

Communique - Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group

This communique highlights the key discussions and considerations from the Greyhound Racing Transition Working Group meeting held on 3 December 2025:

Summary of matters discussed:

1. Consultation with Greyhound Industry

Both the Commissioner and Tasracing have attended races in the past month to take questions from stakeholders. The Commissioner continues to have amicable discussions with Greyhounds Tasmania who have again stated there will be no Greyhound representative on the working group unless the legislation is passed. Greyhounds Tasmania were advised of the Working Group meeting and raised what support services would be available to greyhound participants moving forward.

It was raised that Greyhounds Tasmania had attended a briefing of the draft Bill by Department of Natural Environment and Resources Tasmania (NRE Tas), prior to it being tabled in Parliament.

2. Update on Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee and Legislation

The Commissioner also appeared before the Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee (JSC) on 7 November 2025.

It was noted that the Bill was tabled on 6 November 2025 and awaiting debate.

The Commissioner forwarded the agenda for this meeting to the chair of JSC.

3. Transition Plan – Outline

It was noted under the Bill, the Commissioner's office has been charged with responsibility to draft the Transition Plan, which must be approved by the Minister. Once approved, it will be provided on the Commissioners website. The JSC has been advised by the Commissioner the first draft will be available by 30 June 2026.

The Transition Plan was discussed and agreed that any proposed Transition Plan will be dictated by what is detailed in legislation. A framework of potential topics in the Transition Plan were reviewed and the Commissioner requested the working group members consider these and any additional subheadings and/or further information to be supplied by next meeting.

Areas discussed included:

- Feasibility and impact – owners, trainers, Dog’s Home of Tasmania, veterinary services, etc and the other codes. Working Group members were asked to give thought to additional areas which should be considered in the broader community.
- Governance –Local rules required to support, improve traceability etc.
- Traceability.
- Licensing and Registration
- Participant wellbeing and support
- Animal welfare – Tasracing Code of Practice for Racing Greyhounds to be explored.
- Rehoming – Regulation of rehoming with all avenues for rehoming to be explored.
- Legacy – What do the participants see as an appropriate legacy piece?

Consideration would be given to the Commissioner holding meetings in regional clubs with all industry participants invited once a framework of transition has been developed for consultation and questions.

4. Complaints

Complaints will be managed through Commissioners office, especially queries regarding the Greyhound Transition. Complaints to be processed in line with Commissioners complaint handling framework.

5. Wellbeing and support (participants)

This was discussed as a priority and a list of counselling and psychology services available throughout Tasmania is being prepared including services that provide the protection of confidentiality. Budget to be sought to cover costs to participants. Once a list of services is available, they will be added to Commissioners website.

6. Traceability and Local Rules of Racing

Tasracing provided an update on traceability and key services and technology upgrades required. A dedicated traceability resource is commencing in mid-December.

Tasracing Animal Welfare Officers will be trackside to assist participants with any technology changes for up to 3 months.

Local Rules were discussed and that would assist Tasracing in this area.

7. Modelling for greyhound racing during transition

Tasracing will prepare potential modelling options to present at the next meeting, which will then be considered and discussed at the February meeting. Modelling options will then be presented to the JSC & Ministers Office.

There will be no changes to this racing season, which is confirmed through to June 2026.

8. Budget

The working group discussed budget requirements and priorities. The Working Group will work through the JSC and develop a budget proposal.

The next meeting of the working group will be held on 14 January 2026.

Any enquiries can be directed to the office of the Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner by email to GreyhoundTransition@racingintegrity.tas.gov.au.



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6 November 2025