

Deputy Premier
Minister for Education and Training
Minister for Primary Industries and Water
Minister for Racing

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20 December 2017

Ms Stephanie Hesford
Secretary
House of Assembly Government Business Scrutiny Committee
Parliament House
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Ms Hesford

Thank you for your letter dated 7 December 2017. I will respond to your letter for ease of reference in the same order as the Committee's questions.

Tasracing Pty Ltd:

1. On what date did TasRacing Chief Financial Officer Mark Tarring give formal notice that he was leaving the organisation?

Mark Tarring gave formal notice on 23 December 2016.

2. How many greyhounds were:
 - a. Killed/euthanased;
 - b. Died later from injury: or
 - c. Injuredin 2017, to date?
 - a) 248 registered greyhounds have been euthanased.
 - b) 75 registered greyhounds have been recorded as euthanased due to injury.
 - c) 345 registered greyhounds have sustained injuries during races and or trials. This includes all injuries, minor through to catastrophic.
3. At what age are greyhounds required to be registered and/or microchipped? Why is that different to other dog breeds?

All greyhound pups are required to be vaccinated, microchipped, ear branded, and the litter registration lodged with the Office of Racing Integrity within 4 months of birth.

Under the *Dog Control Act 2000*, a dog does not have to be microchipped and registered until it attains 6 months of age. The difference in the requirement to microchip earlier in greyhound racing is to ensure a higher level of scrutiny.

4. What are the methods of euthanasing greyhounds at race tracks in Tasmania?

Euthanasia is carried out by a veterinary surgeon via lethal injection.

5. Are dogs shot at race tracks as a method of disposal?

No.

6. Does the practise of draining (where greyhounds are drained of their blood before being killed) ever occur at the track or is it always in a veterinary surgery?

This practice does not occur at racing tracks.

7. What is the length of the contract arrangement in place between the Tasmanian Government and wagering operator UBET?

Tasmania (i) LI322000180.1 Tasmanian Gaming Licence dated 14 April 2015 issued to UBET TAS expires 25 March 2062 and an associated statutory right of exclusivity until March 2027 under section 76ZEC of the Gaming Control Act 1993 (Tas). There is an option to renew the licence for a further 49 year period after 2062.

Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd:

8. Is the Minister aware that Murray darling Irrigation are moving toward a 'no gauge – no take' irrigation policy. Given that not all farmers pay for irrigation water in Tasmania, is this an option for us?

In relation to water supplied to Tasmanian Irrigation (TI) customers, all the current 901 customers are required to have a water meter for TI to deliver water to them.

More broadly, DPIPWE's approach to water accountability is that there are a number of ways that water is accounted for, ranging from measures such as use of electricity records and pump capacities to estimate a volume of water taken over an irrigation season, through to fully telemetered water meters providing daily water extraction information. Metering is mandated in specific circumstances in order to mitigate risks of a specified nature - for example, where water in a catchment is fully allocated or where metering is required as a provision of a statutory water management plan.

The requirement for metering of water licences granted under the *Water Management Act 1999* or irrigation rights supplied by Tasmanian Irrigation is supported by the *Tasmanian Standard for Non-Urban Water Meters*.

Yours sincerely



Jeremy Rockliff MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Primary Industries and Water
Minister for Racing