



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Gill Docherty  
Scotland Against Greyhound Exploitation  
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**Rural Affairs, Islands and  
Natural Environment Committee**  
c/o Clerk to the Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

[rural.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:rural.committee@parliament.scot)

By email only

1 December 2022

Dear Gill,

## Petition PE1758: End greyhound racing in Scotland

At its meeting on 23 November 2022, the Committee considered its next steps in relation to your petition to ban greyhound racing in Scotland.

As you will be aware, the Scottish Animal Welfare Commission (SAWC) had informed the Committee that it would consider the issue of greyhound racing upon the completion of the internal review by Dogs Trust, RSPCA and Blue Cross. Following completion of that review, the Committee asked the SAWC for its position on greyhound racing. The SAWC wrote to the Committee to say that it needed “to undertake more research and fully consider the available evidence, in order to reach a balanced conclusion” and that it would communicate its collective views by the end of February 2023. The Committee agreed to wait until the SAWC has shared its views with the Committee before it considers any further steps.

The Committee also considered [your letter of 14 November 2022](#) requesting the Committee to call for the Scottish Government to act upon the position already taken by the SAWC not to support the continuation of racing at unregulated tracks. The Committee noted this would require considering the petition as two distinct parts, calling for the Scottish Government to ban greyhound racing at unregulated and regulated tracks separately. The Committee agreed the most effective approach for making recommendations to the Scottish Government would be to await the SAWC’s full conclusions on greyhound racing at both unregulated and regulated tracks in February.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Finlay Carson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Finlay Carson MSP**

Convener

Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee