


AGRICULTURE VICTORIA



Victoria's Biosecurity Roundtable 2022

Report Appendices





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This document is the appendix to the Victoria’s Biosecurity Roundtable 2022 Report.

APPENDIX A: PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

Agriculture Victoria
Animal Health Australia
Australian Dairy Farmers
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council
Australian Livestock & Property Agents Association
Australian Livestock Saleyards Association
Australian Pork Limited
Australian Veterinary Association - Victorian Division
AUSVEG
Biosecurity Advisory Service Consultancy
Bridging Policy & Practice
Citrus Australia
Coles Group
CSIRO Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness
Deloitte
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development WA
Emergency Management Victoria
Environment Protection Authority
First People of the Millewa-Mallee Aboriginal Corporation
Food and Fibre Gippsland
Grains Research and Development Corporation
Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation
Gunpork
Integrity Systems Company
Invasive Species Council
Landcare Victoria Inc.
Latrobe Catchment Landcare Network
Main Stream Aquaculture
Mallee Catchment Management Authority
Melbourne Water
Mildura City Council
National Fruit Fly Council
Nous Group
NSW Department of Primary Industries
NSW Local Land Services
Nursery and Garden Industry Victoria
Parks Victoria
PIC Australia
Plant Health Australia
Port of Melbourne
PrimeSafe



RSPCA Victoria
Scolexia
Sheep and Goat Compensation Advisory Committee
Southern Australian Livestock Research Council
Stockfeed Manufacturers Association of Australia
Strathbogie Shire Council
Strawberries Victoria
The Aquarium Vet
Upper Barwon Landcare Network
Victorian Catchments
Victorian Farmers Federation
Victorian National Parks Association
Victorian Rabbit Action Network
Ouyen Livestock Exchange
Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation
Wandoon Estate Aboriginal Corporation
Wellington Shire Council
Wimmera Catchment Management Authority
Woolworths
Zoos Victoria

APPENDIX B: PARTICIPANT RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS IN SESSION 2 – STRATEGY

The following tables list the verbatim responses to the questions posed to participants in the Session 2 breakout rooms:

1. What is important about Victoria’s Biosecurity Statement?
2. What are the challenges and opportunities that will be involved when implementing the Biosecurity Statement’s vision?
3. What focus areas need to be in Victoria’s Biosecurity Strategy to achieve the vision set out in the Biosecurity Statement?

Table 1. What is important about Victoria’s Biosecurity Statement.

Session 2 – Q1. Victoria’s Biosecurity Statement is important because...
Overarching vision for where we need to go. Aim for collectively.
Shows our intent. Needs to capture some degree what is needed to get there.
Comment about State agencies and departments working in silos (from EMV point of view) rings true. Difficult when departments not working together in mitigation. -- SENDAI framework for disaster risk reductions – don't follow it. Signatory to it (via UN). Four priorities as part of it – departments need to have the conversation early in planning. Statement has value in influencing how we now address this issue and have early conversations to drive the statement and vision. To be holistic and ownership is shared rather than government first - individual and community first at local level.
Fact it is policy, gazetted through parliament – key to why statement is important. Shows promise and leadership from State Government.
Importan that it is a shared vision. Everyone on the same page.
Sets the context from strategic point of view. Says the right things. Challenge will come out of strategy and leg change – it butts up against other frameworks. -- Biosecurity is important – my point of view is pest plant and animals CALP Act. Logic in Biosecurity or Logic in catchment management network – how this plays out is important.
Age old problem, different government departments wanting ownership; rather than how manage that – who is in charge. Defining who is in charge, while having a local community-led approach.
Leg point of view – ultimately ministers have carriage of leg. But opportunity for collaboration and trust to strengthen that between parts of government. Up until now, not as transparent as possible. True collaboration and trust are paramount.
Relationships – trusted relationships being paramount.
Because Victoria is the most dependent place on export, shutdown would be a catastrophe.
Broader environmental perspective, incorporates a wider grab around broad set of ecosystem services.
Clarity where dept wants to go and support of community and industry, common goals can get behind
Sets expectation and shared, inward and outward facing
Victoria is most dependent on exports, biosecurity is a national concern, more buy-in, having conversations and keeping it at the forefront, constantly talking about it.
It is the first step towards signalling a shift in thinking and the way we are tackling biosecurity and collaboration and biosecurity challenge is more than technical it is a social challenge. It's tourists returning from overseas, farmers reporting unwell livestock.
It's important to provide a direction form government and industry, and show where they can be working together. Where do we want to go and what do we want to achieve in the next phase.

Session 2 – Q1. Victoria's Biosecurity Statement is important because...

The start of a process which will hopefully resonate beyond the inner circle of stakeholders.

Light on the hill – that's what the Statement is. This is what we want biosecurity to be about. A light on the hill gives us focus.

Biosecurity is often misunderstood in community. Statement establishes what it means in community and landscape – and how everyone can be part of it.

Biosecurity as a 'we' problem – we are all invested. With the Statement we can all understand the rules and roles.

Missing: what Vic's going to do about the borders. Hard to implement a plan / strategy past borders. Part of the Statement should be about national level challenges

SVBS (Agriculture Victoria) – recent BI research: people perceive farm as a fortress. The Biosecurity Statement flips that – biosecurity is everyone's responsibility not just farmers. Not just about farms, but landscapes, environment, individuals.

Agriculture Victoria Strategy 2020 – importance of biosecurity. Not much difference between what is being said here. It's always been important. Sustainable funding is critical.

It does a good job at capturing aspirations today.

Statement is a starting point and part of the process, next is to work on the detail.

Stakeholders want confidence that biosecurity is looked after. Would be good to have that Statement is about improving security and confidence with stakeholders.

Need to be clear on what the Statement is actually is...

Legislation is important. Waiting to see how that develops and the detail.

Statement is general enough – includes animals but not fibre.

Having a focus and a united front forward

Statements are good but this makes no reference to risk.

It lays out the value of how it should occur – setting out in the early stages.

It is that shared vision and haven't been as coordinated before.

Demonstrates to the public we have our act together – we are on a pathway, and it shows some leadership.

It provides the opportunities to help us clarify our roles and responsibilities.

Beneficial having agencies and others sign up to this and pledge to it.

It's a starting point to see biosecurity as a whole – and that it takes a team to deal with biosecurity.

Opportunity is that – DELWP and Parks Victoria have been involved – provides a platform (more needs to be done).

The inclusion of how it becomes an everyday think for people – just as important is the process – there has been a lot of people contributing to this – it really has the shared vision. (can we make this a living documents???)

Opportunity to look at a new model to work across public and private interface.

The role of Indigenous communities that play and the different values – some of our Traditional Owners rely on feral pigs for food.

Providing commonality – other stakeholders going off.

Statement sets out a new way of thinking and doing about biosecurity that is collaborative and explicitly includes environment.

Collective importance of working together.

Session 2 – Q1. Victoria's Biosecurity Statement is important because...

What our role is and how we fit in to support the successful outcome of biosecurity. Be educated and collaborate with those around us, circle of friends, communities, educate others.

Shared responsibility, regulatory perspective – having clarity around role to play and what needs to be done.

Coming from lay perspective – succinct way to allow all in the community to think about biosecurity and know we all have a role to play.

For a lot of reasons, wonderful country, believer in biosecurity.

Frustrated by importation of things coming in via containers.

As a landowner, very worried about biosecurity. Want to see actions in this area.

To get across to everyone where they fit in the picture. Need to tell people why it is important and what the public impact would be.

In order to have a collaborative approach for a common goal.

Direction on how to achieve better biosecurity.

Need to work together to solve complex biosecurity problems.

Have a clear definition of what it is – what the continuum is.

Collaborating with all stakeholders in an incident – how do we translate into a real-world scenario.

Helps to broaden knowledge of how it impacts all stakeholders. Helps to join the dots.

Important as it is bringing everyone together, our farmers and community know we are working together. Bring everyone out of silos.

Will bring out accountability.

What is different about this strategy? A genuine commitment to engage and learn from industry and community interests and recognise the valuable knowledge.

Statement and this process that we're going through, it's clear that we are willing to listen to all parties, to be heard, Statement is important in this respect.

Important to include First Nations knowledge.

Statement is going to show that everyone can be a part of this journey. Know who to go to for information.

An important step to developing the strategy

This may break down the barrier with VFF. Get the right information.

Need to value our Statement. Important to our trading partners.

Analogy of COVID-19 – people are concerned but most yet to realise the consequence of biosecurity – need to draw out the seriousness of biosecurity risks.

Having something written out that is clear in wording so can be followed.

Need a key point that the strategy can link to and then from there can be developed – this provides a framework for how things inter-relate.

We all know what our goal is.

Statement act as an anchor – centralisation of those things that everyone can focus on and as a roadmap.

Statement may demonstrate to people how broad biosecurity is.

Statement may help to align different stakeholders and agencies.

How do we make biosecurity consequence very personal for people?

Session 2 – Q1. Victoria's Biosecurity Statement is important because...

The Statement demonstrates a sense of priority and importance.

The Statement will help more people understand what biosecurity means.

Statement points out the connections between elements of impact – similar to COVID-19 can demonstrate potential impacts

Table 2. Challenges and opportunities involved in implementing the Biosecurity Statement's vision

Session 2 – Q2. Challenges and opportunities for implementing this vision are...

Silos within government.

Trust and transparency.

Community needs to be factored in.

Outcomes for biosecurity, but managing the risk delivers a whole lot of outcomes across different themes. Biosecurity is BIG. People have different interests in different elements. Environmental, agricultural productivity and biosecurity.

Defining outcomes.

How you priorities outcomes and actions across a complex/large biosecurity space.

How it fits within existing frameworks. (e.g. good catchment framework, now talking about integrating biosecurity; how to not duplicate and make sense of it in the existing framework.) Where is the value add, what does it look like?

Effective governance – around multiple priorities, role of gov down to individual grower and community. (Number of models out there, but need to be applied effectively, not just top-down approach).

Lots of voices to be heard. How you determine what is (who) a true reflection of the priority at the time? (e.g. high priority in one region, not in another; therefore can't say is not a priority; How do you manage this, who navigates/determines that? Not just pandering to loud voices.)

Complex, many moving parts – getting it all to work together; all community elements involved.

Knowledge and information side; access to right knowledge and information. Connectively and data sharing systems needed in place to collect and share knowledge.

Factual knowledge (e.g. defining a source of truth). E.g. FMD, lot of hearsay that has not been corrected and dispersed throughout community.

E.g. photo system, with capability to interpret data [conversation cut off, but challenge to implementing this technology and getting adoption widely].

Challenges until rubber hits the road, biosecurity is an insurance policy, people think it doesn't impact them.

Not wasting the opportunity of a crisis, these are important times to bring to bear; vision and strategic objectives are things people can get behind, collaboration and working together – takes work, time, energy and resources.

Something you have to keep at, it's a continuous process.

Cost being factor.

Fire has achieved interesting spot, people have a collective thought process around it, need to achieve that type of mindset in this space.

Things need to do now to uplift biosecurity capability, but it's a continuous thing from a strategic perspective, need things in place that are scalable to position well – technology, processes, way engaging with industry – really does go to the way you're doing things.

Session 2 – Q2. Challenges and opportunities for implementing this vision are...

From the technology space, finding the right talent to do the job – you can have the great ideas, but you need the right knowledge and experience to drive things.

When you mention biosecurity, it is seen as something beyond our borders to most people. But it really is established in our paddock. Having a broader approach.

Getting practises implemented day-to-do and not just when there is a potential incursion.

Difficulty with engagement at the same level. Public land that is adjacent or runs through private land. Not enough biosecurity between public and private land by contractors.

Management of land along railway lines, weeds that are not being managed do become a serious issue. One of the biggest is going to be commitment across multiple agencies.

Creating a whole of government. And ensure it is all of government is engaged.

Defining what it means beyond the inner circle or their inner circle and getting beyond that to the wider audience.

That biosecurity is part of the norm and not a special thing we do.

Lack of awareness of Agriculture Victoria in community e.g. during JEV outbreak, research into farmers – low brand recognition of Agriculture Victoria. People don't know we exist. More engagement, using other channels.

New national strategy – important to help jurisdictions to work better together. States need to jump on board and drive.

Challenge with national system: saw this with COVID-19 – same challenges with biosecurity system. NBC work is critical. More work to do on a coordinated national biosecurity system. Need systems to be working much better together – challenge and opportunity.

Funding! Resourcing of the system.

Having the people on the ground.

Seeing biosecurity issues right across the landscape.

Need support from other agencies, community.

Producers put lots of time and effort into initiatives – communication back is an issue. Surveillance as example, the data doesn't get fed back well to farmers. Breakdown of communication between farmers and government or industry. Finishing the communications loop.

A lot of focus on biosecurity, but it is how we maintain this over the longer period that is the challenge.

We have a long way to go...

This does need to be a systematic change, not just awareness – this will include legislation.

Key gaps are transport tracking, disinfection, national permit system (not just state-based).

Need to adopt digital technology e.g. QR codes.

Section of the community is ignorant.

System change will include everyone understanding – need to prepare for biosecurity, needs to be 'ready to go'.

Victoria is a state within the federation – and with the other states and Commonwealth – we don't need to do it alone.

We won't get buy in with the private sector if government (public land managers) aren't doing there.

Government as a landholder – and is meant to be managing these issues – managing one third of the state – the elephant in the room. Its ongoing, particularly endemics.

Session 2 – Q2. Challenges and opportunities for implementing this vision are...

Resourcing – there is always a challenge with resourcing and people with the right skills.

The complexity of differing values and sometimes conflict (e.g. brumbies).

Rule of the game – we need not be scared to fail and experiment – steps outside.

Articulating the supports to put in place around shared responsibility in back of everyone's mind. Perception of going out to public could sound like government will do less and public will do more. What will we do to allow and motivate people to participate?

Challenge of cultural change to make this statement become real. Big shifts in statement. How Indigenous and environment will be engaged. Different role for government. Will take many years.

How to translate decision-making into considered timely action.

What is decision-making? Statement suggests different form. Will be challenging for government. Decisions will no longer only be made by government.

Is there clarity around what the decision-making process will be?

Cultural piece really important. Government making timely decisions. Listening and allowing the different perspectives to be taken onboard will be challenging.

The way biosecurity is described in the different government departments and how this overlaps.

Cost and time are big things when it comes to biosecurity.

One of the challenges in creating strategies (federal level) – bringing them to life and implementing them.

Example of proactive action – Landcare facilitator and hay bailing contractor clean out their vehicles, washing down tyres because moving between properties.

Need to see the progress and achievements against the strategy.

There is a lot of talk, the main thing is the way the First Nations people think is different to the way that non-First Nations people think. Need to connect to community and to the people that matter, it isn't worth much. First Nations and farmers think along the same lines. First Nations have been doing biosecurity for thousands of years, but it just isn't written down. People need to connect with the knowledge that the First Nations peoples have.

Looking at strategic plans, sometimes what it starts out at doesn't mirror the finished product.

We need to look at multi-purpose land management and how biosecurity fits into that. More system approaches to things.

What is the scope? What are the boundaries?

How do we establish the breadth of the issue and communicate/ raise awareness of how big this issue?

Challenging the traditional way of doing things.

Broad spectrum of stakeholders may be difficult to reach. Biosecurity is everyone's responsibility and everyone has a role to play.

How do we make sure that consumers are educated? How do we ensure that we reach everyone with messaging?

Important for Statement to be remembered and kept in front of mind. Communication and collaboration important. Message needs to be consistently reinforced. National issue, not just Victoria. Information needs to be kept simple.

Biosecurity system needs to mesh in with the National system, not just the State system.

Equitable funding solutions.

Make sure messaging is clear. Volunteers' contribution is very valuable. Challenge is relying on it, as they can only give so much. Asking the same volunteers. Need to look at responsibilities of remuneration.

Session 2 – Q2. Challenges and opportunities for implementing this vision are...

Cultural change needed.

One of the biggest barriers at the local level, biosecurity doesn't "affect me". Culture change needs to be in government and community.

Facilitators are paid and can have closer working relationship. Breaking down of barriers between DELWP and Agriculture Victoria.

Where do we get direction from? Where do we go? Needs to be very clear on how this will work. Defining who is responsible for various aspects of biosecurity. Shared responsibility.

Some people might say it's not my problem and therefore I don't need to act – therefore important to understand the gaps in awareness.

Might be a reduced mindset of being engaged because of the impact that the pandemic has had on small group face-to-face sessions.

We need to recognise the speed and scale of adopting a statement and strategy – the actions items need to play to people's position within the biosecurity system.

People may have become a little disconnected from the pandemic and this might be a broader issue across community.

Pig/beef industry – extension officers previously based across the state and these key engagement staff have been lost – this cannot be a responsibility of just the government but needs to be shared.

Recognising the many different sources of expertise (not just technical, science based) and getting all that expertise engaged.

Learned a lot by hearing others speak.

Getting the messages out and making it real and relevant to all people so that they are all working together to keep us safe.

Articulating the benefits of strong biosecurity system from everyone's different perspectives.

Different challenges for different industries.

Multiple stakeholders.

Can you have one message that appeals to everyone?

Commercial concerns and how we meet that need.

Finding the right motivators.

Stop putting government in the centre.

Some farmers not wanting to learn about it, even though they know it is important.

The "not going to happen to me" thoughts.

A gap can often be local government. Underfunded, under resourced and lack of funding. Don't have capacity to operate in this space. Don't know their delivery capacity.

Break down silos.

People think that risks are not here yet, so why implement things now?

The landowners – it is a complacency, don't do things until on their doorstep. Some people are trying to be prepared, others aren't prepared.

Table 3. What Victoria's Biosecurity Strategy should focus on to achieve the Biosecurity Statement's vision

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...
Any good strategy has KPIs and actions arising from that, making sure have a common understanding and approach between CIG about what needs to be achieved.
Agree with a lot of what's said, very important to focus on implementation and what the strategy delivers, not just what's in it. The 'what's in it for me', need to communicate that to all stakeholders – have a comms and a change management strategy to go with it.
Share earlier reflections from, dry subject, trying to create a shift to collective responsibility, import to find a sweet spot to address the strategy along the segmentation of stakeholders.
Have common and targeted messaging in the strategy.
Short, medium and long term, benefits realisation (viable, desirable and achievable at any point) – upgrade if required.
People must be a focus are of the strategy because without them we don't have the action, and then make it their issue as well, do this through having conversations, capture and bottle what knowledge and experience people have in the biosecurity system.
It all comes down to implementation, it is about partnering with CIG, technology and approach should be directed by the need of community and stakeholders.
Has to be fit for purpose, you have to work on and in the strategy – so make sure it's contemporary.
Fit for purpose, dynamic. Making sure everything is captured.
Demographics in agriculture mean shouldn't overdo the technology, one-on-one focus.
Gap between educating and the implementing change, look at what prevents people from acting.
Engagement with stakeholders needs to be considered, what processes will be set up and relevant frameworks etc.
Addressing apathy when worst thing happens; those most affected, if not affected probably won't engagement – i.e. motivation is much stronger when someone is affected.
Disaster risk reduction system – how biosecurity is integrated into the broader disaster/risks we have, and how we will address them.
Resourcing.
Better engagement of community and industry.
Outline how empower, encourage involvement in strategy (not being top down); lot of willingness.
Systems and processes in place to empower people to make a difference.
Community groups are frontline of our surveillance – must have tools and information (rapidly) – important for this to be strong at State level.
At State level – a strategy that will make a different. It must focus on what and how.
Set up clear measures and indicators about how achieve vision (look at scope, put in targets, be accountable to these).
Narrative – what happens if unsuccessful – economics, health and wellbeing, outcomes. If we don't have a successful approach what are we risking? Putting dollar values in terms of lost productivity. Bring the purpose and importance of biosecurity home to people, so they understand impacts (e.g. climate change, food security, environmental degradation – biosecurity is a contributor).
Links to the national biosecurity strategy (Being on NBS reference group – strategy needs more what and how, rather than why).
Pest plants and animals are a key threat – in policy and strategy; informs investment (add up the dollars and show knock on impacts). Integrated as a risk lens, but now in another framing. How join the dots together. Strategy should identify how it works within the bigger policy and framework environment.

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...

Statement is out, but how get runs on ground? e.g. pest control, wild pigs – no one taking ownership to rid them, or in too hard basket, or funding pool to address certain pest. Avoid these being only motherhood statements, this must make a difference.

Funding – has to be long-term funding linked to the strategy, and must be significant if talking about serious change. (But need other markets for others to invest, not just government. Producers invest a lot. Recognition must be given e.g. also levy fees/compensation funds not matched on other side and frustrations lie here).

Feral pigs produce carbon gasses, if had carbon market, could have a business and generate value propositions for corporations to invest in carbon credits.

Strategy must include something about innovation and markets; also recognise existing contributions of industry and markets/community.

Government needs to put up an argument to compete against funding for hospitals and roads. Needs to do that. A good story about benefits of biosecurity because it will mitigate other negative social impacts.

Good evidence to support the narrative (compelling). When cabinet deciding on investment, require the story.

Story/narrative not only focus on worst case scenario... little things too like endemic pests, or lot of scope to focus on other issues.

Learning from past: Biosecurity Action Plan in 2011, motherhood statements and pillars – but what are we doing with outcomes, did we achieve everything? Why not? Not start from scratch. Learnings and pitfalls.

This must be done in person. Bring people together face-to-face. Online is not genuine engagement/half engagement. Especially with farmer engagement, you will lose them in an online setting. On the ground engagement, at a local level must be in person.

Lot of focus areas - need a top three (to six). Group into themes.

Information: access to accurate information, trusted/factual information, real time information, source of truth, finding out the information via Weekly Times, etc, not great. Work on how media doesn't get information prior to major stakeholders. (e.g. Colac Otway Saleyards – action plan underway, we may not know or be told any outbreak for at least 3 weeks, but guarantee via social media circus and word of mouth gets picked up, media end up knowing before we do. How manage that?)

Ovine Johne's Disease pitted producer against producer. Factor in mental health component. (goes back to learn from past mistakes)

Privacy: level of (in preparedness and response) knowing who is trading with who, where and when, but not being used against farmers. How avoid fear responses, risk to business. How promote willingness to come forward, but protect privacy so people will come forward (whistle-blower policy). So don't end up on cover of Weekly Times as an example.

Systems approach - links to national strategy; roles and responsibilities, outlines policy environment and how it fits in, involving all players in the system.

Information and engagement – learning from our past, using information for improvement/intelligence led, being able to adapt to respond to changing circumstances, face to face engagement at local level, source of truth for trusted information.

Compelling story - covers need for resourcing, funding, benefits and risks for all stakeholders (Statement is the start of this story. Driver for getting everyone involve).

Empowerment, support and protection - empower people to act, protect people's privacy, tools and technology to enable action, funding, resourcing. Strategy must focus on WHAT and HOW. Not just motherhood statements.

Everything... it's not about what's out and what's in... it's all about what's in

What are the metrics. A good discussion will provide a uniformed theme. Social and economic outcomes

Statement is great. But it needs to think about the next step. Mechanics around it. How is this actioned. The strategy needs to talk about funding, which will show the legs of the program.

Defining success. Really good notion for strategy. And if he has a good definition of success, it will be a good blueprint.

Government truly lives the partnerships and broader responsibilities. Needs to be true whole of government.

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...

Cost shifting is a real risk. We need to find the balance and better defined.

Whole of government approach. Not just Agriculture Victoria. It needs to be owned by all agencies with a space in biosecurity, and they need to be engaged and actively behind it.

Developing partnerships is so essential. It is broad but needs to be view broadly. Duty of care and defining responsibilities. The strategy needs to better define to help resonate outside the inner circle.

Biosecurity is a broad concept. It is a word that means different things to different people. A communications and engagement challenge. What does it look like in practice? It needs to be a way of maintaining attention on biosecurity.

Not just government partnerships. Anyone and everyone is across getting all the information and being able to implement biosecurity and get the information they may need or don't already have.

Contemporary legislation to support a new strategic approach will be important. Getting the balance correct. Compliance and behavioural changes. How to get the leg reform right. Getting the balance right.

Hard to get compliance if we don't understand why some people are noncompliant.

Partnerships

Better clarification of shared responsibility. How much is this about cost shifting from government to industry.

If we are going to broaden the statement that "it is everyone's responsibility". How are we going to fund it and see value in the investment.

Don't leave anyone out of the conversation when we are talking about engagement.

Bio research – more resilient animals and plants.

R&D – need co-investment. Invest with private sector, other states etc. to get bang for buck. Look to work in AgriBio e.g. disease resilient varieties of wheat etc.

Project idea: App to identify pests and weeds automatically, through AI.

R&D – continuing to grow the toolbox of things to control pests and weeds, e.g. blackberry biological control, tools to manage feral animals.

Improvement in tech systems.

Traceability – what should the requirements be for non-commercial farmers.

To ensure everyone has a buy-in – need to have the money on the table to back it up.

Continue to modernise our system.

Working together to deliver on priorities.

Part of our strategy should be about maintaining and improving the system. We have a really good system – let's not let that slip. Improve our weaknesses, e.g. surveillance, preparedness.

Partnerships – how do you build those partnerships and make them real partnerships? E.g. real sharing of power, decision making and responsibilities. Takes time to foster relationships and trust.

Prevention, eradication, containment approach.

Areas we need to improve – surveillance, preparedness of industry, preparedness to fail and cope with change.

Having these sorts of conversations – working together to build the trust. Having transparency.

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...

Cross borders.

National strategy.

Alignment with national system.

Clarity about roles and responsibilities – the NBS talks about this, need this to be clear e.g. relationship between national and state jurisdictions because there are overlaps and grey areas. What's role of industry versus government? What is a shared role?

Understanding who are biggest risks and how we can get to them? e.g. backyard pig farmers – industry doesn't have control of this.

Self-compliance e.g. saleyards aren't policed. Need regulatory process around. Need robust rules/processes – clear rules around what's accepted.

Regulation as a deterrent.

Good examples of coregulation – clear rules, good solid reg system across the spectrum from enforcement to co-reg to self-management.

Penalties for non-compliance aren't enough. Not fit for purpose.

What are penalties for non-compliance? Farmers, animal activists, individuals, travellers... Need to police and prevent. Minority can have a massive impact.

Extension for landowners – DPIs don't do this as much now, a lot of it falls to Landcare

Awareness, engagement and education – so people understand what biosecurity is.

Feral animals – risk of feral animals on biosecurity e.g. spread of diseases. Cultural and social issues around management of feral animals.

Education and awareness – to help people understand with biosecurity means, how the small things can make a difference, e.g. working with primary schools to spread the message on invasive species.

Invest in early education – look to Kitchen Garden program for inspiration (school kids growing food and learning about healthy eating) – learn about pests and diseases in early education.

Raising awareness of impacts and issues of pest animals

Need to ask the individual industries what they need, e.g. stock standstill plan were in place but able to be dusted off, updated it, used discussion sessions to improve the plan.

Shift to recovery – what is the challenge? This includes information, how to resolve the situation, what happens after the outbreak. Has there been enough done to think about how to resolve and recover?

Area of transport needs further focus, e.g. truck washes, but needs more focus. Opportunities for making the system better. This includes livestock, fruit and vegetables etc. This might require infrastructure and capital investment.

FMD funding will help with this exercise.

Need to build confidence – in industry bodies and also in government and agencies.

This is a long-term game – funding is important in that.

Consistent funding is very important – can lose traction.

Can improve plans e.g. use of PPE, staffing issues.

There is a need to keep things simple e.g. what chemicals should be used to disinfect a truck. Stakeholders need to be brought up to speed.

What have we learnt from overseas – there was a long time to recover after FMD outbreak, market access, trauma.

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...

Four main steps: keeping it out; being prepared for when it does come; minimising disruption; recovery.

This is a Victorian Statement, but need national consistency.

Need early buy in from stakeholders.

Need more focus on recovery.

Preparedness: surveillance is important and can be improved. Our methods may be outdated. This needs to include landholder observations, e.g. JEV surveillance wasn't being done. Could surveying known vectors be done more effectively e.g. use routine processes?

How do we capitalise on technology – can be simple, e.g. having a camera for truck observations etc. Process improvements.

Need more industry liaison officers – trained and in place.

Need to be greater focus on exercises, e.g. stock standstill. Ran this at a conference session with good outcomes.

We have learnt a lot from COVID-19 – PCR testing, wastewater detection. Can we use this more effectively? Listening to how industry uses this and thinking laterally.

AUSVET plan written about when a response is required – being prepared and recovery is not covered as thoroughly.

Need to engage with campers at river frontage. Engage with public and tourist groups. Greater access can lead to greater risks.

We have the bones (in the statement) for cross tenure – theme 1 – joined up government with a whole of landscape action and people roles and how it will be funded.

Practically defining the roles and responsibilities.

It needs to link to other strategies such as Regional CMA strategies, Parks Management Plans, and regional pest plant and control plans and Biodiversity 2027.

In terms of the structure of strategy – do it from a bottom-up approach, what do people value? Could include environment or agriculture, but we think in silos in terms of preparedness etc. What about what they want to protect – so think about it from bottom-up. Let's not assume.

Heritage Victoria has nice example of themes – https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0023/514940/Municipal-Heritage-Strategies-guide.pdf

People can do what's important in their landscape.

On-ground people can't relate to it too.

Some things to protect against are not economic possible – be clear on what we won't be doing – and that can be okay. It's being transparent.

Be realistic over the mid-term (5 years) but also acknowledging the issues in the longer term (10 years plus) and how it can prioritise our action.

Are we going to be aspiration or realistic? Unsure. Workplan needs to be realistic.

It needs to have a workplan and a M & E system to demonstrate success. Needs to include the architecture and timeline/roadmap.

How do we work in together? Some ideas.

Victorian Waterway Management (DELWP) and CMA with water management strategies – good framework to set high level policy and strategy and then work plans right behind it, with it right behind it.

Industry Forum through AHA – Emergency Animal Disease working group – livestock industry has been able to prioritise and find that common ground. Governments aren't part of it. Need some form of working group to oversight it and ensure main stakeholders involved. Challenge is getting the size of that group right.

What's the timeline of the strategy and what works? 5 years as a minimum; NSW 8–10 years. Longer can contract the political cycles – long strategy can protect. If longer, needs an ongoing review process. Bi-partisan support?

Scale of the strategy needs to consider high level outcomes but then focus on implementation plans to get real the 'rubber on the road'.

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...

Make space for different views – and find the areas that we have in common ground – but different values.

Be carefully of group think, look at it from many sides.

Paying attention to governance. Should be explicit about setting out new governance.

Making sure the decisions are inclusive of the parties that need to be involved. Can be difficult for individual states to implement. Needing the national consistency. Decisions made in Victoria will impact nationally.

Where do natural alignments and interest fall for the vision? Direct the capability to this overlap. How do we get this balance? Is it out of scope for Agriculture Victoria to auspice all this?

Governance and decision making – less about area of action, more about a way of working. Dual flows. Not about government telling others, more about sharing information and deep listening.

Biosecurity technology uptake. Actions coming out of shared responsibility to support user groups. Need to be user-friendly, accurate, timely, current.

Facilitation of good biosecurity. Tools very important. More support for innovation and technology R&D. Need tools for all stages of the invasion curve.

Change management communications.

Strategy needs to define what biosecurity is and be focussed on what will achieve. Each element to support a clear vision.

How the communications experts help will be important.

General biosecurity obligation – implemented in other states. Want the strategy to support this. Need very clear comms about what needs to be done. Without good communication and direction, people don't know what it is about. In other states there is low awareness after multiple years. Communications needed to imbed general biosecurity obligation is taken up in all areas.

Biosecurity often makes biggest gains with prevention and early action. Trying not to be everything to everyone. Strong focus on prevention and early action important. Supported by multiple group members.

General Biosecurity Obligation – communications, people need to know the why. How do you give life to this to the broader community? What is the risk appetite? How do we understand priority areas for the strategy?

Biosecurity Strategy has to take us away from reactive actions and set broader pathway.

Strategy needs to be really clear about what success is to achieve the vision. What success looks like in terms of the statement that is 'visionary'. Biosecurity is a broad term, need to keep the strategy focussed to make it very clear. In danger of being all things to all people.

What are we going to do or what are we not going to do? What has changed? May include stopping certain things to focus efforts elsewhere. Articulate will not be done.

Is the strategy about all the system or the discretionary effort and the uplift of the system? Do we assume BAU continues?

Want strategy to be implemented therefore need clear actions, resourcing to implement it, otherwise will become a motherhood statement. Resourcing helps to get impact needed.

Education. We assume that people have an education. There are people in the industry that do not have as much of an education is a large majority. Farmers who have issues with reading and writing. Some people do not have computers. We assume people can read and write and have access to the internet.

Face to face meetings and education.

Education is important but how it is presented is more important. What is in it for me?

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...

We make assumptions that people know what biosecurity is.

Needs to be driven from grassroots up. One size doesn't fit all. What happens in the country isn't the same as in the city.

We need to be prepared. We as a country need to be prepared.

Innovation and technology will play a big part in it all. Need to also look at non-technology solutions (see point one above with the level of education etc).

It is not what we say, but how we say it.

Communicating and engaging with people.

Future planning for reaching out to people, to allow them to plan ahead to attend events, so they can prioritise.

Engage the urban people, to gain an understanding of what is happening in rural areas.

Partnerships and connections – importance of partnerships with community at grassroots level. Also need to look at international connections. There could be things happening in the animals' space that could impact the plants' space.

Community and making things human – so people can see the impact of what may happen.

Community is important. Connecting with people who have no idea about biosecurity and how it could impact them – rural and city people.

Need to be connecting to people and helping them to care. They need to be receptive if they come across stuff.

Empower people, so they can make a difference.

Use momentum around COVID-19 that has created better understanding of the issue. Can use that to expand knowledge as people understand biosecurity now.

Harmonisation of the messaging across Victoria and nationally – understanding of how strategy fits into bigger picture.

Create more consistent approaches to managing biosecurity threats. Make it more explicit and find a way to embed process.

Coordinating biosecurity effort and keeping the pressure on.

Ensuring advice is fit for purpose – created for the right audience.

Awareness and education as early as possible across a wide spectrum of stakeholders – framing and targeting messages correctly.

Guidance that is clearer to prepare for crisis that is holistic – making sure it is available. Taking a more collaborative approach across regulatory agencies.

Making sure it is prominent and consistent – large scale program.

Guidance is detailed and explicit – have overarching principals.

Preparedness/ prevention.

Funding where appropriate.

Inspiring people to engage with tools that already exist i.e. online training modules, on-farm biosecurity plans.

How do you manage voluntary requirements/preparation?

Using values-based messaging.

Prioritise risk and target with education and engagement.

Approved and accredited regional partners.

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...

Defining who is the lead organisation. Who do we go to? Where do I get the right information?

Different leads for individual aspects of biosecurity.

Education needed on biosecurity.

Pest management needs to work together, hand-in-hand. Focus area in this strategy, stronger partnership with exotic and endemic pests.

Future strategy needs to be strong focus on place based. Focus areas be connected to change and reform.

Can often fail to see the way some groups can contribute.

Focus area on VBS, preferred pathway of communication and leadership identified.

Take farmers on journey, part of education. Workshops useful. How to engage with new landowners?

Disease surveillance (concern about being quarantined).

Behavioural research? Look at what has already been commissioned and take the lessons learnt? How we engage and how we work together is important. Review studies previously done.

Get local councils to engage in the research. Connectivity with demographic (cultural change).

Inviting diversity across the system. Have conversation around "this is how we do it". How can we do it better?

Trade – how to progress more rapid zoning in the event of a Northern Australian event.

How can performance reviews be open to more diverse stakeholder engagement and feedback?

All advice, rules, regulations, need to be current and up to date. Needs to be available in a live document. Need to know where to go to find it.

Intelligence gathering needs to be fit for purpose (Tap into existing intelligence).

Access and privacy. Ability to collect, use and share data (Looking at ways that that can be done and maintaining privacy).

Industry based and place based lens for biosecurity.

Strategy needs to be reviewed by interstate partners?

Wider access and knowledge to other models. Models can be presented and interrogated.

Look at the channels to demonstrate who is involved and the topic areas – how to use channels to engage with the with the appropriate people – what are the channels to use e.g. local newspapers?

Looking at vectors and potential spread of pests or disease – making sure to consider the potential contributing factors to new or established spread e.g. research (and control techniques) for into unknown vectors for native animals.

Looking at trends from existing data across agencies for human health impacts and using that to focus effort and resources.

Inclusion of wildlife and wildlife health in the protection of biodiversity – being proactive with a one-health type approach – being inclusive of the whole.

Need for greater surveillance and linking that to motivations for community to be involved – across species as well as for livestock industries.

Information sharing between the various agencies – this can be relevant to agencies who can then respond together.

Horizon scanning for emerging threats (research), surveillance and early detection.

Making sure that legislative changes are aligned to improve the ability to share information and to act on it in an across agency sense.

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...

How everyone sees themselves in the system – finding people's individual roles and ensuring that all voices have contributed as well as understanding the roles they play. Therefore if there are outbreaks, there is a coalition of the willing that are already engaged.

Cover the crossovers between all agencies and animal and human health – containing threats before they cause too much damage.

Focus on planning and preparation - intergovernmental representation on biosecurity and novel threats – having health involved in the discussions.

Make sure that likelihood and consequence planning and scenario planning is shared between those people who can act on the information – make it easier to prioritise when this is done well.

Clear processes that are practical/achievable and making sure legislation enables effective investigation.

Making sure legislation supports rapid disease investigation (will be across several pieces of legislation).

Engagement early ensures that there is early involvement when there is an incident i.e. people lined up and ready to go. Build expectations that people are collaborating and break down the problems with privacy/confidentiality.

Setting an environment in which information can be shared more easily and in which confidentiality is not an issue to making real actions.

Framework for occurrence, likelihood and consequence – being clear on priorities and risk levels. This links to people's response planning.

Individual responsibility.

Community outreach.

Biosecurity intersects with a whole range of issues, e.g. animal welfare and food safety, the strategy will need to address these.

Industry group needs.

Needs to be a "matrix" of supporting needs of many groups.

How consultation works for implementation and specific concerns.

How can the strategy remain contemporary across its lifecycle.

Air, wind, water, vectors – pathways of transmission.

Approach to managing activists from a biosecurity perspective.

Approach to providing support for infrastructure to be enhanced to support biosecurity.

Proactive risk mitigation – awareness of risks, agreed best practice, agreed minimum standards (compliance).

A lot to learn from the bushfire experience in inclusive governance and resilient communities.

Inclusive governance – who is involved in decision-making?

Readily available channels for people to be able to ask questions and get answers.

Communication.

Examples should be used to improve understanding of the right and wrong things.

Access to key messages for the community – readily available.

Collective understanding of overall risk factors and agreement on priority risks and actions.

How consultation works for implementation and specific concerns.

Session 2 – Q3. Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy should focus on...

Education is important, how do we convey our message to the broader community?

Education is important, there is a lack of wanting to learn. Education is out there but getting people aware as to why they need to educate themselves.

Taking a more contemporary approach.

Education about the issue.

Food and fibre for our people and wellbeing in Victoria. Everyone is impacted by this.

Fear can be used in some ways to demonstrate consequences – various tools can be used in communicating biosecurity.

A tool to raise awareness for people who may not understand that they have a role. Make biosecurity more inclusive for people, may show people where their role might sit.

Make use of the statement and communications to understand lack of awareness in the community and within which sectors e.g. dairy versus beef cattle sectors.

Put it to the local community on how to communicate. Sending out letters outdated. Go to industry first for answers. Likely to have solutions.

APPENDIX C: PARTICIPANT RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS IN SESSION 4 – PREPAREDNESS

The following tables list the verbatim responses to the questions posed to participants in the Session 2 breakout rooms:

1. What's the major gap in terms of biosecurity preparedness awareness in your industry or community?
2. What's the top message your community or industry needs to hear to improve their biosecurity preparedness?
3. How can this message be shared across your community or industry and who should lead it?

Table 4. Major gaps in biosecurity preparedness awareness

Session 4 – Q1. Major gaps in awareness of biosecurity preparedness include...
Stock Sense funded by compensation fund for cattle/sheep/goats. Here for welfare of famers/VFF – started when FMD popped.
No lead on information in Victoria – struggled to get details. Members chasing information. VFF sed a second information on webinar.
Gap in information flow.
Since then – run multiple workshops, Agriculture Victoria involved. Who should say what to whom? (ran into lots of double ups, siloes in government, working with extension teams, CVO, health staff, no communications between each other).
No communications system in place.
Sophisticated system example: Emergency Management. Good around disseminating information, e.g. during fire event, ABC regularly puts updates out to whole community.
Alerts via system – how to utilise EMV system further.
In response, fantastic system in place. But gap in 'preparedness'. Gap when we are in a preparedness phase. What do, say and where go.
Where gaps were – was the breakdown in 'international' information dissemination and then flow down to Commonwealth.
Saleyards – when FMD struck, they cancelled a sale, lots of fear in the community. Allowed them to stop and think
1. Information flow
2. Source of truth
3. Systems in place
4. Early triggers in the system
5. Not solely relying on online channels, but also in person and print (segment of community is not online and needs the information)
6. Siloes in government contribute to information flow issues
Leverage EMV structures and systems.
Get involved in the Commonwealth's strategic conversations about emergency strategy to help set up these early triggers.
Establish clear communications chains/processes within Agriculture Victoria, ensure effective distribution of communications to industry and community
Create processes, factoring in the two phases of preparedness and response: a 'response' reaction and a 'risk' reaction.
Needs to resonate with farmers.

Session 4 – Q1. Major gaps in awareness of biosecurity preparedness include...

There is a difference between those in SFO and groups vs the farmers who don't involve themselves.

Information needs to be relevant.

We make assumptions that we as a community or farmers know what our preparedness is. And we don't.

Whose responsibility is what?

Language used to communicate.

Biosecurity needs to be prioritised.

Differences between commodities for requirements.

Education, communication and training.

QA Programs vs No QA Programs.

Farmer apathy.

Once emergency happens, we feel unprepared. Using past experiences to guide.

tapping into research and development, using those findings to drive awareness pieces, to engage with broader stakeholders.

Social media misinformation can prevent appropriate preparedness awareness

Some sectors are well prepared, some parts of industry and broader community are under prepared. And hope this strategy can help overcome it.

Awareness is around of preparedness. We need info out there and farmers need to be prepared not in a panic stage.

Within the industry we have done a lot ourselves.

Industry doing a great job, within community probably some gaps within hobby or those with pets, how do we reach them with biosecurity messages.

With onset of threat there was a lot of concern coming from the farmers and that highlighted they were acutely aware, but the farmers didn't know what to do. Help them better prepare for the response.

We have a huge volume of untraceable stock entering the state. how do we manage this volume.

Using some past experience, we need to be proactive based on what we have been through in the past. What are some processes we can put in place to help industry and farmers?

Be alert but not alarmed. Sharing resources through industry and other governments

We are hopelessly underprepared a large proportion of our farmers are not prepared.

Currently good awareness around FMD, varroa etc. Always opportunities to do more. Only so many people out there to do this work.

Lots of people moving into peri urban areas without experience with livestock. Huge risk around peri urban areas.

Taken several years of dealing with EADs in pig industry to create a heightened biosecurity awareness – red meat industries haven't had this EAD pressure so more awareness appearing.

Government understanding of what is happening at the farm level – need next level of preparedness at the farm level.

Biosecurity plans in red meat industry may be token at best. A component that is prepared. but long tail of those that aren't

Peri-urban stuff is a risk - particularly around swill feeding. VFF doing work in this space. Very hard to resource engagement of peri-urban landowners

Session 4 – Q1. Major gaps in awareness of biosecurity preparedness include...

Extension – could be talking to ten farmers in western NSW and covering 10,000 animals – but talking to 10 peri-urban land owners might only be 20 animals.

Pork industry – we have luxury of 2 years prepared for ASF when at our doorstep – we've had 2 years to prepare for this. Have commissioned reports – truck wash projects – gaps in this.

No proper truck washing facilities. DDD project – map farms across the country. Looked at apps for transport etc in event of EAD.

We were prepared for ASF but then hit by JE – spread by mosquitos!

No way to review mosquito numbers – need to approach APVMA to get new chemicals registered. Developing vaccine for JE – you can only be prepared so much.

Preparedness communication comes in waves and based on level of risk

Embedding thinking into community about preparedness.

Went to get a paper and the person said what is biosecurity.

Good practices are there all the time.

Specific gaps – talking about clean in clean out all the time

People become more prepared after bad bushfire, challenge is for people to see it as normal cycle.

Communities are not homogenous, government need to meet communities where they are, especially hard-to-reach communities.

Gaps – lot of meetings with Landcare, everyone is very alert, needing to be prepared. Need to adopt best practice all the time. It is how we say it.

Disaster resilience education in schools – where young learners are learning how to be prepared and resilient, understanding local risk.

Acceptance of what we are trying to do, e.g. member of CFA, some will be prepared and some won't

If we build resilience in local communities, then can be prepared for everything

Landowners but travellers coming out don't see the risk.

Localised access to training. QFF. Training now moved industry. People must be accredited. Training used to be done by Agriculture Victoria.

Big difference between protocol requirements for your fruit. If exporting to China that's a different protocol to sending domestic. Streamlined protocols. In regard to biosecurity.

Markets limited by these protocols. If market falls over then have already tailored production to that market.

Partnership between Agriculture Victoria and Landcare in Victoria is lacking. Due to staff members reducing. Agriculture Victoria recognising that Landcare is a great conduit to members. Great link to farmers.

Lot we can learn from successful Landcare groups.

Lot of people only just realising that FMD threat is very present. Time now to close that gap. People very prepared for fire. Same community moral pressure.

Industry not engaging with whole of government and making the case in economic terms and saying we need XYZ. Danger that we'll be in vigorous agreement but heavy lifting won't be done.

Working as a united front.

Uncertainty biosecurity risks.

Animal disease are the big issues – we have experience in pest plants and animals with Landcare.

Session 4 – Q1. Major gaps in awareness of biosecurity preparedness include...

Compliance is always an issue – e.g. non-compliance mandated move to free range – which introduces wild waterfowl, which can have impacts for biosecurity outcomes.

Applied resources – knowledge with people on the ground delivering preparedness message

Be aware with more alternative systems (i.e. free range) we have other issues of council landfills. Smuggled in food products and feral pigs. The alternative animal products – may increase the risks – the concept of biosecurity will change.

Safe spaces – where are the designated saleyards, and sites are? What are disinfected products are recommended? Examples of industry gaps with transport.

Transporter perspective -livestock standstill - the industry not knowing how long it will go for, gap in terms of understanding from a transport perspective.

Government perspective – often focus on our preparedness. In a response it is the community that is underprepared. Need to put in place structures to help industries in a response. For example, in the fruit fly response in Tasmania, industry did not have ability to transport fruit

Group too small and merged with others

Education, there isn't a lack of education, there is a lack of willingness to learn. The educational products assume that the audience has a certain level of education, not all people working on the land have that level of education. People could have issues with their reading and writing ability which precludes their level of comprehension of the products. They also may not have access to technology.

Acceptance of responsibility for preparedness, there is one thing having shared responsibility but we all have to accept the responsibility.

Preparedness has been decreasing due to budget constraints in state government departments.

We need to be clear about what each person's roles are.

Industry and community not being prepared. Relief and recovery and prevention areas.

Community – while education is out there, there is a lack of willingness to learn, there is a lack of knowledge of the breadth of biosecurity and what the impact it could have. Community – understand the breadth beyond the agricultural sector.

Awareness of legal obligations – this is lacking.

Breadth of the impacts of biosecurity – it isn't just on one industry, it goes down to social amenity (e.g. fire ant areas and people not being able to go on picnics).

Common understanding and trust.

Understanding the gaps in a legislation viewpoint.

Engage those who aren't already engaged.

Time and money in the community is a restraint.

ASF has helped to increase biosecurity awareness as well as JE.

How movement/transport occurs – have adequate facilities to ensure appropriate biosecurity practice.

Gap is how do we reach out to no affiliated industry members. 5-7% hobby farmers and potential pet owners who may be the biggest threat.

Harmonise legislation nationally?

Peri urban farmers as a whole.

Aboriginal communities generally not educated on the issues surrounded biosecurity however are impacted by border closures, etc

Some stakeholders do not actually want to be engaged with industry groups and need to be.

Session 4 – Q1. Major gaps in awareness of biosecurity preparedness include...

Education of volunteers and vet staff to support.

National harmonisation on existing systems, e.g. sheep and goat traceability

Further education and awareness on frameworks and strategies that industry can use.

Gaps first on farm – how to do the 'triple D' destruction, disposal and decontamination. Communication, surveillance. Not enough training.

Reaction time seems to be lengthy between finding out about pest and farmers having to react.

A lot of farmers don't have triple D plans

All the plans and manuals don't include info for the retailer and consumer. Lack of consumer awareness. Making the public aware in preparedness. (processed products)

Water Corporations go on sites and do not have enough info, need consistent information re Action Plans

Consumers should be made aware that products are safe to consume.

Traditional Owners session prompts thinking around environment side of biosecurity impact – how to improve regional community and TO engagement and action for remote areas

Need two-way understanding of each other's context – government needs to adjust to the community needs – Industry Liaison Officers are a key part to improving the situation – important for surveillance programs that government thinks through how to support community better.

Awareness raising is one thing. But we need for information flow; government needs to learn from communities. If we don't understand the context, we may miss the point

Reporting is tricky – need an incentive to report with positivity and making it an easy process.

Gaps in aquaculture is "outside is out of mind" – AVG has led to community report of "if you see something say something – gaps for other pests for mussels – need a plan to how to tackle the pests together – community engagement for how to work together.

Networks with industry – shared exercises are important to maintain networks, forces people to work on who they need to go to, work on legislation.

Awareness of partnerships and disappointment when they didn't come to the table

Industry needs to come up the ladder and be recognised by government.

Gaps in protocols.

No-one saw JE coming – AUSVETPLAN wasn't relevant.

We felt well equipped with information.

When the "shit hasn't hit the fan yet" we are not having the conversations.

Education.

Leadership for response needs to come from industry

Very diverse – some groups are alert and capable and some are not.

Biosecurity is a big part of what we do.

We went out looking for information.

The gap will be knowledge.

Session 4 – Q1. Major gaps in awareness of biosecurity preparedness include...

We are aware because we raise animals.

Range of preparedness across the industry.

Industry needs to stop thinking that the government will take care of us, but they are bound by resources.

Myrtle Rust – ineffective and slow – are response plans paper tigers?

Engagement is low in certain areas.

We thought about it as guarding our borders but with mozzies it depends on collaboration with all – but the more people you get involved the more complex it becomes.

Table 5. Messages for industries and communities to improve biosecurity preparedness

Session 4 – Q2. Messages for industries and communities to improve biosecurity preparedness are...

Get risk personalised. So people understand why and build capacity to prepare and respond.

People need to grasp that being prepared will help them (rather than obligation). How do we convince people that these risks (FMD, Lumpy Skin) require planning and preparation?

Get biosecurity plans in place – be covered for other risks. For their benefit and they need to drive it.

Why is it an issue – seldom/rare issues – training happens, but then preparation drops, new staff/turnover lost knowledge. Events being far between – FMD last appeared in 1980s.

Biosecurity plans – raise the importance of them.

Raise the values of biosecurity. (Tried and failed – only those who want to get better will improve and do those things. But most just do what they need to do.)

LPA – accreditation meant better access to certain markets, and LPA approval requires biosecurity plans. Not great follow up and drive on importance – they tick and flick rather than apply their plans. Compliance is driving action, rather than self-motivation.

Peak bodies – develop carrots/incentives + regulations – if biosecurity plan have extended memberships. Incentives can be driven by industry.

Local governments/councils – rate rebate schemes. Cheaper rates if you have a biosecurity plan, etc.

Incentives for biosecurity planning?

Reach – e.g. PIC – need to reach more people.

Legislation will bring up the need for those who won't be engaged...

Biosecurity plan – if leg covers people coming onto your property – help famers and landowners. Keep people off properties.

Local government – can contact all landowners. Utilise messages through them. Rate rebates needs money coming in.

Rate rebate in rural settings – works in peri-urban areas (high-rate base) but rural communities don't have large number of landholders and don't generate rates...

Compliance around/forcing people to have a plan – the carrot is the important focus – make worth their while. Different risk profiles for each farmer, find the levers.

Understand stakeholders to know their levers/drivers.

Session 4 – Q2. Messages for industries and communities to improve biosecurity preparedness are...

e.g. We had a footbath at our last sale – created interest/pamphlets... it is the discussion that enables people to take action... really useful getting to know people coming through the gate. Constant communication and update is required.

1. know people's drivers (what they care about)

2. personal messages (tailor to each audience)

3. encourage/promote biosecurity planning (having a biosecurity plan on your property)

4. create incentives (this can be achieved by industry bodies, also local council rebates, etc.)

5. use legislation (as the stick) when enforcement or compliance required for recalcitrants; but rely on (the carrot) motivation

6. deliver messages at the local level

Everybody's business/responsibility.

Individual/economic value.

Obligations.

Loss of food, fibre and land.

Why does it matter?

Why does this resonates to them?

Impact on individuals.

Trusted source and messaging

What is the direct danger and impact?

Privacy/protections for those that speak up.

Protect food security.

Relationship management is really important to understand the business. The constant awareness can only happen if we go out and then bring the knowledge back in.

Organisations can create interest but it really is a shared response.

important to engage all including small farmers. A group of farmers that we are effectively missing. Responsibility of who that falls with – it is shared responsibility.

We need to assess the challenges and make it an opportunity.

The amount of investment, it will come down to the resources that will allow you to keep at it

We are constantly seeking information but how do we use the information when it comes back?

This doesn't excite people until it is here. You need to keep at it, not just allow it to bubble up while things happen.

World always changing, we need to ensure we are changing with it.

Legislation could help us ensure we are capturing a larger group of people.

What is the government's responsibility to help with these challenges and how do we bring the knowledge and the actual needs of industry and community back in.

Continuity of the messaging all year will make a difference.

Session 4 – Q2. Messages for industries and communities to improve biosecurity preparedness are...

A large volume of commercial farmers who don't know about Victoria's biosecurity.

Engage with the groups who are missing out.

If the legislation reflects you need a PIC, e.g. if we lower the threshold of when we need a PIC then it could be the difference between getting in touch with someone or not. So if you have 49 chickens you don't need a pic but if you have 50 you do. This could be a good time to look at lowering the threshold. A time to address the challenge.

Evidence base and calm thinking for the approach.

When we put policies in place need to be aware of "increasing burden" on the everyday person. need to do a cost benefit if we are putting burden onto people/farmers.

People who get involved in implementation strategy and policy need to ensure they are being sensible.

Need to figure out ways to get new/young/other people involved.

How to make people understand who don't see it as an issue? Biosecurity is only effective if everyone is participating and you don't want to be the person who is the weak link.

Make it easy and simple for people to do the right thing. Some of it is easy like controlling movement of people on and off your property.

We're currently living in the perfect storm for FMD – how do you share this message without going over the top?

There is a risk of crying wolf here – where people hear the message and 'panic' but then are never affected – may cause complacency next time around.

Good biosecurity can create a market premium for quality product.

Consider lots of little risks – even where is hay coming from in a drought?

How would you feel if your actions were the ones to cause an FMD outbreak? Nobody wants to flag these worse case scenarios but that's how the outbreak occurred in the UK.

As we have an annual audit, if we have an issue where there's an incursion, first thing is to ring vet so that it's recorded. It's become intrinsic – don't want biosecurity plan to be tick and flick.

Let's take the little wins and build them up... and then as people get more mature, they'll move up to champion level.

If your district has an incident – having a good biosecurity plan in place can affect how the government interacts with your business as you are regarded as lower risk.

Pork industry – developing 'enhanced biosecurity standards' for properties in QA program. If we were to get ASF, help them be better places for continued pig movement.

Work done by nursery and garden industry to demonstrate that undertaking good biosecurity practice is economically beneficial – both prevention and treatment

Good biosecurity plan is an insurance policy. Economic benefits but loss prevention is also very significant as well. Can also be a great marketing opportunity.

Extension – what are the threats to my industry that I have to deal with every day? Once they get that under control, they can start to look at the other types of risks.

Cost-benefit analysis of a good biosecurity plan – what is the cost and what are the likely benefits? Trying to show that it's economically worthwhile.

Need clarity at a national level for retailers would be helpful. It is challenging to navigate different state and territory rules and requirements.

Top message – shared responsibility, engaging with all sectors, meeting people where they are

Need to demystify what is 'biosecurity'.

Session 4 – Q2. Messages for industries and communities to improve biosecurity preparedness are...

Get a biosecurity plan – even if it's a simple one.

Across all industries: message can be 'be watchful of movements', what are you putting onto your property? Have you got a plan in place?

Need to meet people where they are: have strong messaging and warning – if there is a FMD, you need to do a, b, c.

Fiona outlined the pitfalls – Amanda made a lot of sense, how do we find people where they are

Message has to be about clarity and create an interest so people have ownership.

The message: demystify and create awareness and acceptance.

Although we all have specific issues, can keep things simplified.

People won't engage until it is on their doorsteps – need clear message for at that time.

A challenge is that biosecurity is such a big thing – some of that communications needs to be broken down into simpler messages.

Something to learn from AI response in key messages?

People movement is key – need message around that risk.

Ongoing messages. We're at a high risk of a whole lot of things coming into this country. What's going to happen to me personally? This could happen, percentage is quite high.

Personalise the risk. A sense of ownership and positivity around people doing the right thing. Benefit is fewer endemic diseases then better productivity.

Personal sense of responsibility and risk.

Local government getting involved. Have lots of connections. Lots of different organisations to be involved.

Use the supply chain assurance schemes, lean them towards biosecurity plan and prevention. Farm assurance.

Use multiple sources available.

Personalised risk. Catering to that personalised risk. Lead should be localised regional based centre. Be adaptable. Plant health and animal-based risk.

Idea of food security and the food supply chain. Metro people see that we cannot take for granted our food security. What I do in my backyard can have an impact on me. How to leverage those systems?

What's in it for you. Translate key messages into what it means for you on the farm. People didn't realise the risk is still really high for FMD.

No wrong door. Lots of ways people can connect with the organisation. Make sure the organisation is ready to respond.

Some sort of training? Era of online training. Are we thinking about a licence to farm.

COVID changed a lot in the way people think.

Bring it from the scary to the understanding and the "so what"? Why should I care? The connection to the source of our food disconnected.

Defence threat spectrum – the ones you talk to and the ones you blow up, e.g. \$1,000 fine for speeding just 10kmh over the limit.

Emergencies services and fire brigades are important mechanisms.

Biosecurity is for everybody.

It can't be done alone – it affects us all.

It's about what we can as a group, as well as individually.

Session 4 – Q2. Messages for industries and communities to improve biosecurity preparedness are...

Promotions on TV – community services announcements. Raise general awareness.

NZ's National Biosecurity Campaign – protecting their unique biodiversity and how it is everyone responsibility – the tone to personalise it.

Biosecurity planning can be tailored – but there is still more to be done and it is a hard slog. It's not the solution to all our problems – it's a long tail – early adopters and then the rest.

There are mixed messages with the poultry industry – with free range birds outside. There are no easy answers.

Emergencies services and fire brigades are important mechanisms.

There can be internal conflict and differing views and values

What is the message and conduit for the small producers or hobby farmers

How we can use processing/supply chains in delivering the messages around preparedness

Using traditional media can create perverse outcomes and negative messaging

Clarity for retailers would be helpful. There are federal frameworks (e.g. AUSVETPLAN) that are implemented differently in states and jurisdictions. End to end full simulation will help to iron our gaps. Comment given by Coles Group rep

Personalise messaging to the audience.

Add on to Fiona's presentation – gap between farmers are the agents. They have a denied responsibility. Awareness of legal obligations. Training & accreditation within industry, to hold people accountable for information, legal obligation & responsibilities. Gap when it comes to stakeholders like that.

In every stage of paddock to plate – there is a lack of information and responsibility. Consistency in information is required. Easy access to information – if it is too hard to access, they won't look it up.

It is hard to get a message out to everyone – different audiences – how do you get a message that suits every audience.

Shared ownership – very important.

Pain points for people (e.g. price of meat will increase 25% due to xyz).

Community – the lack of knowledge of the breadth of impact & legal obligations. Personalise the risk to our households and community. Using young individuals as agents of change.

Top message – How we change the culture, so people understand the impacts on them.

Top message – What do I to, as an individual/community/industry.

Legal obligations – Queensland, NSW and Tasmania have built biosecurity into their general legislation. Legislation is useless if it isn't understood by the community. When the Act came into Tasmania there was massive education campaign on biosecurity for the public.

Coordinated approach. Shape message to audience, people hear/see things differently. No simple one answer to how you share the message. There needs to be a targeted coordinated plan that delivers the messages in multiple ways, frequently and differently.

Culture change doesn't happen quickly. Persistence is a very good point for these sort of things. Big challenge is funding, keeping the funding going after the initial push. May need to reprioritise staff if funding is not available.

Some of the messaging community industries need to hear, needs to directly relate to that group. What is in stake for me? How does it affect my community? What's in it for me?

Session 4 – Q2. Messages for industries and communities to improve biosecurity preparedness are...

Hobby farmers – do they understand biosecurity? Risk is severe to industries. How do we have a relationship and communication there? Commercial farmers – communication needs to be clear and consistent with farmers. Close the loop.

Bring community up to speed with information. If you come back from holiday think about shoes/clothes/what food you bring back.

Practical for the farmer.

Understand other industries

Need to give resources to move forward with biosecurity.

Standard for biosecurity in farming has increased. However, some farmers don't have biosecurity preparedness plan. How to get all farmers on same page. More rules and regulations to capture everyone? e.g. QR codes.

Farmers need to understand the process if there is an outbreak, what the shortfalls are, e.g. truck washes.

How are we going to meet the people – where they are – can we create the networks and channels we need to get the message out.

Looking after the environment - being enjoyed and used for recreation is a key motivator, e.g. sea star prevention and management

Aquaculture – upskilling/training for staff on-site/s e.g. for tourism staff to understand biosecurity protocols, doing tours that include biosecurity controls for the people on the tours.

Different messages for different groups.

Speak up – if you see something say something. Phone call or email follows up with questions might be best. The ability to deal with people face-to-face is beneficial.

Which part of the community needs to be targeted? We need to profile with a risk management approach.

Almost too big a question.

Everything you do is important – if you are not part of the solution, you're part of the problem.

How is government using contemporary communication channels such as social media and how can we be more effective?

Message tailored to the risk.

The content is not necessarily the top point, it's the pathway that is important.

How government will support the taking of responsibility.

Specific messaging based on the circumstance – timely messaging.

Check your sources and make sure you've got the right source.

Join up with groups that share a common interest or impact and participate to become informed and get involved.

Stop assuming that people know what we know.

In the end you need to take personal responsibility.

Trusted sources.

Emphasis on biosecurity being a broader responsibility beyond large commercial entities

Explaining to edge audiences how their actions affect the whole

Poultry industry – not challenge in getting the message across the 'aligned group' how do we reach the marginalised systems? The unreachable?

Table 6. Methods to share messages across communities or industries

Session 4 – Q3. Messages could be shared across communities and industries by...

Agriculture Victoria has a responsibility to lead and coordinate messages at a high level through peak bodies/industry bodies. What are vets doing? What are suppliers doing? Identify multiple pathways for communication. Every stakeholder has a responsibility to share the message.

If Agriculture Victoria drive 'source of truth' information – they need to work with local government who can get info to landholders (landowners only, they miss lessees). Council can send letters as they have databases. Utilise EMV – alerts; messages via coms channels.

Industry also has a role in leading/sharing the message with their networks.

Develop flyers: e.g. Peri-urban booklet (developed by VFF Stock Sense); communicate with local government – how get these out to people. Stuck in middle to communicate. Need to talk to the right department/s.

Connect with communications teams in different departments.

Stock Sense is working with RSPCA, vets, feed supply stores. The high-risk groups, those people with one or two sheep, in peri-urban areas are hard to reach.

Need to improve, our reach to peri-urban – focus is needed on how we reach peri-urban: who are they, map them, who is reaching them well (e.g. Berries industry) and how can we leverage this, focus on how do we reach those who aren't engaged via campaigns, utilising local gov database, etc.

Industry partners and government agencies.

Utilise EMV – alerts, messages via communications channels.

Preparedness messaging.

Simple messaging/key phrases.

Local councils and officers within.

Disaster planner within communities/councils

Localised community biosecurity/biodiversity plan

Community engagement needs to be bottom up.

Text message communications.

Several channels of communications.

Local press, council, interest groups.

Awareness channels.

Empowering local communities to create plans suitable for their regions.

Awareness grants

Small regional, local places.

Directory of who is working within rural/regional communities.

Catchment authorities.

Schools.

Strengthen the rural community.

Session 4 – Q3. Messages could be shared across communities and industries by...

Government to create framework for awareness and communications.

Emergency response coordinators.

Established networks for established industries but huge challenge are the people we don't reach and they are the risk – not homogeneous.

Agriculture Victoria knows where PICs are, LGAs know where rate payers are – but it's super labour intensive and difficult to manage.

AHA commissioned a review of the small landowners to find opportunities in this space – but the challenge is the unknowns.

Retailers – can use national networks and stores to spread biosecurity messages to consumers in store.

Some best led by industry around community awareness and industry awareness.

Depends on which message who is best to lead it. At the border, Commonwealth should lead but doesn't stop them from reaching out to individual growers.

Via peak bodies, community groups, lots of groups to work with but large element we're not reaching.

Retailers – no particular organisation to take the lead, however retailers have a role in raising consumer awareness – signage in store networks etc.

How is the message delivered? Regionally relevant messages are important.

People have busy lives, they are not thinking like we are thinking

Has to start at local level, people have disengaged. People in peri-urban work, fire shed meetings.

Understanding the roles and responsibilities – role of government, business and people.

We have two years where haven't been able to meet, need to get back talking to people.

Use football clubs, agriculture nights, field days etc, the absentee landholders and peri-urban is tricky, this needs investment.

Local government could be more involved.

Something in the Border Mail?

If you are part of industry, you are getting information. It is the community which isn't getting the information which is the biggest challenge – maybe link into SES day, or bushfire season day, or MH day, or Christmas party! Have flyers and messages at these.

CMA in North of Victoria – one group, met them on their land.

Trying to organise meetings is difficult – people have not accepted the risk.

Farmgate meetings – think about biosecurity messages.

How to get the message across: partnerships is the right approach. Have to encourage everyone to be part of the program.

Use learnings from COVID.

We are not holistic enough with our messaging but there are so many other ways to leverage. Have to be very comprehensive.

Would like to stick to the current channels, regional based centre to be a conduit to the community to be directed to the expert knowledge. Not to create new content. No wrong door theory.

Place for a source of truth. Seen such dispute about it in the past few years. TAC – does death sell, yes, but it diminishes over time.

The point was 'big' campaigns can be impactful but the 'shock' effect only gets you so far. The new WorkSafe campaign around sexual harassment and mental health safety in the workplace are far more nuance approaches to influencing behaviours and raising awareness and normalising the 'new normal'.

Session 4 – Q3. Messages could be shared across communities and industries by...

Agree there should be a central point and have partnerships with different organisations. Landcare cover some, community house covers others. Strong partnerships so people know where to get their info.

Years ago, Agriculture Victoria may have that role in the past, but not now. That role has been left to other organisations.

Same messaging through different organisations. Consistency in that messaging.

Community and industry emergency understanding can take a long time – need to be in it for a long haul

Programs that are more community focused – using local institutions.

CMA's are important regional areas to help deliver messages.

Local at different local groups – e.g. Birchip groups.

CMA and Landcare can do raise preparedness – but will need to be resourced and encouraged to support it.

Getting into schools (e.g. Cancer Council example) schools are community minded and have strong linkages with the community.

Need to support people to act to start with – show what's possible – leading from the front.

Government has strong penetration with community industry messages when there is an emergency as a source of truth.

Make biosecurity a focus.

Need to be proactive – with a positive message.

There is a role retailers can play, e.g. display notices in stores for consumers to see while they shop. Comment given by Coles Group representative.

Peak body sends out messages to all members. How to share this message with other producers? Government handy here as don't know where they are?

Government and department have a role to play. Who is most influential in the industry? The more people saying the same thing, the more traction you'll have and message will get across. More visibility of message.

More innovative way of communicating. Facebook. Some don't like digital channels. Need to tackle in different ways. Make it right for the audience.

Who should lead – a combination of representatives from each area of industry and government working together to communicate.

Industry can cover the commercial farmers in term of the communications. Agriculture Victoria to cover the "smaller" guys. APL and VFF work harder to establish a relationship with hobby farmers. Find out who key people are in those groups.

Tourism industry.

Current existing groups and channels as well as workshops held at community halls – question and answer sessions.

EPA are monitoring water quality for effluent discharge – there is potential for EPA to provide also.

VFA spokespeople are best to lead for marine areas – as the recognised leader for regulating.

Bait shops and equipment suppliers for the aquaculture industry.

Pushing notifications of suspect detections can be a way to attract people to an industry or community website – a model is from the grains industry that does this nationally.

Is there a duty of care selling equipment or products and promoting particular recreational areas to spread b/s messages?

Community networks need to be actively sought to disseminate information but must be an ongoing relationship.

Session 4 – Q3. Messages could be shared across communities and industries by...

The assumption that the government is a trusted source is interesting.

Different views nationally weaken the narrative and mistrust grows and can be exploited.

Government has a split focus which means the depth of information is not always there and industry needs to step into that void.

Community media – all formats – a lot of focus on metropolitan media – local communities are listening to their local media outlets – trust.

The government needs to lead the narrative and then others support and enhance that for their community and industry.

Factsheets from government broadly trusted but just put it on the website.

Community networks need to be actively sought to disseminate information but must be an ongoing relationship.

We all should lead it – there's a role for everyone.

Government authorisation processes slows down the dissemination of information.

Good industry engagement with government for a consistent message.

Consider tried and trusted methods e.g. Australia Post.

APPENDIX D: PARTICIPANT RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS IN SESSION 5 – LEGISLATIVE REFORM

The following tables list the verbatim responses to the questions posed to participants in Session 2:

1. How can biosecurity legislation define roles and responsibilities to support greater participation by community and industry (e.g. co-regulation models, general biosecurity duty)?
2. How can expert advice be recognised in legislation (e.g. advisory committees, scientific or other types of advice considered in decisions)?

Table 7. Biosecurity legislation to support greater participation in biosecurity by community and industry

Session 5 – Q1. Biosecurity legislation could support participation by community and industry through...	
What do you think would work in the biosecurity context?	There is a disconnect with industry (livestock agents) – denying responsibility – maybe a lack of awareness of legal obligations – livestock.
	Intensive industry understands biosecurity more than most – the smaller holders pose the risk.
	Every section of the industry plays a role – and there is a disconnect – really defining roles and responsibilities - there is a lot of grey area.
	Everyone who has an animal should have accountability – needs to be consider in legislation to ensure accountability, responsibility and traceability.
	Ensures accountability - clear expectations.
	Identify commonalities across different roles and responsibilities.
	Simplify framework... Are their universal actions that could apply to all biosecurity roles and responsibilities?
	Do we need to look at how compliance is implemented – who is involved? Role for others, not just government?
	Contravention may simply be lack of competence – need options in regulation that can deal with this (i.e., not just 'big stick').
	Penalties/consequences need to apply if people don't fulfil their roles and responsibilities.
	Staged approach to penalties to support roles and responsibilities. Are our current penalties appropriate.
	Start with engagement – start with peace time, constant, respect. Build the trust and relationship – which will make it stronger. Has to be ongoing. Worst is to come at hard times only.
	Awareness – for people to understand that level of enforceability and accountability.
	There are other outcomes – what this will do is change the way the framework currently works under CALP.
We look after CALP Act – provisions for pest management – bio leg reform will repeal provisions under CALP and put under biosecurity Act. Reason why pests are in CALP Act with environment.	
General Biosecurity Duty – look at EPA Vic in new leg, general environmental duty.	

Session 5 – Q1. Biosecurity legislation could support participation by community and industry through...

What could this look like in practice?

Example of Yarra Valley fruit fly project – every industry affected gets together regularly - cross-industry group – need some regional level groups in Biosecurity.

Don't want to be tied down to a particular type of committee – need flexibility.

The examples of expert committees in the background paper all look very similar - what are the differences?

Need to recognise other skills e.g. those who know the industry, and economists, due to economic impacts of pests/diseases.

Who are the experts? Scientists, industry vets, economists.

Not necessarily through with government programs – but using existing local networks to bring that advice in. Comes back to trust and communication.

Using knowledge brokers (livestock agents, transport agents) as a trusted resources to test ideas and bring in the knowledge in legislative reform process.

Use weekly sales (store sales) – where everyone is in the one spot at one time - using community spaces/community meeting hubs – develop a listening post.

A sale yard round table to get local level expertise.

Nothing beats face-to-face contact with this stakeholder group.

Recognising private schemes, in ag space, there are different QA schemes in industry e.g. dairy processes you need BMP, can already use/implement these.

In NSW, GBD created a lot of confusion because vague. Then put in place regional pest and weed plans to define GBD, be clear on what GBD is.

Compliance is really important.

Multiple pieces of legislation – consolidation? Can emergency response functions be harmonised? Management aims are the same across industries, can we look to areas of best practice?

Need to understand root cause of problems and listen to experts from all industries – consider plant, animal, apiary – differences but must also build on similarities.

Standards documents in livestock – tries to use plain English to explain the law but takes 30+ pages – something is not right with that system!

Interstate differences – enormous challenge to get legislation to align – needs more interstate communication.

Work from bottom up – on ground gov staff and front-line farmers need to have voices heard – leg needs to be implementable and fit for purpose and keep up with technology.

Conversion of government gazettes into plain English – why aren't they written in plain English in the first place!?

Advisory body being codified – gives it weight. Works in environment space. 'Minister must have regard to...' EIC Committee under Bio Commonwealth Act (?), technical experts, really good example.

Need to look beyond industry, not just about money making, i.e. limited representation of wildlife.

Industry Committee – evolves over time, a problem. Grain peak body tussle example. Be aware of possible link between bodies and political agenda.

Session 5 – Q1. Biosecurity legislation could support participation by community and industry through...

<p>What are the pros and cons?</p>	<p>Legislation can help ensure broad representation and helps keep govt accountable.</p>
	<p>Can legislation help attract funding? It could create an onus to provide funding or an expectation that funding must be provided.</p>
	<p>Pros of legislation - legislation is enduring across political regime change, which can support and promote systemic change – less reactive approach.</p>
	<p>He who pays has a say – plant industries is an area where this needs to be looked at.</p>
	<p>Cons – how do we find the people who we don't normally engage – the farms outside of the commercial farms – the small market farmers. Find who their leaders are – they have contacts as well.</p>
<p>What would we need to be careful of?</p>	<p>How do we get leverage on the stakeholders outside the traditional networks? e.g. you can't sell unless you are on the system. It's also welfare.</p>
	<p>Third party is the best way of getting things done – peer pressure.</p>
	<p>Transparency important - have to be representative – so leg could help prove that the right people are being included.</p>
	<p>Need any expert committee to have clear purpose and clear TOR so they have clarity.</p>
	<p>Local govt can be reluctant to engage in bio leg reform, because of concerns about cost-shifting. They need to be drawn into the conversation.</p>
	<p>Legislation can put an onus on jurisdictions to properly engage with stakeholders when there is a need for a response.</p>
	<p>Needs to be a way of reviewing TOR over time and membership of the committee.</p>
	<p>Some groups may be operating under false information/rumours – need to ensure communications are correct and relevant beforehand.</p>
	<p>Need to ensure all stakeholders are engaged as early as possible right across the biosecurity continuum – from producer through to retailer/consumer.</p>
	<p>Technical advancement – need to bring everyone along on that journey – some stakeholders will be much further advanced than others.</p>
	<p>Be aware of self-appointed experts. Be aware of difference (different strengths) between academic and person on the ground expert.</p>
	<p>Be really clear about what we are seeking to do. Is it science?</p>
<p>If such a body can invoke the advice, need to be clear about boundaries. And resourcing. Respect people's time. Being clear.</p>	
<p>Is the authority real?</p>	
<p>Good governance.</p>	

Table 8. Methods to recognise expert advice in legislation

Session 5 – Q2. Expert advice could be recognised in legislation through...

Any advisory committee should be able to initiate advice on its own motion, not just wait to be asked - this worked in WA where the committee was able to be proactive. Committee needs a specific task to do -needs to be specifically defined - otherwise it will go off-track.

Government can ask for input from industry groups on an ad hoc level - doesn't have to be a standing body.

Victorian Government has new livestock industry consultative group - needs to be cross-sector.

Can achieve transparency without legislation.

Not having too much governance - but grassroots governance.

There is expertise with stock feed, agents and local truck drivers with skin in the game - at the interface with farmers, how can we connect with them to provide ideas to inform legislation.

Strong message from LK regarding advisory committee, something codified in leg is really impot to have the voices outside govt to feed into government.

In LDCA, several competition funds set up each differently – i.e. levies, or 'on the hook' type levies, Stock Sense project at VFF - shifting the bar to look more at merit based appointment to committee.

Local government on the ground dealing with biosecurity risk so could be important to include; linkages between community and environmental sectors in Victoria.

No shortage of types of advisory committees as examples of form, balance between expert and advisory, e.g. FFG scientific advisory committee - represented across scientific interests.

What powers should the groups have? We obviously need experts and getting the right mix is important. While also ensuring getting a broader perspective, i.e. lived experience.

Marine and Coastal work in Vic, key things are having a statewide Council along big picture advisory lines, then another tier to deal with specific issues which are short term issues.

Merit based, qualifications - what can be defined as an expert?

Maturity of committees and groups can be really important, 3 industry funded groups - operating for many years and now starting to do many more things collaboratively and innovatively.

Just experts will fail socially if you want greater shared responsibility.

Take ownership of biosecurity means spelling out roles and clear objectives, and be well represented.

Need diversity in these groups.

VFF is member driven so we will push legislative opinions of members.

Need to have ability to recognise all comments - some don't have a voice even though they have opinions, experience, knowledge etc. that would assist – frustrating.

Hot Tip: don't have a workshop at Geelong one a day when Geelong is playing Collingwood...

SA: using NRM boards - can make collective decisions about what's relevant for the region. NSW LLS model - lobby for services for local levies.

Helps when you have on-ground and industry members communicating through a conglomerate.

Advisory committees - could look at a more regional basis to draw out regional issues that are relevant in some regions and not others. e.g. peri-urban not so relevant in the Mallee.

Session 5 – Q2. Expert advice could be recognised in legislation through...

Need to tap in to voice for localised issues rather than just statewide issues.

Consider how legislation can be made simpler - and try to obtain some sort of inter-jurisdictional legislative harmonisation.

Worksafe Vic examples, set out in legislation. Gives it weight but a point in time to construct. Needs dynamism. Needs to be valued by participants. Go down representation perspective - where do you stop? how to frame? Likes mechanism to feed into leg development, then evolve. Challenge to get the right people. Is it advisory or representation, is it decision-making? what resources does it command? be clear why it is there?

Having a group now, that could then evolve into a statutory one-could be good. What kind of expertise are we looking for?
