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Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros  
Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate  
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Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Delyth Jewell MS  
Chair - Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and  
International Relations Committee

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5 January 2026

Dear Delyth,

Thank you for the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee's report in relation to the Prohibition of Greyhound Racing (Wales) Bill, published on 5 December 2025.

I welcome the Committee's recommendations and considerations of the Bill. I have set out the Government's response in the annex to this letter. I am pleased to have accepted or accepted in principle six recommendations.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Finance Committee and the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee for information.

Yours sincerely,

**Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS**

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a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

## **Prohibition of Greyhound Racing (Wales) Bill**

### **Government response to the recommendations from the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee**

**Recommendation 1: We recommend the Welsh Government undertake a comprehensive assessment of the economic and social implications of the Bill before it is brought into force.**

#### **Response: Accept**

The Welsh Government laid its Explanatory Memorandum and Regulatory Impact Assessment alongside the Bill and has published an Integrated Impact Assessment which was based on the best information available at the time of writing.

Officials will continue to consider any new information provided to Welsh Government, including through the Implementation Group and ongoing dialogue with the racing industry. This will include consideration of the economic and social impacts of the Bill on the single business affected, its employees, and the local community. This approach remains proportionate to the likely scale of the Bill's impact.

We have taken steps to build a clear picture of the popularity of greyhound racing in the local community and the potential consequences of prohibition, and we will evaluate any new information which is made available to the Welsh Government.

A detailed socio-economic duty assessment has been completed, and a summary is included in the Explanatory Memorandum. This will be published in full to complement the existing impact assessments.

The Integrated Impact Assessments and the Regulatory Impact Assessment will be updated ahead of Stage 3 to reflect any additional information received since the Bill's introduction. Reports from the Implementation Group, along with any updated impact assessments, will be published on the Welsh Government website, and the Committee will be notified when these are available.

**Recommendation 2: We recommend the Welsh Government fully assess the needs of affected workers as a consequence of the Bill and put in place targeted support to mitigate hardship before it is brought into force**

**Response: Accept**

We will assess the needs of affected workers and provide guidance and support to those who may be affected by the Bill.

Steps are already underway to assess these needs and ensure targeted support is in place to mitigate any impact before the Bill is brought into force. The Welsh Government is committed to delivering a coordinated, multi-agency response, utilising all available initiatives that can support employability and help mitigate the impact of redundancy for those affected. This includes the use of Working Wales, ReAct+, and Communities for Work+, which, subject to eligibility, will provide tailored assistance for employees directly employed by Valley Greyhound Stadium as well as those individuals connected to the industry. We will work directly with the employer and through the Implementation Group to ensure these needs are met.

**Recommendation 3: We recommend the Welsh Government closely monitor the potential displacement of racing activity across borders and engage with Animal Licensing Wales as necessary to assess and mitigate potential welfare impacts.**

**Response: Accept in principle**

We acknowledge the Committee's recommendation and recognise the importance of mitigating any potential impacts that the prohibition of greyhound racing in Wales may have on greyhound welfare.

We will explore what information could be gathered through ongoing work with the Implementation Group and engage with Animal Licensing Wales and local authorities as appropriate to monitor welfare concerns suspected as a result of displacement.

**Recommendation 4: We recommend the Welsh Government engages with the Sentencing Council before the Bill takes effect to develop clear sentencing guidelines.**

**Response: Accept**

Before the provisions contained in the Bill are commenced, the Welsh Government will write to the Sentencing Council drawing their attention to the new legislation so that the Sentencing Council may consider whether guidelines are required.

**Recommendation 5: We recommend the Cabinet Secretary tables an amendment to the Bill to enable the Welsh Government to issue statutory guidance to inspectors in relation to enforcement of the offences in the Bill.**

**Response: Reject**

The Welsh Ministers are already able to issue guidance to support public bodies, and inspectors appointed by them, in the exercise of their powers to enforce offences created by Senedd Acts.

My officials will work collaboratively with the Implementation Group, our stakeholders and partners, to consider whether guidance specific to the powers to be exercised by inspectors in relation to enforcement of offences in the Bill, is required.

**Recommendation 6: We recommend the Welsh Government establishes national agreements to support evidence-led investigations and collaboration between enforcement agencies and the Police.**

**Response: Accept in principle**

We agree with the principle of supporting evidence-led investigations and collaboration between enforcement agencies and the Police. This is already embedded within existing national structures through the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC), which provides strategic leadership and coordination for policing issues related to animal welfare, dangerous dogs, and wildlife crime. The policy intention is for the Prohibition of Greyhound Racing (Wales) Bill to be enforced primarily by appointed local authority inspectors. If enacted and once in force, we anticipate the number of enforcement actions as a result of the Bill to be minimal.

Should there be instances where a multi-agency approach is needed, the Welsh Government will work with NPCC and its existing collaborations with local authorities to ensure the provisions of the Prohibition of Greyhound Racing (Wales) Bill are absorbed into these structures. This approach avoids duplication, leverages national expertise, and strengthens multi-agency enforcement in Wales.

**Recommendation 7: We recommend the Welsh Government undertakes a detailed assessment of enforcement capacity, including training needs, and ensures that local authorities have access to adequate funding and support to implement the legislation.**

**Response: Accept**

Officials will continue to maintain close contact with local authorities, Animal Licensing Wales and the Implementation Group to assess enforcement capacity and training need.

As outlined in the Regulatory Impact Assessment, these costs are expected to be minimal, as breaches of the prohibition are anticipated to be rare. This has been reflected in our discussions with Caerphilly County Borough Council and Animal Licensing Wales who have also suggested that the cost of enforcement will be minimal given the limited scale of greyhound racing in Wales.