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# **STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS (for 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022)**

The previous Statement of Expectations (SOE) issued by the Minister for Agriculture was in place from 3 August 2019 until 30 June 2021.

Consistent with the whole of government approach, Agriculture Victoria has prepared a new SOE for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 as a new SOE Framework for Regulators is being finalised by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

The initiatives and actions outlined below describe how Agriculture Victoria will foster better practice in agriculture regulation and achieve improvements in regulatory efficiency and effectiveness.

## Risk-based strategies

Agriculture Victoria will review its risk-based regulatory approach and practices to support compliance and enforcement of regulations.

Specifically, Agriculture Victoria will:

* continue with compliance planning, supported by a three-year cycle of risk-based compliance plans;
* build regulatory capability in Agriculture Victoria’s systems and people; and
* review and update Agriculture Victoria’s Compliance Management Policy.

These actions will enable Agriculture Victoria to focus its regulatory activity and resources to where the risks of harm to community and industry are greatest.

## Improved Delivery

Agriculture Victoria will ensure regulatory staff have a sound knowledge of the applicable authorising legislation and relevant regulatory frameworks.

Specifically, Agriculture Victoria will:

* maintain currency of all regulatory Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and ensure regulatory responses align to compliance strategies and plans and are proportionate to the circumstances; and
* ensure that all regulatory staff know and understand their authorising legislation, authorisations and regulatory frameworks, as well as any parallel or complementary regulatory frameworks, through ongoing training and refresher training.

To further promote improved delivery, Agriculture Victoria will:

* ensure business processes and technology systems support efficient and effective delivery of regulatory services.

## Stakeholder consultation and engagement

Agriculture Victoria will engage with key stakeholders including peak bodies, industry and community, to build further support for improved compliance and assist in designing better compliance approaches.

Specifically, Agriculture Victoria will:

* proactively engage with external stakeholders through workshops and education tools to manage risk and ensure compliance;
* ensure that Agriculture Victoria’s regulatory approach aligns with whole of government approaches; and
* ensure stakeholders are informed of Agriculture Victoria’s strategic priorities and activities to promote compliance.

