



CATTLE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

COMMUNIQUE

Board meeting 16 & 24 November 2021
Policy Council meeting 7 December 2021

Cattle Council of Australia (CCA) held its latest round of board meetings in November followed by a meeting of the Policy Council on 7 December 2021. Due to ongoing COVID-19 travel restrictions, meetings were again held online. The board made several key appointments and continued work to build a more robust industry representative body. The Policy Council considered how to better define its role to work better alongside the board, along with measures to improve sustainability and traceability.

CCA Board

- Annual appointment of relevant office bearers was conducted. Lloyd Hick from AgForce Queensland was endorsed by the board to continue as Vice President and Southern Independent Director, Olivia Lawson was re-appointed as chair of the Governance, Finance and Audit Committee.
- In consideration of a new industry representative restructure, which is intended to be in place from 1 July 2022, the board agreed to extend the term of the Pilot Policy Council until 30 June 2022 to ensure Cattle Council's remains an effective federal policy and advocacy body until the proposed new structure can be put in place.
- The board also agreed to invite all Policy Council and Working Group members, including the Independent Chair, to continue in their individual roles until the proposed transition to a new industry body at which point the new board will decide on the future of the Policy Council.
- The board agreed with the Policy Council's recommendation to the development of a pathway for the cattle industry to transition to the compulsory use of electronic NVDs by 1 January 2024 with comprehensive consultation to occur and specific caveats being met.

Policy Council

- The independent review of the Pilot Policy Council was noted. The Policy Council agreed to work collectively with the board to address the recommendations; specifically in distinguishing the division of responsibility between board and Policy Council. The review report noted that for a new decision-making body, the governance framework supporting the Policy Council is well developed. The consultants made 19 recommendations to improve the operations of the Policy Council which will be incorporated into its work programme in 2022.
- The Policy Council agreed to establish a working group to consider how to best drive, measure and track progress and communicate about the existing Australian Beef Sustainability Framework industry goals. This includes getting industry input and ownership of the framework. The PC considered goals must be both measurable and reliable, and work is underway to improve indicators and data collection.
- The Policy Council agreed to support the working group progressing the Australian Beef Cattle Assurance System proposal. It considered a reformed system could be suitable for both overseas and the domestic markets and provide significant efficiencies and should only gather the information that gives the assurances required including food safety, product integrity and traceability.

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