

20 July 2026

Ms Mary de Groot
Secretary
House of Assembly Select Committee on Caretaker Conventions
Parliament House
HOBART TAS 7000

Email: caretaker@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms de Groot

In response to the Committee's request for additional information following the House of Assembly Select Committee on Caretaker Conventions hearing on Friday, 3 July 2026.

1. Did the former Minister for Racing, Ms Jane Howlett MP, or anyone from her former Ministerial Office provide any comment on your draft correspondence to the Launceston Greyhound Racing Club regarding a proposed pro-greyhound racing advertisement in the *Mercury* and *The Examiner* across the dates of 8 and 9 July 2025?

Please provide any relevant email correspondence as occurred regarding this matter.

Following a search of my records please find attached the following emails with the Minister's office in relation to Tasracing correspondence to the Launceston Greyhound Club:

Email Date	Subject
Wednesday, 9 July 2026 1:02pm	RE:DRAFT for comment FW: Mercury Advertising
Wednesday, 9 July 2026 12:10pm	RE:DRAFT for comment FW: Mercury Advertising
Tuesday, 8 July 2026 8:57pm	Fw: Mercury Advertising

Yours sincerely



Andrew Jenkins
Chief Executive Officer

Cc Gene Phair, Chair

Fw: Mercury Advertising

From Andrew Jenkins [REDACTED]
Date Tue 08-Jul-25 8:57 PM
To Gaetani, Luke [REDACTED]

 1 attachment (230 KB)
Mercury 2025 07 08.png;

FYI

Andrew Jenkins
Chief Executive Officer
Tasracing
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 8:24:00 PM
To: Andrew Jenkins <[REDACTED]>; David Manshanden [REDACTED] >;
Liam Swan [REDACTED] >; Gene Phair [REDACTED] >; Michael Gordon
[REDACTED] >
Subject: Mercury Advertising

This message was sent from outside your organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Evening All,
Please see attached the advertisement, just as an fyi that we have going into The Mercury tomorrow, Thursday and Saturday.

We have a similar one going into The Examiner Thursday and Sunday and in The Advocate Thursday and Saturday.

regards
Carol
LGRC Committee

[Draft] DRAFT for comment || FW: Mercury Advertising

From Andrew Jenkins [REDACTED] >
Draft saved Wed 09-Jul-25 1:02 PM
To Nick Turner [REDACTED] >; Gaetani, Luke <[REDACTED]>
Cc Andrew Jenkins [REDACTED] >

 1 attachment (313 KB)

Mercury 2025-07-08.png;

Luke, Nic

Welcome your comments on the draft response below –

Dear Carol & LGRC Committee

Thank you for sharing the advertisement attached

As mentioned at GRG, Tasracing's planned approach, and guidance to industry, through the State Election campaign period is to maintain a low profile, i.e. don't make our sport an election issue

Advocacy via advertising has a place for the racing industry, but needs to be utilised carefully

Tasracing wishes to draw to the LGRC's attention to a number of concerns and considerations relating to the advertisements -

- The three anti-racing Independent Candidates had their media opportunity and it had passed. There is now a real risk of their views being re-surfaced in the media*
- The figures quoted are accurate but the commentary is misleading - \$8.1M is gross Race Field Fee income, not a dividend*
- The erroneous statement the Code does not rely on taxpayer money does not take into account the cost of running the Code and, further, provides a lobbying angle for the anti-racers to remove the Code's funding under the Deed. This is especially concerning given the possibility of a minority State Government that may need to negotiate with Independents to form Government*
- The Mercury have bannered the advertisement, meaning it is deemed election material. That being the case the advertisement would likely breach the Electoral Act as it does not carry a statement of authorisation*

For the reasons outlined, Tasracing requests that subsequent advertisements be withdrawn

Andrew Jenkins

Chief Executive Officer | Tasracing

6 Goodwood Road, Glenorchy, Tasmania. 7010

[REDACTED] | tasracing.com.au

*Shaping a united and vibrant industry
of which Tasmania can be proud.*



*Please consider the environment before printing this e mail This email is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above;
it may contain information that is confidential and privileged If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any
dissemination, distribution or copying of this email is strictly prohibited Please notify the sender of any incorrectly addressed email that
you receive*

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, 8 July 2025 8:24 PM
To: Andrew Jenkins <[REDACTED]>; David Manshanden [REDACTED];
Liam Swan [REDACTED]; Gene Phair [REDACTED]; Michael Gordon
[REDACTED] >
Subject: Mercury Advertising

This message was sent from outside your organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Evening All,
Please see attached the advertisement, just as an fyi that we have going into The Mercury tomorrow, Thursday and Saturday.

We have a similar one going into The Examiner Thursday and Sunday and in The Advocate Thursday and Saturday.

regards
Carol
LGRC Committee



Outlook

RE: DRAFT for comment || FW: Mercury Advertising

From Andrew Jenkins <[REDACTED]>

Date Wed 09-Jul-25 1:13 PM

To Nick Turner <[REDACTED]>; Gaetani, Luke <[REDACTED]>

Thanks will amend as noted

Can't direct they withdraw so will add your suggested line

Will await Luke's comments then send to Gene for a final approval

Andrew Jenkins

Chief Executive Officer | Tasracing

6 Goodwood Road, Glenorchy, Tasmania. 7010

[REDACTED] | tasracing.com.au

*Shaping a united and vibrant industry
of which Tasmania can be proud.*



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail. This email is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above; it may contain information that is confidential and privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this email is strictly prohibited. Please notify the sender of any incorrectly addressed email that you receive.

From: Nick Turner <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, 9 July 2025 1:09 PM

To: Andrew Jenkins [REDACTED]; Gaetani, Luke [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: DRAFT for comment || FW: Mercury Advertising

This message was sent from outside your organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Great. I would not worry about the last dot point ... the original version had advertisement on it. Not sure who asked for that.

Are we able to request the ad be withdrawn? If yes, great.

If not, should we say:

For the reasons outlined, Tasracing requests that consideration be given to withdrawing the advertisements until the election campaign is concluded.

And just a quick update to the first dot point as one of the anti-racing polities was MLC Meg Webb.

N

From: Andrew Jenkins <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wednesday, 9 July 2025 at 1:02 pm
To: Nick Turner <[REDACTED]>, "Gaetani, Luke"
<[REDACTED]>
Cc: Andrew Jenkins <[REDACTED]>
Subject: DRAFT for comment | | FW: Mercury Advertising

Luke, Nic

Welcome your comments on the draft response below –

Dear Carol & LGRC Committee

Thank you for sharing the advertisement attached

As mentioned at GRG, Tasracing's planned approach, and guidance to industry, through the State Election campaign period is to maintain a low profile, i.e. don't make our sport an election issue

Advocacy via advertising has a place for the racing industry, but needs to be utilised carefully

Tasracing wishes to draw to the LGRC's attention to a number of concerns and considerations relating to the advertisements -

- *Two anti-racing Independent Candidates (plus MLC Meg Webb) had their media opportunity and the issue passed. There is now a real risk of their views being re-surfaced in the media following the advertisement placement.*
- *The figures quoted are accurate, but the commentary is misleading - \$8.1M is gross Race Field Fee income, not a dividend*
- *The erroneous statement the Code does not rely on taxpayer money does not take into account the cost of running the Code and, further, provides a lobbying angle for the anti-racers to remove the Code's funding under the Deed. This is especially concerning given the possibility of a minority State Government that may need to negotiate with Independents to form Government*
- *~~The Mercury have bannered the advertisement, meaning it is deemed election material. That being the case the advertisement would likely breach the Electoral Act as it does not carry a statement of authorisation~~*

For the reasons outlined, Tasracing requests that subsequent advertisements be withdrawn

Andrew Jenkins
Chief Executive Officer | Tasracing

6 Goodwood Road, Glenorchy, Tasmania. 7010

[REDACTED] | tasracing.com.au

*Shaping a united and vibrant industry
of which Tasmania can be proud.*



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail. This email is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above; it may contain information that is confidential and privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this email is strictly prohibited. Please notify the sender of any incorrectly addressed email that you receive.

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, 8 July 2025 8:24 PM
To: Andrew Jenkins <[REDACTED]>; David Manshanden
<[REDACTED]> Liam Swan <[REDACTED]> Gene Phair
<[REDACTED]>; Michael Gordon <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Mercury Advertising

This message was sent from outside your organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Evening All,
Please see attached the advertisement, just as an fyi that we have going into The Mercury tomorrow, Thursday and Saturday.

We have a similar one going into The Examiner Thursday and Sunday and in The Advocate Thursday and Saturday.

regards
Carol
LGRC Committee