

TasFarmers (TF) Board- Wool Panel Communique

Prepared by Jonathan Jones

1) *Welcome & Introductions:*

- Apologies were duly noted. Chris Headlam was welcomed as an observer.

2) *Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting:*

- Previous minutes were accepted without further queries. Action items were reviewed with no outstanding issues.

3) *Reports:*

Charles Downie – Chairs Report:

- Discussion on Responsible Wool Standard (RWS) and mulesing concerns.
- Conversations with 4-Paws representative on mulesing.
- Consideration of proactive measures and potential research funded by 4-paws.

Tim McShane – WPA Report:

- Updates on wool vendor declaration and wool traceability hub initiatives.
- Focus on studies into domestic processing and free trade agreements.

4) *Workers' Compensation and Shearing Rates:*

- Success of shearer and wool handling training.
- Standardisation of shearing rates with a 15% increase above award
- Productivity considerations and classifications discussed.

5) *Livestock Truck Rollover Code of Practice:*

- Proposal to include containment measures in the Code of Practice.

6) *TasFarmers Restructure:*

- Livestock Policy Council to be the overarching body.
- Discussion was held on decision-making processes and future meeting formats. Wool council plan to meet via Teams as needed.

7) *eID Funding and WPA Withdrawal of Support:*

- Commencement of supply chain and producer rebates.
- WPA's withdrawal of support for national eID rollout due to unmet conditions.

8) *Biosecurity Protection Levy:*

- Lack of clarity on levy implementation and government communication.

9) *Other Business:*

- Discussion on the double tagging issue and potential impacts on producers and government.

10) *Meeting Close: 11:30 am*