

Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations Minister for Racing Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Our Ref: CTS 22300/16 Your Ref: 10.4 Petitions

2 9 SEP 2016

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Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 1 September 2016 concerning Petition No. 2608-16 received by the House on 1 September 2016 regarding the greyhound racing industry.

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) started operations from 1 July 2016 and is overseeing the integrity and animal welfare functions of the Queensland racing industry.

I note the petitioners have outlined that the industry as a whole is determined to maintain high standards regarding animal welfare and integrity matters in the Queensland racing industry. The Government is committed to taking the steps necessary to ensure that the racing industry has the confidence of the public and has taken action to put the necessary safeguards in place to protect greyhounds. The QRIC will continue to work in partnership with the industry to maintain high standards of racing.

At this stage, Queensland's greyhound industry will continue with increased vigilance and integrity, however, the industry is on notice that urgent reform is paramount and animal welfare and integrity issues must be a top priority.

I would be pleased if you would arrange for the tabling of this letter in response to the Petition in accordance with Standing Order 31 by 4 October 2016.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

HON. GRACE GRACE MP

Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations

Minister for Racing

Minister for Multicultural Affairs