

The Hon. David Harris MP

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty
Minister for Gaming and Racing
Minister for Veterans
Minister for Medical Research
Minister for the Central Coast



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Mr Adam Casselden SC
Chair
Greyhound Racing NSW

Dear Mr Casselden,

I have recently become aware that the current Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission (the Commission), Mr. Steve Griffin, has applied for the role of CEO of Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW) and may be appointed to that position.

In the circumstances, there is a risk that a conflict of interest (actual, potential or perceived) may exist or arise between Mr. Griffin's public duties (as CEO of the Commission) and his private interests connected to his pre-separation employment at the Commission and potential post-separation employment at GRNSW.

I am concerned that if this potential conflict of interest is not avoided, or appropriately managed, that it has the potential to adversely affect the reputation or integrity of GRNSW, the Commission or the greyhound racing industry more broadly. In this regard, I note the various obligations of GRNSW under its Ministerial Operating License, including clauses 22 and 23.

In light of the above, and prior to making any CEO appointment, I ask that GRNSW provides me with:

- (a) a copy of the probity plan for the CEO selection and recruitment process;
- (b) a copy of any probity advice that has been provided to the selection panel in relation to Mr. Griffin's potential selection and/or appointment to the CEO role;
- (c) information regarding any assurances sought or received by GRNSW from Mr. Griffin to the effect that he had made appropriate arrangements to recuse himself from any relevant decisions or actions as CEO of the Commission during the recruitment process, including those relating to GRNSW officials; and
- (d) any other information held by GRNSW regarding any actions that have been taken by GRNSW to manage any potential conflict of interest in respect of Mr. Griffin's involvement in the recruitment process and explaining how any potential conflict of interest is proposed to be managed should Mr. Griffin be appointed to the role (for example, requiring a 'cooling off' period between the end of Mr Griffin's term as CEO, GWIC and the start of his term as CEO GRNSW).

The Board of GRNSW should seek Mr Griffin's permission to consult with the Chief Commissioner, Mr Alby Taylor, about the proposed appointment to ensure that the Commissioner has an opportunity to raise any concerns and, if the appointment proceeds, to work together on an appropriate plan to manage the transition in a way that protects the integrity of GRNSW, the Commission and the greyhound racing industry.

I look forward to receiving the above information.

Sincerely,

The Hon. David Harris MP

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