

Minister for Primary Industries and Water
Minister for Hospitality and Small Business
Minister for Racing

Level 5, 4 Salamanca Place HOBART TAS 7000 Australia

GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia

Phone: +61 3 6165 7665

Email: minister.howlett@dpac.tas.gov.au



Mr Sean Carroll
Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner
Email: sean.carroll@racingintegrity.tas.gov.au

5 MAR 2025

Dear Commissioner

Animal welfare in the Tasmanian racing industry is of critical importance to the Tasmanian Government.

The Tasmanian Government delivered the largest integrity reforms in decades through the *Racing Regulation and Integrity Act 2024* (the Act), which is based on evidence and industry best practice. The Act provides you as Commissioner with powers and functions that help the Tasmanian Government and broader racing industry improve standards and behaviours relating to animal welfare standards.

The Commissioner's functions are set out in Division 2 (section 9) of the Act. These functions include:

- making integrity and animal welfare Standards in racing and monitoring the regulation and administration of racing.
- gathering information, holding investigations, conducting inquiries, and issuing recommendations to participants in the racing industry to assure racing integrity and animal welfare systems and processes meet contemporary community expectations.
- promoting compliance and facilitating engagement and cooperation in relation to racing integrity and animal welfare.

In October of last year, Tasmania became one of only a select number of Australian racing jurisdictions with a comprehensive Code of Practice for racehorses.

During the Standing Committee on Government Administration B short inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's response to serious allegations within harness racing, the code as it relates to accommodation and protection from weather extremes was discussed.

With your oversight, functions and powers being activated with the commencement of the Act on 1 February 2025, I request you along with Tasracing staff and any other relevant stakeholders to please review this Code to ensure the animal welfare systems and processes contained meet contemporary community expectations as it relates to accommodation and protection from weather extremes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping loops and a long horizontal tail stroke.

Hon Jane Howlett MP
Minister for Racing