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## New GWIC data highlights re-homing success and confirms compliance approach

The Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission recently released statistics for NSW greyhounds that were retired, re-homed or euthanased for the period between 1 July 2018 and 19 March 2019.

The Commission's Chief Executive Officer, Judy Lind, said the data demonstrates the industry's willingness to comply with the Commission's Re-Homing Policy which was implemented on 2 July 2018.

"The Re-homing Policy emphasises the owner's obligations in ensuring their greyhounds find a suitable home at the end of their racing careers."

The increased use by participants of socialisation practices that expose young dogs to other animals and environments outside of racing is expected to improve re-homing rates over time.

"Early socialisation is a key strategy to increasing a greyhound's chances of being successfully re-homed at the end of its racing career," Ms Lind said.

The Commission also acknowledges the work being done by the RSPCA, Animal Welfare League and other private re-homing organisations to find greyhounds their forever homes.

"These organisations have and continue to play an important role in re-homing greyhounds," Ms Lind said.

The Commission acknowledges that more needs to be done to reduce the number of euthanasias arising from track injuries.

This is why the Commission has implemented the Race Injury Review Panel's to look more deeply into the underlying causes of serious injuries that occur to greyhounds.

"The Panel's findings are being used to develop track safety and welfare strategies to reduce the number of injuries at the track," Ms Lind said.

The Commission has an extensive compliance program in place to identify, detect and bring to account participants who do not meet their obligations in relation to re-homing. This includes identifying where the death of a dog may not have been accurately reported to the Commission.

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