## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## New support on the ground for Victorian greyhound racing industry

Greyhound Racing Victoria (GRV) is appointing three new Industry Advisory and Support Officers (ASOs) to help Victorian greyhound industry participants better manage animal welfare and compliance issues.

Starting in early 2016, the ASOs will be out in the field across the State, providing advice and support for breeders, breakers, trainers and others involved in the day to day care of greyhounds.

Announcing the ASO initiative, GRV CEO Alan Clayton said it would help drive GRV's goal of an industry that sets best practice throughout all stages of a greyhound's life from breeding to retirement after racing.

"Greyhound breeding and training facilities and operations are covered by legislation that includes the Domestic Animals Act 1994, the recently amended Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals Act 1986, the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and local council regulations and bylaws," Mr Clayton said.

"And new National Rules came into force on 1 December, Local Rules are being amended and the Code of Practice for the Operation of Greyhound Establishments is being reviewed and updated."

"The ASOs will work with industry participants to help ensure they understand and are compliant with all relevant legislation and that all premises meet or exceed the minimum standards outlined in the Code of Practice."

"This will include providing information and practical solutions to improve facilities and advice on greyhound care, permits, domestic animal business registration and local council matters."

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