

Our plan

Commercial greyhound racing is coming to an end.
The Greyhound Transition Agency is managing the change.

Our mission is to ensure the greyhounds are cared for and rehomed, the people in the industry are supported, and the industry is responsibly closed.

Greyhound
Transition Agency

greyhoundtransition.org.nz
info@greyhoundtransition.org.nz

The end of racing

In December 2024, the Minister for Racing announced the decision to end commercial greyhound racing in New Zealand.

In April 2026, Parliament passed the Racing Industry (Closure of Greyhound Racing Industry) Amendment Act 2026. Commercial greyhound racing ends on 31 July 2026.

The legislation established the Greyhound Racing Transition Agency, which operates as the Greyhound Transition Agency. Our role is to manage the change.

We are mainly funded by TAB New Zealand, using funds that would previously have gone into greyhound racing.

Every greyhound will be cared for – every step of the way to their forever home.



Outcome areas

1



Greyhounds are cared for and rehomed

We're bringing experienced greyhound carers, rehoming experts and trusted adoption agencies together, and supporting them with resources, funding and coordination – so every greyhound is well cared for, well prepared and matched with the right home.

2



People in the industry are supported

This change affects not only the greyhounds, but the people who have been part of this industry. We are working with key partners to make sure they are supported through the end of racing and beyond.

3



The industry is responsibly closed

We're working with the greyhound racing industry to oversee the closure. As racing ends, we'll manage the industry's assets and functions, so the wind-down is smooth, timely and effective.

4



A time-limited Transition Agency delivers its work and then winds down

We are set up to see the job through and deliver efficiently and effectively. We'll scale down as greyhounds are rehomed and close once outcomes are delivered.

Caring for and rehoming the greyhounds

The Greyhound Transition Agency is ensuring the greyhounds are looked after while we find their forever homes.

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Every greyhound will be cared for – every step of the way

We lead the Greyhound Rehoming Project – a coordinated, nationwide effort to match the greyhounds with forever homes.

From 1 August 2026, the day after racing ends, we will take responsibility for caring for and rehoming the greyhounds whose owners transfer ownership to us.

Our rehoming preparation and adoption partners are established experts who have been rehoming greyhounds for years.

The Project supports them with resources, funding and coordination so they can scale up to meet the challenge.

It also backs them with a sustained national marketing programme – showing New Zealanders what calm, loving pets greyhounds make, and getting the country involved in finding them homes, whether by adopting, fostering, volunteering, sponsoring or spreading the word.

For more about the Greyhound Rehoming Project visit greyhoundrehoming.org.nz



Rehoming process

Transfer

Owners can choose to keep their racing industry greyhounds or transfer them to the ownership of the Transition Agency.



Care

Greyhounds are cared for by experienced greyhound carers.



Prepare

Greyhounds enter our rehoming preparation programme, where greyhound experts train them to become pets in homes.



Adopt

Greyhounds are placed with one of our trusted partner adoption agencies.



Forever home

Greyhounds are matched with the right forever home, and are no longer owned by the Transition Agency.



Delivery plan stages

1

Prepare and plan

Rehoming strategy, plan and costings developed.

2

Foundational work

Contracts, policies and procedures designed; data and databases set up; finances activated, communication commences, marketing campaign developed.

3

Progressively up and running

Transition Agency roles filled; welfare and rehoming processes operating; marketing campaign commences.

4

Improving core business

End to end welfare and rehoming processes reviewed and improved.

5

Efficient run and steady state

Welfare and rehoming services operating consistently and efficiently; efficiency improvements as volumes decline; residual greyhounds managed.

6

Closure

Transition Agency closes once outcomes are delivered.

Supporting the people and closing the industry

The Greyhound Transition Agency is ensuring the people in the industry are supported and the industry is responsibly closed.

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People in the industry will have support

The end of racing has real financial, operational and emotional consequences for people in the industry.

We are working with key partners to make sure they are supported through the end of racing and beyond, with services for wellbeing and career planning.

We are also working closely with owners, trainers and others, as they make decisions about their futures and the futures of their greyhounds.

The industry will be responsibly closed

We're working with the greyhound racing industry to oversee the closure. As racing ends, we'll work together to manage the industry's assets and functions, so the wind-down is smooth, timely and effective.

Once Greyhound Racing New Zealand and its related entities are closed, any surplus cash and assets transfer to the Transition Agency, to be used for caring for greyhounds until they are rehomed and to support the people in the industry.

When the Transition Agency closes, any residual assets will go to former participants in the industry. The Transition Agency will provide advice to the Minister for Racing at that time on how the assets, if any, are to be distributed.



Support available

If you need support, we're here to point you in the right direction – connecting you with the people, information and services you need to take your next step.

OnTrack

A free, independent and confidential support service run by racing industry people for racing industry people.

0800 66 72 24
ontrack.org.nz

Ministry of Social Development

Work and Income support for individuals and tailored redeployment support for employers.

workandincome.govt.nz



Delivery plan stages

1

Prepare and plan

People welfare and support strategy, industry transition plan and costings developed.

2

Foundational work

Staff change processes commence; industry events held; wellbeing and career support programmes developed and offered.

3

Progressively up and running

People progressively move into new roles or exit; wider industry support provided; industry transition plan delivered; contracts and finances settled.

4

Improving core business

Support programmes embedded; reviews and improvement to ensure consistency and accessibility; Industry closed.

5

Efficient run and steady state

Ongoing support provided to remaining participants as required at reduced scale; support programmes concluded as needs are met.

6

Closure

Transition Agency closes once outcomes are delivered.