

ROLE OF AHA IN LIVESTOCK WELFARE

AHA's role in the animal welfare continuum is contained to issues that may impact on animal production, trade and market access and community social licence¹. AHA plays an important role in supporting the livestock industries and governments to take a strategic approach to livestock welfare management.

AHA HAS THREE MAJOR ROLES IN LIVESTOCK WELFARE:

To provide leadership through collaboration and coordination to facilitate solutions for livestock welfare issues where requested by members.

To manage collaborative projects for livestock welfare on behalf of members.

To contribute to the development and communication of livestock welfare policy initiatives by members.

The following principles for AHA involvement in livestock welfare are proposed in the context of the *2015-2020 Strategic Plan*:

- a.** AHA will provide a mechanism that enables industry and government to maintain and increase market access through effective partnerships for livestock welfare and production.

- b.** AHA will work with members to achieve agreed sustainable outcomes for the strategic management of livestock welfare risks and improved livestock wellbeing.
- c.** AHA will seek new ways and partnerships to assist industry in the development of industry verification systems and tools.
- d.** AHA will contribute to livestock welfare policy developments that balance current scientific knowledge, sustainable industry practices and community expectations.
- e.** AHA will maintain a livestock welfare core capability for a productive contribution to members' livestock welfare issues. Specific projects will be funded by appropriate stakeholders.



¹ A social licence to operate is the community's tacit consent for a business or project to exist. <http://futureeye.com/social-licence-operate>

THE RELEVANT STRATEGIES UNDER THE 2015-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN ARE:

Assist industry in the development of industry verification systems and tools for animal health and welfare to support market access.

Strengthen member collaboration to adopt a consistent legislative and regulatory approach to achieve sustainable and improved animal welfare outcomes.

INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS TO AHA INVOLVEMENT:

Included	Excluded
Participation in: Animal Welfare Task Group (AWTG), AHA Industry Forum (IF) National Farmers Federation Animal Health and Welfare taskforce (NFF AH&W taskforce), Livestock Animal Welfare Communications Network Group (CNG).	Response to public campaigns.
Strategic liaison between government and AHA industry members.	Live export.
Contribute to industry and government policies as requested.	Implementation of Standards.
Respond to enquiries from members or their employees.	Respond to non-member enquiries unless in member interest.
Monitor developments –watching brief.	Active research.
Communicate AHA activities as relevant.	Advice on matters of regulation.
Stewardship of the Standards development process (plan).	
Manage the development of Australian Livestock Welfare Standards and Guidelines as agreed and/or the revision of livestock Model Codes of Practice as agreed.	Response to specific welfare issues in the media.
Support the development of welfare tools for industry derived from the development of Australian Livestock Welfare Standards and Guidelines.	Communication programs unless funded.
Support to industry verification/assurance systems – definition, development and recognition.	Verification of QA systems.
Develop or contribute to the development of welfare tools for industry.	
Other projects as approved and funded. For livestock species or issues not covered by AHA membership, AHA may take a role.	Unfunded work for non-members.