

2 March 2026

Ms Kristie Johnston MP
Chair
Joint Standing Committee
Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025 Inquiry

Email: greyhoundtransition@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Johnston

**Questions on Notice and Additional Information Request – Greyhound Racing
Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025 Inquiry Submission -
Greyhound Racing Transition Inquiry**

In response to the Questions on Notice and request for additional information following the my appearance before the Joint Standing Committee on Tuesday, 10 February 2026, please see below:

General

1. Can you provide the Committee with any documents, briefing notes, or the presentation your Board received, following the 'health check' commissioned by the Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner?

A verbal presentation/report was shared by TasRIC with the Tasracing Board in a 'Directors Only' session in September 2025, no materials were provided.

2. Please provide up-to-date data since 1 January 2026 for the greyhound code on:
 - On track deaths;
 - Post-race euthanasia;
 - Injuries on and off track and
 - Number of dogs imported to race (Hansard).

Data since 1 January 2026:

On track death	1
Post-race euthanasia	Nil
Injuries on and off track	Nil

8 January 2026 – Race Injury and Initial Veterinary Assessment

- Memphis Rains, trained in Tasmania by Eileen Thomas, sustained a fractured hock during the North West Greyhound Racing Club meet at Hobart on 8 January.
- The injury was assessed on-track as repairable, and appropriate first aid was administered. A 90-day stand-down was imposed.
- The greyhound qualified for the relevant financial subsidy for injury treatment. To my knowledge, no subsidy has been granted due to the circumstances.
- The attending on-track veterinarian, Dr Geoff Baxter, issued a Clearance to Fly for 9 January 2026, reportedly at the request of the trainer on behalf of the owners.
- Although certified fit to fly on 9 January, transport arrangements could not be secured due to heat-related conditions.

12 January 2026 – Transport to Victoria and Examination

- According to Ian Thomas (husband of trainer Eileen Thomas), Memphis Rains departed Tasmania on Monday, 12 January 2026.
- Upon arrival in Melbourne, the greyhound was examined at Walnut Veterinary Clinic by Dr Des Fagan, a specialist greyhound veterinarian routinely engaged by the Victorian trainer Matt Lanigan.
- Dr Fagan diagnosed a completely shattered hock. Surgery was assessed as technically possible but highly complex, requiring multiple plates and screws, intensive after-care, and carrying a substantial risk of long-term complications, including significant arthritis.
- Dr Fagan assessed the dog as “unlikely to be sound for rehoming.”

13 January 2026 – Notification to Tasracing

- Tasracing became aware of the interstate transport and subsequent euthanasia only upon receiving an invoice from Walnut Veterinary Clinic for the veterinary examination and euthanasia.
- Ownership paperwork was formally transferred back to the Victorian owners on the same day.
- Dr Martin Lenz, Tasracing’s Chief Veterinary & Animal Welfare Officer, noted that based on past experience, the injury type often proves *eminently repairable*, and he requested the X-rays for independent review.
- Dr Lenz also confirmed that Dr Baxter provided the clearance-to-fly for 9 January and that the Victorian clinic did not examine the dog until 12 January. It has since been determined that a fit-to-fly certificate is at the request of the airline for the transportation of injured or unwell animals.

Decisions by Connections

- On 22 January, Ms Eileen Thomas confirmed with TIU investigator Mr Darrin Smart that the decision to fly Memphis Rains to Melbourne was jointly made by:

- Herself
- Her husband Ian Thomas
- Victorian trainer Matt Lanigan
- Interstate owners

Their reasoning was the belief that mainland veterinary services were better suited to managing this type of injury.

- Both Ian Thomas and Matt Lanigan confirmed their understanding that the greyhound was taken directly to a veterinarian on 13 January to consider surgical repair options.
- Mr Lanigan stated that after receiving Dr Fagan's diagnosis, he consulted the owners, and the group decided on euthanasia due to the severity of the injury and concerns regarding long-term quality of life.

TIU have confirmed that all rules and regulations were adhered to within Tasmania.

6. Please provide any information, including vet reports, held by Tasracing regarding the events from 26 January 2026 surrounding a greyhound named *Canya Breakout*. (Hansard).

Was *Canya Breakout* euthanised in Tasmania? Was *Canya Breakout* euthanised with the approval of Tasracing and/or on the advice of a vet?

Death of Greyhound *Canya Breakout*

Euthanasia Certificate attached.

Injury advised 20/10/25 – scratched from HGRC 23/10/25 due to injury

- Torn monkey muscle R side

Injury advised 05/01/26 – scratched from LGRC 05/01/26 due to injury

- Injured right front leg

Date of incident: 20 January 2026

Trainer: Mr Anthony Bullock

Greyhound: *Canya Breakout* (2 years 9 months, microchip 956000015762488)

Overview

On the evening of 20 January 2026, the greyhound *Canya Breakout* was humanely euthanised after developing a sudden and severe medical emergency known as gastric dilation and volvulus (GDV), commonly referred to as “bloat” or “twisted stomach”. This condition progresses rapidly and is fatal without urgent surgical intervention.

The decision to euthanise was made on welfare grounds by the attending veterinarian after consultation with Tasracing Integrity Unit management.

Timeline of Events - 20 January 2026

- Late afternoon: Trainer Mr Bullock noticed the dog vomiting, rolling in distress, and showing a swollen abdomen. He immediately contacted a veterinarian.
- 6:15 pm: Dr Rachael Palmer (Tamar Mobile Vet) attended the property. On examination, the dog was in extreme pain, with a severely bloated abdomen and clear signs of shock.
- Vet assessment: Dr Palmer determined the greyhound likely had GDV and was too unstable to be transported for surgery, as travel could cause sudden collapse and death. Pain relief options were also limited in a mobile setting.
- The vet consulted senior greyhound veterinary advisors (Dr Kim Barrett, Mowbray Vet Clinic) and then contacted the Tasracing Integrity Unit (Manager: Alex Bonde) to discuss the case.
- Decision: Immediate euthanasia was recommended due to the animal's suffering and extremely poor prognosis.
- Post-euthanasia: Needle decompression confirmed the diagnosis of GDV. Clinical records and certification were completed.

Cause of Death

Primary cause: Gastric dilation and volvulus (GDV)

- A sudden emergency where the stomach fills with gas and twists.
- Causes extreme pain, difficulty breathing, organ shutdown, and rapid death without timely surgery.

Welfare and Compliance Considerations

- Mr Bullock acted promptly when he saw signs of distress.
- A registered veterinarian attended quickly and followed accepted welfare rules, policies and guidelines.
- The decision to euthanise was made to prevent prolonged suffering and was consistent with Tasracing's euthanasia and welfare standards.
- Required Integrity Unit notifications, forms and veterinary follow-up were initiated immediately.

Conclusion

Canya Breakout died due to an acute and unpredictable medical emergency. The trainer acted appropriately, the veterinary response was timely, and the decision to euthanise was based solely on animal welfare. There is no evidence of misconduct or preventable factors contributing to the greyhound's death.

7. Why is it that greyhound trainers or participants are required to have a police check, but those in the thoroughbred and harness racing industries are not? (Hansard)

All new participants or participants applying to upgrade their licences across all three codes are required to submit a National Police Check

8. Could you please provide the Committee with a copy of the financial modelling of the net impact of greyhound racing, harness racing and thoroughbred racing to Tasracing's net financial result. (Hansard).

Attached.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Jenkins
Chief Executive Officer

Greyhound Kennel/Trainer notification

Lodge this form when ANY Greyhound (Named or Unnamed) **DEPARTS** a Registered Person's Property

Please refer to NATIONAL RULE 34 & LOCAL RULES 34 & 75B when completing this form.

Greyhound(s) to be REMOVED from kennel

1. NAME OR BREEDING OF GREYHOUND: Memphis Rains EAR BRAND: _____ DATE OF DEPARTURE: 12-1-25

Reason for leaving your care* Change of Trainer Return to owner Retired Deceased Other

IF OTHER PLEASE SPECIFY:

**If retired or deceased – notification form must be lodged by owner.*

Who gave you the greyhound? Owner Trainer Other

IF OTHER SPECIFY NAME:

ADDRESS:

2. NAME OR BREEDING OF GREYHOUND: _____ EAR BRAND: _____ DATE OF DEPARTURE: _____

Reason for leaving your care* Change of Trainer Return to owner Retired Deceased Other

IF OTHER PLEASE SPECIFY:

**If retired or deceased – notification form must be lodged by owner.*

Who gave you the greyhound? Owner Trainer Other

IF OTHER SPECIFY NAME:

ADDRESS:

3. NAME OR BREEDING OF GREYHOUND: _____ EAR BRAND: _____ DATE OF DEPARTURE: _____

Reason for leaving your care* Change of Trainer Return to owner Retired Deceased Other

IF OTHER PLEASE SPECIFY:

**If retired or deceased – notification form must be lodged by owner.*

Who gave you the greyhound? Owner Trainer Other

IF OTHER SPECIFY NAME:

ADDRESS:

NAME OF TRAINER/REGISTERED PERSON: Eileen Thomas SIGNATURE: X LICENCE NO.: 261451 DATE: 12-1-25

By signing above I declare that the information provided is true and correct in that I have **relinquished** the care of the greyhound/s shown on this form.

OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED: _____ DATE APPROVED: _____ APPROVED BY: _____

TASRACING INTEGRITY UNIT

13 JAN 2026

RECEIVED

Clear Form

Tasracing Integrity Unit

171 Westbury Road, Prospect 7250

All mail addressed to: PO Box 1329, Launceston 7250

T: (03) 6777 1900

E: operations@tasracingintegrity.com.au W: tasracingintegrity.com.au



X SIGNATURE REQUIRED. To apply a digital signature to this form either:
 (1) Use the "Sign Document" tool **OR** (2) Select "Fill & Sign" from the menu

Greyhound Kennel/Trainer notification

Lodge this form when ANY Greyhound (Named or Unnamed) ARRIVES at a Registered Person's Property

Please refer to NATIONAL RULE 34 & LOCAL RULES 34 & 75B when completing this form.

Greyhound(s) to be INCLUDED in Kennel

Please ensure all relevant Prize Money Split Payment forms have been submitted.

1. NAME OR BREEDING OF GREYHOUND: **EAR BRAND:** **DATE OF ARRIVAL:**

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Reason for possession Whelping Rearing Pre-training Training Other

IF OTHER PLEASE SPECIFY:

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Who gave you the greyhound? Owner Trainer Other

IF OTHER SPECIFY NAME:

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2. NAME OR BREEDING OF GREYHOUND: **EAR BRAND:** **DATE OF ARRIVAL:**

--	--	--

Reason for possession Whelping Rearing Pre-training Training Other

IF OTHER PLEASE SPECIFY:

--

Who gave you the greyhound? Owner Trainer Other

IF OTHER SPECIFY NAME:

--

3. NAME OR BREEDING OF GREYHOUND: **EAR BRAND:** **DATE OF ARRIVAL:**

--	--	--

Reason for possession Whelping Rearing Pre-training Training Other

IF OTHER PLEASE SPECIFY:

--

Who gave you the greyhound? Owner Trainer Other

IF OTHER SPECIFY NAME:

--

NAME OF TRAINER/REGISTERED PERSON: **SIGNATURE:** **LICENCE NO.:** **DATE:**

	X		
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By signing above I declare that the information provided is true and correct in that I have **taken control of** the care of the greyhound/s shown on this form.



Greyhound Euthanasia Certificate

Was it an Emergency Euthanasia: [X] Yes [] No
Who performed the Euthanasia: [X] Veterinarian [] Other*
*If Other please provide details below: (Please attached a copy of the persons firearms license)

FULL NAME: Dr Rachel Palmer

WHY WAS THE EUTHANASIA NOT PERFORMED BY A VETERINARIAN:

Has the TIU been notified: [X] Yes [] No Date Notified: 20/1/26

NAME OF PERSON NOTIFIED: Alex Bonde *PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR EUTHANASIA IF OTHER:

By signing below, I declare that the information provided by me in relation to the circumstances around the euthanasia of the greyhound on this form are true and correct and that I humanely euthanased the greyhound under the provisions of L22.12.

NAME: SIGNATURE: DATE: [X]

Veterinarian's Declaration

I declare that BEFORE euthanasia was performed either myself or my agent identified the greyhound referred to on this form by reference to the Ear Tattoos and/or Microchip Numbers shown on the Identification Card or Naming Application Form. I further declare that if necessary all other relevant paperwork and the written permission of the owner of the greyhound has been sighted prior to euthanasia.

VETERINARIAN'S NAME: VETERINARY CLINIC: VETERINARIAN'S SIGNATURE: DATE: [X]

Responsible Person

By signing below, I declare that the information provided by me in relation to the circumstances around the euthanasia of the greyhound on this form are true and correct.

NAME: A Bulluck DATE: 20/1/26

Owner's Declaration

By signing below, I declare that the information provided by/to me in relation to the circumstances around the death of the greyhound on this form are true and correct.

NAME: A Bulluck DATE: 20/1/26

Owner Notified..

OFFICE USE ONLY

CHECKED BY: DATE: PROCESSED BY: DATE:

Clear Form

Code contributions to FY25 result

Tasracing has reviewed the FY25 financial results and where reasonably possible, allocated revenues and costs to each code of racing, the Greyhounds as Pets program and the newly integrated integrity function (operating from 1 Feb 2025).

Revenues and costs that had no reasonable basis for allocation have been aggregated into "Unallocated". Examples include Board and Executive costs, hr functions, finance and legal costs, insurance etc.

Code funding includes all stake money, riding and driving fees, code bonuses and code contributions to animal welfare.

	Greyhound	GAP	Harness	Thoroughbred	Integrity	Unallocated
Race Field Fees	\$8,129,421	\$0	\$3,376,662	\$10,470,359	\$0	\$0
International Fees	\$269,647	\$0	\$133,853	\$521,385	\$0	\$0
Other Revenue	\$25,955	\$38,678	\$309,516	\$1,974,214	\$1,833,043	\$2,850,309
Total Revenue	\$8,425,023	\$38,678	\$3,820,032	\$12,965,958	\$1,833,043	\$2,850,309
Code Funding	-\$7,374,146	\$0	-\$9,639,377	-\$19,922,911	\$0	\$0
Labour	-\$857,900	-\$619,077	-\$817,440	-\$2,281,056	-\$1,010,864	-\$5,107,549
Depreciation	-\$742,131	-\$12,265	-\$898,731	-\$2,866,796	-\$2,521	-\$266,124
Other Expenses	-\$2,664,453	-\$271,584	-\$3,734,177	-\$9,484,649	-\$764,039	-\$5,978,420
Total Expenditure	-\$11,638,630	-\$902,927	-\$15,089,724	-\$34,555,412	-\$1,777,424	-\$11,352,094
Total	-\$3,213,607	-\$864,248	-\$11,269,693	-\$21,589,454	\$55,619	-\$8,501,785

The net cost of operations for FY25 was \$45,383,168. Tasracing received \$36,716,302 in line with the Funding Deed, \$7,303,611 under the POCT Deed and recognised \$155,673 in training grants during the year leading to a net loss of \$1,207,582 in FY25