



# Legislative Council Sessional Committee Government Administration 'B'

## Media Advisory

Thursday, 28 September 2023

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### Public Hearing:

### Targetted Inquiry into the role and functions of the Office of Racing Integrity

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The Tasmanian Legislative Council Sessional Committee Government Administration 'B' tabled the report of its targetted inquiry into the role and functions of the Office of Racing Integrity today.

This inquiry was established from an own motion by the Committee following the concerns raised in the community questioning the level of public confidence in the Tasmanian racing industry. Racing is an industry that requires the highest of integrity.

The Committee believes this Report complements the Government's inquiry by independent investigator Ray Murrehy, into the State's harness racing industry following allegations of team driving and animal welfare concerns, some raised by members of the industry.

The Office of Racing Integrity (ORI) has the important role of monitoring and maintaining the integrity of all aspects of the racing industry in our State. It is also expected to deliver the highest standards of animal welfare. Without a strong monitoring and compliance regime the integrity of the industry will not meet community expectations.

Through the inquiry the Committee focused on the roles and functions of ORI and its current administrative processes, to appropriately address issues and concerns with upholding the integrity and welfare of animals in the Tasmanian racing Industry.

Released in March 2021 the Monteith Report to Government recommended a number of changes to the Industry. These changes are yet to be progressed through the Parliament.

The 23 findings and 7 recommendation in this Report are expected to assist in delivering greater compliance and integrity within the Tasmanian Racing Industry to meet community expectations.

The Committee acknowledges the commencement of legislative reform to increase the independence of the Office of Racing Integrity. This should be expedited as a matter of priority.

Members of the Committee are:

Hon Rosemary Armitage MLC (Deputy Chair)	Hon Rob Valentine MLC
Hon Jane Howlett MLC	Hon Meg Webb MLC
Hon Tania Rattray MLC (Chair)	Hon Josh Willie MLC

Further information about the Committee is available on the [Committee website](#).<sup>1</sup>  
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**Further information: Tania Rattray MLC (Inquiry Chair) – 0427 523 412**

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/committees/legislative-council/sessional-committees/govadminb/current-inquiries/short-inquiry-into-the-role-and-functions-of-the-office-of-racing-integrity>