

GRV throw their support behind banning Irish greyhound export

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GREYHOUND Racing Victoria (GRV) has announced its support to push a ban on the export of Irish greyhounds to Macau.

The announcement follows recent reports which suggested that some greyhounds from Ireland had been sent to the Peninsula off the mainland of China, with the belief that their welfare is being placed at risk by doing so.

The calls to ban the export of Irish greyhounds follow similar reports which emerged out of Australia late last year, with GRV, Greyhounds Australasia, Qantas and Animals Australia speaking out against the export of Aussie dogs at the time, which is still legal under Federal Law.

In December, Qantas announced it would no longer be supplying freight services to Asia for racing greyhounds and since then GRV claims no Australian Greyhounds have been exported to Macau.

GRV CEO Alan Clayton said it was the duty of the governing bodies to ensure greyhound welfare is the number one priority at all times, hence the reason why they have thrown their support behind the push for the ban.

“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,” Clayton said.

Adding to Clayton's comment, GRV Senior Integrity Manager Charlie Bezzina said GRV were determined to prevent greyhounds being exported

to places where there is no greyhound passport.

“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,” Bezzina said.