

MEDIA RELEASE

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WORLD-LEADING GREYHOUND RACING REFORMS CONTINUE

The NSW Government has continued its world-leading welfare reforms of the State's greyhound racing industry with the introduction of whole-of-life electronic tracking.

Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation Kevin Anderson was in Bathurst today to announce new technology that will allow the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission (GWIC) to track and protect racing greyhounds throughout their careers and beyond.

"This is a game-changer for greyhound welfare in NSW," Mr Anderson said.

"NSW already has the highest standards of greyhound welfare in Australia and the lowest catastrophic greyhound racing injury rates on record, but that doesn't mean we can rest on our laurels.

"The NSW Government's \$3.6 million investment in e-Tracking will make a huge difference in protecting the welfare of racing greyhounds across the State and put an end to speculation that animals have disappeared.

"Once the new technology is implemented in the second half of this year, registered greyhounds will be sighted, scanned, and accounted for on an annual basis.

"The community has an expectation that GWIC can account for all registered greyhounds in NSW at all times. This new technology will guarantee the tracking and monitoring of every single registered greyhound across its life and ensure a safer and stronger industry."

Member for Bathurst Paul Toole welcomed the announcement on behalf of local owners and trainers who would see practical benefits from the new system.

"Over time stewards will also be able to use the system to register dogs electronically on race days with just a few clicks, cutting red tape for trainers and owners and doing away with outdated paper systems," Mr Toole said.

Implementing a register that captures the whole-of-life location of greyhounds was one of the key recommendations accepted by the NSW Government when the Greyhound Industry Reform Panel handed down its report into the greyhound racing industry in 2017. The project will also explore connecting the new system to the new NSW Pet Registry.

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