



CRUELTY ISN'T SPORT

Transitioning Canberra's Greyhound Racing Industry

The Greens have a plan to transition the ACT's greyhound industry

The greyhound racing industry in the ACT is small, exploitative and expensive. We need a plan to wind down this exploitative industry – by focusing on the welfare of the dogs and supporting the ACT workers to transition.

The greyhound industry in the ACT is small, exploitative and expensive, and the Greens have long called for an end to it. The ACT greyhound industry is regulated by Greyhound Racing NSW, so when Mike Baird called for an end to dog racing in NSW, we were well positioned to echo the call here.

Now that the ACT is committed to winding down this exploitive industry by July 2017, we need a transition plan that focuses on the welfare of the greyhounds – and those involved in the industry.

> Ending Industry Subsidies

The ACT Government spends over \$1 million each year on subsidies to the local greyhound racing industry for little return to the ACT. With the Government's agreement with the industry due to expire in June 2017, we want to see these annual subsidies redirected into new opportunities, helping dogs be re-homed, and offering support to workers and owners to transition as the industry is closed down.

> Caring for Greyhounds

The ACT Greens would use savings from the annual subsidy to establish a rehoming scheme for dogs, which would incorporate funding for 1-2 years for the existing rescue organisations – Greyhound Rescue ACT and ACT Rescue and Foster.

Our greyhound care package will also include:

- » practical support including food for foster carers
- » free desexing
- » waivers for dog ownership costs such as registration fees
- » payments to vets for initial vet checks and treatments
- » free vaccinations and microchips for the greyhounds
- » removing requirements for muzzling, which makes the dogs less attractive to potential carers.

> Transitioning Workers

The ACT Greens want to support ACT dog racing owners, trainers and others in the industry to be retrained for work in other industries through CIT subsidies and business support for new opportunities.

> Repurposing the Racetrack

The ACT Greens want to retain the racetrack site for community use, and will consult with the community about its future.