

GREYHOUND WELFARE & INTEGRITY COMMISSION

AGENCY INFORMATION GUIDE 2018/2019

The Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission (**Commission**) is committed to the objects of the [Government Information \(Public Access\) Act 2009 \(NSW\) \(GIPA Act\)](#) by releasing or providing access to government information, unless there is an overriding public interest against doing so.

This Agency Information Guide outlines the functions and structure of the Commission, the types of information we hold, how our information can be accessed, details of the costs associated with accessing our information, and how members of the public and other agencies can participate in the formulation of our policies and the exercise of our functions.

ABOUT THE COMMISSION

Functions

The Commission is a body corporate established by the [Greyhound Racing Act 2017 \(NSW\)](#) and is a NSW Government Agency. The Commission commenced its regulatory operations on 1 July 2018.

The Commission is not subject to the control and direction of the Minister for Racing except to the extent expressly provided for under the [Greyhound Racing Act 2017 \(NSW\)](#) or any other Act¹.

The principle objectives of the Commission are:

- to promote and protect the welfare of greyhounds;
- to safeguard the integrity of greyhound racing and betting;
- to maintain public confidence in the greyhound racing industry.

The functions of the Commission are set out in section 12 of the [Greyhound Racing Act 2017 \(NSW\)](#) and include:

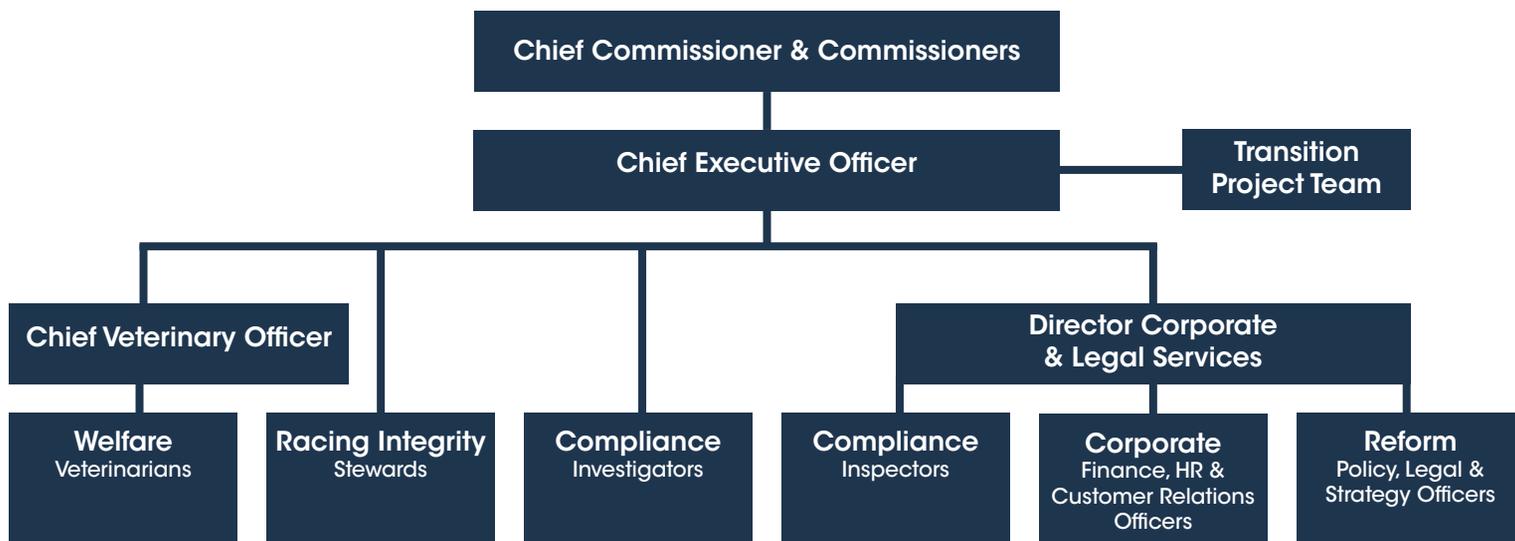
- to control, supervise and regulate (subject to the [Greyhound Racing Act 2017 \(NSW\)](#)) greyhound racing in NSW;
- to initiate, develop and implement policies relating to the welfare of greyhounds;
- to register greyhounds, greyhound racing industry participants and greyhound trial tracks;
- to prepare the code of practice for the welfare of greyhounds;
- to make the greyhound racing rules.

The Commission has the power to delegate the exercise of any function of the Commission (other than the power of delegation under section 10) to a Commissioner, the chief executive officer of the Commission or any other member of staff of the Commission or any other person or body prescribed by the regulations.

¹ Greyhound Racing Act 2017 (NSW), s4(3)

Revision	Date
Developed	23/01/2019

ABOUT THE COMMISSION



Further information on our functions and structure is contained in our annual report, which can be accessed from our [website](#).

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Chief Commissioner, Alan Brown

Alan Brown is a solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW with 45 years' experience in providing legal advice and services to the commercial, banking, finance, and property sectors. He was the independent chair of Moss Capital Funds Management Limited, and a member of the advisory board of Moss Capital Pty Ltd before its listing on the ASX as Elanor Investments Limited. Alan also has extensive experience in the racing industry, having served as an independent chair on a number of boards and committees. With Racing NSW, he served as chair, deputy chair and director. He also served as chair, vice chair, treasurer and director of the Sydney Turf Club. Alan was appointed Chief Commissioner for three years on a part-time basis.



Commissioner, Clare Petre

Clare Petre is the former NSW Energy and Water Ombudsman and a Senior Assistant Commonwealth Ombudsman. Clare is currently a board member of Energy Consumers Australia and City West Housing, Chair of the Australian Council for International Development - Code of Conduct Committee, Deputy Chair of the Asylum Seekers Centre and Customer Advocate (Wealth) for NAB. Clare was previously Chair of the consumer advisory committees of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) and the Credit and Investments Ombudsman (CIO). She was Chair of the Australian and New Zealand Ombudsman Association, and has served on various federal and state bodies. Clare was appointed as a part-time Commissioner for 12 months and has been reappointed for a further 12 month period commencing 17 October 2018.



Commissioner, John Keniry AM

Dr John Keniry is a chemical engineer who has held extensive leadership positions in the private and public sector, including various senior executive roles with Goodman Fielder Limited and CSR Limited. He has served as Chair of Ridley Corporation Limited, President of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Commissioner for the NSW Natural Resources Commission. John has also been appointed to a number of taskforces including the Prime Minister’s Biofuels Taskforce, NSW Abalone Industry Taskforce and Consumer Literacy Taskforce. He was Co-ordinator General of the NSW Greyhound Transition Taskforce. John was appointed as a part-time Commissioner for 12 months and has been reappointed for a further 12 month period commencing 17 October 2018.



Chief Executive Officer, Judy Lind

Judy Lind is a former senior executive of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) with over 30 years’ experience in the public sector. Judy has held senior leadership roles in the Australian Federal Police, the Australian Crime Commission and the Australian Taxation Office.

Judy is highly experienced in the areas of complex regulatory and compliance matters, law enforcement, intelligence and national security. She also has extensive experience in leading and building organisational capability and implementing programs to prevent, detect and prosecute non-compliance. She has an in-depth understanding of global and national sports integrity threats and risks, governing frameworks and legislation with a deep commitment to ethics in sport.

HOW TO ACCESS OUR INFORMATION

Information held by us

We hold information of the following kind:

- Policy documents – held on our website;
- Documents on our internal administration and the exercise of our functions – held in a records management systems;
- Information regarding greyhounds and current and former greyhound racing industry participants – held within data systems, a records management system and / or physical files;
- Correspondence with greyhound racing industry participants and third parties – held in a records management system;
- Documents concerning appointments of Commission staff to various positions – held in a records management system.

Mandatory disclosure of open access information

The Commission is required to make the following information publicly available:

Type of information	How to access
Information about the agency contained in any document tabled in Parliament by or on behalf of the agency	At the time of publication of this Agency Information Guide, no documents have been tabled in Parliament by or on behalf of the Commission
Policy documents	Website
Disclosure Log of Formal Access Applications	Website
Register of Government Contracts	The Commission is in the process of making this information publicly available
Annual reports	Website

Authorised proactive release

We are authorised to release, free of charge or at the lowest possible cost, as much other government information as possible, unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information.

We intend to review our proactive release program in July 2019.

Informal release of information

If the information a person is seeking is not already published on our website, we may be able to release it to the person under an informal request, without the need for the person to lodge an access application.

As a general rule we will provide the following types of information under an informal request:

- copies of correspondence sent to us by the person;
- copies of documents containing the person's personal information;
- copies of documents that are already in the public domain.

Please note that in some cases, a person may be asked to submit a formal access application. Conditions may also be imposed in relation to the use or disclosure of information provided under an informal request in some cases.

To make an informal request, please contact the Commission's Right to Information Officer on 1800 951 755 or email gipa.enquiries@gwic.nsw.gov.au.

Formal access application

If the information a person is seeking is not available on our website and not routinely provided by us under an informal request, the person may apply formally for access. An access application cannot be made for access to information specifically excluded under Schedule 2 of the GIPA Act.

For further details, including a copy of the Commission's Access Application Form, can be found on the Commission's [website](#).

Access applications are to be lodged via email or post. A fee of \$30.00 must be submitted with all access applications. In some cases, processing charges at the rate of \$30.00 per hour or an advance deposit may be imposed by the Commission, however we will notify the person in writing if this applies.

The applicant can elect how they wish to access the information sought: to inspect the document/s, receive a copy of the document/s or elect access in another way.

We will write to the applicant to acknowledge receipt of a valid access application within 5 working days, and will deal with a valid application within 20 working days (subject to any extension allowed for under the GIPA Act). If any extension of time is required to deal with the application, the person will be notified in writing.

Access applications are assessed in accordance with the provisions of the GIPA Act, which includes an assessment of whether it is in the public interest to disclose the information which has been requested. Access will be granted if the public interest in favour of disclosure outweighs the public interest against disclosure.

Once a decision about an access application is made, the applicant will be notified of the decision and their internal review and appeal rights in writing.

Other costs associated with accessing the Commission's information

Access to open access information is free of charge to members of the public.

At present we do not impose additional charges for the release of specific types of information, beyond the application fee or any processing charges.

HOW THE COMMISSION ENGAGES WITH THE PUBLIC

Public participation

We undertake consultation with our stakeholders and the public.

Stakeholder engagement is conducted to complete and implement key policies such as the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Greyhounds.

The Commission has an established 'GWIC Industry Knowledge Network' (**GIKN**). The GIKN is a network of individuals who are associated with greyhound racing that can be engaged by the Commission from time-to-time to sense check the Commission's thinking on how things work in the industry, seek feedback on what the potential impacts might be of proposed changes, and/or seek additional views or perspectives on what is happening within the industry. The GIKN is not intended to replace other avenues of consultation the Commission will undertake.

Members of the public (including participants) are encouraged to report any concerns via our [website](#).

Formal complaints can also be lodged on our [website](#). All complaints received are assessed and taken seriously regardless of their nature. Complainants will be contacted upon receipt (unless they submit a complaint anonymously) and advised of the outcome of their complaint. Complainants are encouraged to provide as much detail as possible and their contact details.