

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros
Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate
Change and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Delyth Jewell MS
Chair
Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport
and International Relations Committee
SeneddCulture@senedd.wales

29 September 2025

Dear Delyth,

Thank you for your letter of 19 September regarding the Prohibition of the Greyhound Racing (Wales) Bill.

I am grateful for the Committee's commitment to scrutiny during the time available for this Bill and I will ensure to be as flexible as possible. With regards to the second Ministerial evidence session on the Bill you'll be aware that my officials are in discussion with yours, and I hope that an arrangement to accommodate this can be agreed to shortly.

You asked for an update on the status of the proposed judicial review challenge to the decision to ban greyhound racing and for my view on whether it affects plans to introduce the Bill.

A judicial review claim has been issued seeking to challenge the proposal to introduce a Bill to ban greyhound racing in Wales and we have responded to the claim. This has not affected plans to introduce the Bill.

Judicial review proceedings have commenced, and we are waiting for a permission decision to be issued. We cannot predict when a decision will be made, it is a matter for the courts. If permission is granted, we anticipate receiving either a Directions Order setting out the timetable before a substantive hearing or else a listing for a Case Management Hearing. We do not know when a hearing date would be if permission is granted, although I understand spring 2026 is likely.

As this is now the subject of litigation, it would not be appropriate to comment further at this stage.

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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.

The Explanatory Memorandum and Regulatory Impact Assessment have now been shared with members of the Implementation Group and the Greyhound Board of Great Britain. The members of the Implementation Group were identified by my officials as key stakeholders affected by the Bill's policy objectives, at the outset and during its development to introduction. I welcome that the Committee will identify its own key stakeholders during its scrutiny of the Bill, once introduced.

The Greyhound Board of Great Britain declined the invitation to join the Implementation Group, however they remain key stakeholders who would be directly affected by the Bill and so the draft Explanatory Memorandum and Regulatory Impact Assessment have also been shared with them.

The Explanatory Memorandum and Regulatory Impact Assessment will be published alongside the Bill at introduction today.

I am copying this letter to the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery.

Yours sincerely,



Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS

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