



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Mrs Giulia Jones MLA (Chair), Ms Bec Cody MLA (Deputy Chair), Ms Elizabeth Lee MLA,
Mr Chris Steel MLA

Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

Inquiry into referred 2016–17 Annual reports

Responses to questions taken on notice at public hearing of 8 November 2017

Minister for Regulatory Services



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GIULIA JONES MLA (CHAIR), BEC CODY MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), ELIZABETH LEE MLA,
CHRIS STEEL MLA

Inquiry into referred 2016–17 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
8 November 2017

Asked by MS CODY:

In relation to:

MS CODY: Compliance inspections of racing and wagering licenses. I am waiting for someone to—you have undertaken 122 inspections of racing and wagering providers in the territory for compliance matters. What was the outcome of that I guess?

Mr Snowden: Sorry. We have a high degree of compliance across the sector. We have a proactive compliance program which is undertaken through our in grad program with Access Canberra and it is programmed over the course of 12 months. We risk assess particular events and we pull our resources based on the risk that we anticipate for particular sectors.

Over the course of the year we pay particular interest to the thoroughbreds so that is harness and greyhound activity and we found that there was some elements of noncompliance but it was a low level and we factor in that the basis of the optimal level of compliance is self-compliance so we try and in each case industry and individuals to become self-compliant. And really that is a philosophical basis for how we approach those activities.

MS CODY: So 122 inspections, how many providers do we have?

Mr Snowden: In terms of gaming?

MS CODY: Well, racing and wagering providers.

Ms Snowden: well, when we go out we have—how many racing and gaming providers exactly? I will probably have to take that on notice exactly but in terms—

MS CODY: I mean, I am happy with an average.





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CHRIS STEEL MLA

MINISTER RAMSAY: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

As at 13 November 2017, in the ACT there are:

- 10 Race Bookmakers;
- 6 Race Bookmaker's Agents; and
- 1 Sports Bookmaker.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee Justice and Community Safety

Signature:

Date:

23/11/17

By the Minister for Regulatory Services, Gordon Ramsay MLA



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Asked by MR PARTON:

In relation to:

MR PARTON: Thank you. I am going to start and see how far we get in the greyhound space. Canberra Greyhound Club inspections, I understand that the racing event inspection from 2016 there were three and 2016-17 that spiked to 30 and I just want to ask what caused the spike in inspections.

Mr Snowden: Thank you, Mr Parton, for the question. As I mentioned previously we reassessed our program across the board. So whether that was greyhounds, whether it was thoroughbreds or whether it was harness racing we had an increased presence at each one of those particular venues and at each one of those particular meetings.

In relation to where the Gaming and Racing Commission plays there are consumer protection, harm minimisation and racing integrity issues that we need to be comfortable with and we wanted to get a very good baseline measure over the last year about how all three of those industry sectors were meeting their obligations around those principles.

MR PARTON: From three to 30 still seems like an amazing increase in inspection.

Mr Snowden: Well, on a proportionate basis we increased our inspections quite significantly so there was well over 100 inspections across all of those three areas. So on a proportionate basis it worked out the same.

THE CHAIR: Just a supplementary there. Can you perhaps take on notice the exact number of inspections on other venues and the proportionate increase compared to the year before?

Mr Snowden: Sure.





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MINISTER RAMSAY: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

Venue	2015-16 inspections	2016-17 inspections	Proportion change between 2015-16 to 2016-17
Canberra Harness Racing Club	2	9	350%
Canberra Greyhound Racing Club	3	20*	565%
Canberra Racing Club	2	18	800%
Total	4	27	

* Due to a transcription error, this figure was recorded as 30 in a written response to a Question Taken on Notice from Ms Lee MLA during Question Time on 1 November 2017. A revised response has been provided.

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ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
8 November 2017

Asked by MR PARTON:

In relation to:

Mr Snowden: Mr Parton, we pay particular interest to the greyhound club and I think you were out there one day when our inspectors actually went through and I think you saw first-hand what they were doing out there on that day. The integrity issues in and around whether it is horseracing, trotting or greyhounds was something that the commission was very mindful of in terms of getting a base setting in terms of the level of compliance.

In the past we did not have a great deal of data around that across all of the activities that were required and that included consumer protection mechanisms, the harm minimisation and the integrity issues. You would have also seen on that day when our inspectors go out there they do not only just focus on the issues around the regulation applying to greyhounds.

They also look at liquor activities. They look at the bookmaking activities on course. They also look at the provision of RSA certificates in relation to responsible service of alcohol. They ensure that people have responsible gaming qualifications and they also look at the requirements in relation to smoking legislation.

MR PARTON: Can I ask what has been the additional operating costs of those increased inspections?

Mr Snowden: I would have to take that on notice but they are built into our proactive compliance program. So they would be taken as a BAU process in any event so we would be funded to undertake—

THE CHAIR: What is a BAU?

Mr Snowden: Business as usual process for the course of our year. So we would, we structure our compliance programs around a risk program and we deploy our staff in relation to those programs.





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CHRIS STEEL MLA

MINISTER RAMSAY: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

There has been no additional costs to Access Canberra in relation to increased inspection activities. Access Canberra undertakes a range of compliance inspections at a single venue for a range of legislative obligations including liquor, gaming and smoking.

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Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Ramsay".

Date: 23/11/17

By the Minister for Regulatory Services, Gordon Ramsay MLA



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Asked by MS LEE:

In relation to:

MS LEE: Thank you, Chair. Page 35 you talk about some breaches that touch on exclusion register. Can you explain how the exclusion register is managed and enforced?

Mr Snowden: Ms Lee, you are referring to the, "Two related failures to look at the exclusion register within three consecutive trading days."

MS LEE: Yes, and then the next one.

Mr Snowden: "Two related failures to ensure the person accesses the exclusion register as authorised." Yes.

MS LEE: Yes. So I guess the question is a bit broader in terms of how is that managed and enforced.

Mr Snowden: So in terms of that it is an obligation on each of the licensees to have an exclusion register where they are providing gaming services. The key point in relation to these two matters is that there is an obligation on the staff to ensure people are excluded from those particular premises do not get access.

The issue in relation to the second matter was that the person was not authorised to get access to the register. They were not trained in relation to exclusion provisions or I think in that particular matter they were not trained in the responsible gaming activity.

In relation to the earlier issue, I believe this is a strict liability requirement but I do not have the individual details about the two failures but I am happy to take it on notice and provide you with some more detail around that.

MS LEE: That would be great, thank you.





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MINISTER RAMSAY: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

In respect of the two failures to ensure that only authorised persons access the register, the Commission found that a licensee with only one authorised user had allowed two other unauthorised persons to access the register using the authorised user's login details. The licensee was given a warning on the need to ensure that only authorised persons have access to the register.

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