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Andrea Pollard,
President
Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds

9.3. 23

Dear Andrea,

Thank you for sharing the Coalition for the Protection of Greyhounds election survey on greyhound welfare with the Greens NSW. As you will know, the Greens have been consistent in their opposition to greyhound racing for many years, and we are committed to continuing that work in the next term of Parliament..

The Greens have worked nationally and across states and territories to end greyhound racing and improve the welfare of greyhounds. Abigail Boyd MLC in NSW has worked with the CPG and other advocates for many years, and has been tireless in her questioning of the Government on issues related to greyhound welfare. Abigail was Deputy Chair of the recent inquiry into the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission, providing a powerful dissenting statement to what was otherwise a disappointing report, and introduced a Bill to ensure whole-of-life tracking for greyhounds across the State.

In relation to your specific questions, please find responses below:

1. What are your policies on greyhound racing?

The Greens NSW are working to abolish all cruel and inhumane treatment of animals across sport, recreation and entertainment, including animal circuses, zoos and other displays of live animals. This includes a ban on greyhound racing in NSW and the allocation of sufficient resources by the industry to rehabilitate and rehome affected animals. The Greens NSW have also worked to implement urgent welfare reforms including the Greyhound Racing Amendment (Whole of Life Tracking) Bill, participating in the inquiry into the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission and forcing the production of documents into the Martindale mass kennel facility.

As we work towards a ban on greyhound racing, the Greens NSW are committed to also adequately funding the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission, tracking greyhounds for their whole life, banning the commercial export of greyhounds, banning surgical artificial insemination and introducing breeding caps.



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2. Does your party support an end to the millions of dollars in public funding and taxpayer subsidies to greyhound racing?

The racing industry perpetuates outrageous cruelty to animals in the name of profit. That's why the Greens NSW support an end to public funding and taxpayer subsidies to greyhound racing.

A majority of Australians do not wish to see taxpayer dollars fund an industry that is built on cruelty towards animals and corporate greed derived from gambling. Animals have intrinsic value, separate from the needs of humans, and humans have a responsibility to ensure that animals' rights and welfare are respected.

The Greens NSW are committed to reinvesting current industry funding to establish a transition program to reskill industry workers and support them to find new jobs, resource impacted communities and repurpose racetracks for community benefit and, most importantly, rehabilitate and rehome all affected animals.

3. Does your party support a limit on the number of dogs the industry is able to breed each year?

The greyhound racing industry's cruelty knows no boundaries with the industry partaking in such horrendous practices such as surgical artificial insemination. It is clear that overbreeding is still a huge problem within the greyhound racing industry, with many times more greyhounds being bred than go on to race or can be found a home for. The Greens NSW supports a limit on the number of dogs the industry is able to breed.

4. Does your party support public funding for operating costs that is recurrent annually to registered independent charities that rescue, rehabilitate and rehome greyhounds to live as pets.

Rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming greyhounds to live as pets is key to ensure all greyhounds are kept safe as we ensure a just transition out of the industry. That's why the Greens NSW support public funding for registered independent charities to ensure the safety and welfare of greyhounds continues after they leave the industry.

Yours sincerely,

Abigail Boyd MLC
Greens NSW spokesperson on Animal Welfare