



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Monday, 23 May, 2016

### **GRV supports Irish greyhound export ban**

Greyhound Racing Victoria has lent its support to a push to ban the export of Irish greyhounds to Macau.

Recent reports have emerged that some Irish greyhounds have been exported to Macau, placing their welfare at risk.

In December last year, similar reports emerged of Australian greyhounds being exported to Macau. GRV, Greyhounds Australasia, Qantas and Animals Australia strongly spoke out against the practice that is yet to be made illegal under Federal law.

In the five months since Qantas' announcement that it would cease racing greyhound freight services to Asia, no Australian greyhounds have been exported to Macau.

Greyhound Racing Victoria CEO Alan Clayton said greyhound governing bodies had a duty to place animal welfare as a top priority.

"We all have a responsibility to ensure the best possible welfare for greyhounds before, during and after their racing careers and exporting them to a country with poorly regulated and enforced jurisdictions places their welfare in jeopardy," Mr Clayton said.

GRV Senior Integrity Manager Charlie Bezzina said preventing greyhound exporting to places where there is no greyhound passport remained a key focus for Victoria's greyhound racing governing body.

"We can confidently say that greyhound exports from Australia to Asia have dried up in the past five months but we will continue to monitor that situation and will identify any loopholes people might be using at the expense of animal welfare," Mr Bezzina said.

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**For media inquires please contact:**

Luke Holmesby | GRV Public Affairs Manager | 03 8329 1143 | 0478 473 570 |

[lholmesby@grv.org.au](mailto:lholmesby@grv.org.au)