



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources

Ref: MS15-001890

Senator the Hon. Bill Heffernan
Chair
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Heffernan

The department provided an incorrect answer to a question taken on notice at Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015 hearing conducted by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on 20 October 2015, which I would like to correct.

In response to QoN 75 on the number of greyhounds exported by destination in 2014 and 2015, a number of data entry and transcription errors occurred in the table of figures provided.

I enclose a standalone copy of the corrected response.

Yours sincerely

Greg Read

First Assistant Secretary
Exports Division
15 December 2015

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2015

Agriculture and Water Resources

Question: 75

Division/Agency: Exports Division

Topic: Greyhound “passport” system

Proof Hansard page: Written

Senator STERLE asked:

1. Provide detail of work undertaken to improve the transparency and accountability of the exporting of greyhounds
 - a. Is the Department aware of the “Passport” system and the difficulty in covering those who are not members of the peak body?
 - b. Can a break-down be given of the number of greyhounds being exported and where to?
 - c. How many of these are using the “Passport” system?
 - d. Is there the provision of the Greyhound Export Declaration for providing a Passport number?
 - e. Is the department considering making the “Passport” system mandatory with the Department approving and auditing the passport system, funded by an industry levy on the passport application fee.

Answers:

- a. Yes the Department is aware of the “Passport” system. The Australian Government's role is limited under the *Export Control (Animals) Orders 2004* to issuing export permits and health certificates for dogs that assure the animal meets the importing country requirements.

Any questions about the greyhound passport system should be directed to the organisation that issues these passports namely Greyhounds Australasia.

- b. Greyhound exports by destination country for 2014 and 2015 (numbers for 2015 are from 1 January to 31 August).

Question: 75 (continued)

Destination Country	2014	2015
Austria	0	1
Canada	2	4
China	50	9
Czech Republic	1	0
Germany	0	3
Hong Kong	76	22
Ireland	3	0
Japan	0	2
Macau	260	110
Netherlands	1	0
New Zealand	242	206
Pakistan	1	0
Singapore	0	4
Slovakia	0	1
South Korea	1	3
Spain	0	1
Sweden	1	1
Taiwan	0	12
Thailand	0	1
United Arab Emirates	1	7
United Kingdom	11	6
United States of America	8	2
Total	658	395

- c. The Department does not collect this information.
- d. The greyhound declaration form was developed by the greyhound industry and was never an official government requirement. The Department does not require this declaration to issue an export permit.
- e. No.