an independent, system-level assessment of the:

- current operations, culture, governance and practices of the South Australian greyhound racing industry,
- nature and efficacy of the current model of regulation, and
- relationship, if any, between that model and the operation, culture, governance and practices of the industry.

The Inquirer will report to the Minister for Recreation, Sport, and Racing on its assessment, including in relation to the industry's regulatory environment, approved training methods, governance and integrity, and make recommendations on possible improvements.

Scope

The Inquirer is to undertake an inquiry that will:

- engage with stakeholders across the greyhound racing and animal welfare sectors to examine the industry's operations, culture and practices, including in relation to integrity and/or animal welfare issues.
- review the current regulatory framework for greyhound racing in South Australia in the context of industry best practice and governance. This may include:
 - examining if the current system inhibits the ability to prevent, investigate or respond to serious allegations of animal mistreatment.
 - identifying any systemic issues or challenges across the greyhound racing industry which the current model of regulation may be unable to or limited in identifying, responding to and/or resolving satisfactorily; and
 - examining alternative models of industry regulation and integrity frameworks.
- review whether, and if so how, the culture of the greyhound racing industry promotes integrity and regulatory compliance, including with regard to animal welfare.

Procedures

- The Inquirer may request any person or organisation they see fit, including those in the greyhound racing industry or animal welfare sector, to provide submissions, documents and/or information to the Inquirer for the purposes of the inquiry. Submissions may be received by the Inquirer in writing or orally.
- The Inquirer may engage with experts as they see fit, including experts in the greyhound industry, including its regulation and/or its integrity, and experts in animal welfare.

- Any submissions, documents or information received by the Inquirer may be received confidentially at the Inquirer's discretion.
- In the conduct of the inquiry, the safety and anonymity of any person who may reasonably fear recrimination for providing information to the Inquirer for the purposes of the inquiry is paramount.
- If the Inquirer identifies a matter or matters that it considers ought to be the subject of investigation or regulatory action by another body, the Inquirer:
 - may, at any time during the inquiry, refer that matter or those matters to an appropriate investigative and/or regulatory body for further action; and
 - must, on the completion of the inquiry, refer that matter or those matters to an appropriate investigative and/or regulatory body for further action, unless it has already done so during the course of the inquiry.
- Any deviations from these Terms of Reference will require approval from the Minister for Recreation, Sport, and Racing.

Reporting

The Inquirer must provide a final report to the Minister for Recreation, Sport, and Racing by no later than 30 November 2023. The report should record the results of the inquiry, its assessments, conclusions and recommendations, and any referrals that have been, or are proposed to be, made by the Inquirer.

