



JOINT MEET & WOOL COUNCILS COMMUNIQUE

Held on 21st September 2023

Issues Discussed:

1. SheepProducers Australia Representative

- a. Meat & Wool Councils to approach members to represent TFGA on the SPA Policy Council.

2. Truck Rollovers

- a. Discussion around the responsibilities of emergency services and biosecurity staff when truck rollovers occur and stock are temporarily placed in adjacent paddocks.
- b. Proposal that TFGA develops a code of conduct to be distributed to emergency services.

3. Shearer Training and Workers Compensation

- a. A Tasmanian Wool Training Advisory Group has been formed.
- b. A discussion was held around approaching government to discuss potential changes to workers compensation as there are now very few insurance providers who will cover shearing activities at a reasonable cost.

4. Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme

- a. A letter was sent to Senator Carol Brown regarding TFGA member concerns around the inadequacy of the rebate, which has not increased in approximately 20 years. The rebate has not kept up with rising shipping costs and is placing financial burden on Tasmanian producers. A response has not yet been received. Follow-up communication with Janie Finlay occurred after the meeting as both Janie and Senator Brown are members of the same party.

5. Sheep EID

- a. A position was finalised regarding the implementation of sheep EID in Tasmania and correspondence has been sent to Minister Palmer outlining TFGA's stance.

6. Drought Conditions evolving

- a. Discussion of the serious situation developing in the south and east of the state: falling red meat prices, limited capacity to process within Tas., TFES not keeping up with inflation and El Nino weather pattern.
- b. Limited options at this point
- c. RAW an important resource
- d. Farm Business Resilience program soon to launch
 - i. [Farm Business Resilience Flyer](#) (PDF 373Kb),
 - ii. Call the NRE Tasmania FarmPoint team on 1300 292 292 or Email: farmpoint@nre.tas.gov.au
 - iii. The FBR program is supported by the Tasmanian Government and the Australian Government's [Future Drought Fund](#).