

Our ref: #23875833

Queensland Greyhound Breeders Owners Trainers Association
ggbota@gmail.com

Dear Queensland Greyhound Breeders Owners Trainers Association Committee

I refer to my correspondence to you dated 19 February 2026. As you are aware, the Honourable Tim Mander MP, Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games requested I consider the matters raised in your email of 3 February 2026 regarding Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) Deputy Commissioner Kim Kelly.

I have conducted an independent investigation and make the following findings.

I note your concerns regarding the Deputy Commissioner's use of the term "social licence". As you may be aware, the *Racing Integrity Act 2016* (the Act) was established following the MacSporran Review, in which the greyhound industry was a central consideration. The first of the three main purposes of the Act, as set out in section 3(1)(a), is "*to maintain public confidence in the racing of animals in Queensland for which betting is lawful*". Consequently, social licence is a relevant and key consideration of the Act and QRIC and the comments made by the Deputy Commissioner were reasonable and relevant.

I note your concerns with the review of the Standard for Licensing Scheme – Greyhound and the proposal for greyhound trainers to provide evidence they hold the relevant local government permit to keep greyhounds at the declared kennel address. QRIC has conducted public consultation on the proposed amendments, and I am advised that you have made a submission on this matter. This is the correct course of action to raise your concerns and provide your feedback. Notwithstanding this, I note that Local Rule 11(1)(a) requires a person having care of a greyhound to comply with the requirements of any relevant local government. This includes any permits required by a relevant local government for the keeping of animals. The proposed amendments seek to reflect this rule requirement in the Standard.

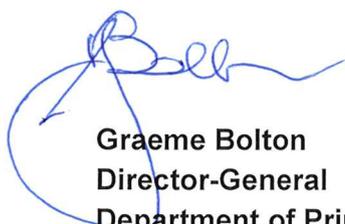
Similarly in respect to your concerns about the minimum number of annual race starters and kennel inspections, the proposed amendments are currently undergoing public consultation. I encourage you to continue to engage with QRIC in relation to your concerns and feedback.

In respect to your concerns with the Deputy Commissioner's experience and alleged bias against the greyhound code, I can find no evidence to support this. Further, I find that Mr Kelly is a highly regarded international racing integrity official with a distinguished career and a strong reputation for leadership and integrity.

In closing, I have formed the view that the alleged conduct does not constitute a breach of the Deputy Commissioner's statutory duties, code of conduct or the Act. I also have formed the view that are insufficient grounds to recommend the Minister for Sport and Racing to issue a direction under section 13 of the Act.

If you require further information, please contact Ms Jahna Owen, Executive Director, Office of the Director-General, Department of Primary Industries, via email at ODG@dpi.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Graeme Bolton
Director-General
Department of Primary Industries

CC Honourable Tim Mander MP
Minster for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games
sport@ministerial.qld.gov.au