

Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management
Minister for Business, Industry and Resources
Minister for Skills and Jobs

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Hon. Ella Haddad MP
Chair
Standing Committee on Government Administration B
Parliament House, Hobart
Via email: assemblygab@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Haddad

RE: Questions on notice – Short inquiry into the Tasmanian Government’s response to serious allegations within harness racing

I refer to your correspondence of 19 December 2025 regarding the Standing Committee on Government Administration B hearing held on 9 December 2025.

Please find below the requested information and responses to the Committee’s questions on notice.

1. All formal complaints during the period were appropriately dealt with as per the relevant complaints handling processes. The Office of Racing Integrity implemented changes to the complaints management process in late 2023, including a complaints management framework and updated its complaints handling process.

The Murrihy report found that the “current system lacks a truly independent avenue for racing participants to file complaints regarding ORI personnel and their accountability”. The report found that there were accountability gaps in the former legislative structure. These gaps are proposed were addressed in the Racing Integrity and Regulation Bill 2024.

More than 45 submissions were received and over 50 interviews were conducted as part of the review.

I am advised the Secretary of NRE has provided a detailed list of all complaints received.

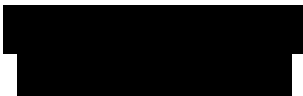
2. All matters related to Tasracing were contained in Mr Murrihy’s provided interim report on 31 August 2023. All matters relevant to Tasracing were discussed at length with the Chief Executive Officer and Chair.
3. The decision made by Tasracing on or before 2 February 2024 ahead of Tasracing’s warning off of harness racing participants arising from Mr Murrihy’s final report was a decision made by the company and would be more appropriately answered by them.

I was in regularly contact with TasRacing as Minister during this time but a search of office records during the relevant period does not uncover any specific details of communication on this decision.

4. No.
5. Personally, no. I refer you to Department of Natural Resources Tasmania and TasRacing regarding their processes.
6. I don't recall allegations of this nature being raised with me and a search of office records during the relevant period does not uncover any specific details of communication on this matter.
7. No.

I trust that the above information is of assistance to the Committee in concluding its short inquiry.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Hon Felix Ellis MP.

Hon Felix Ellis MP
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management
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16/1/2026