

## **RCÉ KENNEL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME – INFORMATION NOTE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Board of RCE recognise that, heretofore, the main method of distribution of funding through the greyhound racing industry, has been prizemoney. The Kennel Improvement Programme was devised to ensure money is available to the greyhound Industry to assist in the modernisation and ongoing improvement of the surroundings within which greyhounds are kept, with a view to improving the welfare of these animals

### **BACKGROUND**

The Board of RCE has taken the decision to assist the greyhound industry in accepting applications for funding to subsidise construction works which are necessary to improve the welfare of the greyhounds residing there. RCE proposes that on receipt of a successful application that it will assist the applicant with a contribute up to 75% of the cost to a maximum of €2,500. The Board has ringfenced €100,000 per annum for this project and once the initial fund has been allocated, applications will be suspended until the following year.

### **OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the Programme is to assist in the development and improvement of existing kennelling facilities within which greyhounds are kept in the Republic of Ireland. The objective is not merely to facilitate the expansion of existing kennels.

### **APPLICATION**

The application process will involve at least one visit from an independent RCE Welfare Officer. Premises applying for the Programme must be in the Republic of Ireland. The works may be to address issues which are highlighted during welfare inspections. Any works requiring planning permission will need to furnish that number as part of that application.

Works that require independent certification by an engineer vis a vis planning permission compliance will need to indicate so and details of Engineer Certificate will need to be submitted. A second visit by the welfare officer will be required to certify that works have been completed. Any works must be completed by independent contractors who are VAT registered and proof of payment must be demonstrated.