Terms of Reference – Greyhound Industry Reform Panel

Matters for Consideration

The Panel is required to consider:

- The recommendations in the Report of the Special Commission of Inquiry (the Report);
- Industry reform guarantees put forward to the NSW Government by the NSW Greyhound Racing Industry Alliance (The Alliance), including those contained in its letter to the Premier of 9 August 2016 and media release of 9 August;
- Industry reform efforts currently being undertaken by Greyhound Racing NSW;
- The outcome of consultations by Dr John Keniry, Coordinator of the Greyhounds Transition Taskforce; and
- Input from the Expert Advisory Committee, as sought by the Panel.

Content of the Panel’s Report

The Panel will prepare recommendations to Government that ensure that:

- issues relating to the governance, integrity and animal welfare standards of the greyhound racing industry are appropriately addressed;
- the industry as a whole operates to and upholds the highest possible standards;
- individual industry participants comply with those standards, including all animal welfare obligations.

In particular, the Panel will:

1. develop an appropriate governance structure for the NSW greyhound racing industry that will set a benchmark among like jurisdictions and ensure best practice across NSW regarding the transparency and integrity of the industry;

2. develop a comprehensive animal welfare plan which will ensure best practice across the industry, and in particular effectively remediate issues of wastage and live baiting, including by recommending any appropriate changes to regulatory frameworks, penalties for infringements and compliance mechanisms;

3. make recommendations regarding a new independent industry regulator with appropriately robust compliance mechanisms that can ensure and enforce effective governance and oversight of the animal welfare plan;

4. make recommendations relating to the safety of the racing and training environment for greyhounds, including the design of tracks, with a view to eliminating injuries;

5. ensure that the guarantees provided by the NSW Government by the industry, in the letter from the NSW Greyhound Racing Industry Alliance of 9 August 2017, are incorporated into the governance, regulatory and animal welfare proposals put forward by the Panel;
6. propose any additional measures that the industry needs to take in order to meet community expectations regarding the integrity of the industry and the welfare of the animals involved in it;

7. make any other relevant recommendations considered necessary to ensure community confidence in the greyhound racing industry; and

8. propose the timing and criteria for a Statutory Review of the new legislation.