

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

MB26-000126

To: Minister Collins**cc:** Assistant Minister Chisholm**AGRICULTURE MINISTERS' MEETING – FRIDAY 24 APRIL 2026****Timing:** For meeting on Friday 24 April 2026, 9:30am to 12pm (AEST)**Location:** Virtual via MS Teams**s 22(1)(a)(ii)**

Clearing Officer:	Mel Brown	A/g Deputy Secretary, Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Policy Group	Mob: s 47F(1)
Contact Officer:	Kaz Graham	A/g Assistant Secretary, Workforce and Engagement	Mob: s 47F(1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Attachments

- A:** Combined meeting papers pack including agenda and attendees
- B:** Chair's handling brief: annotated agenda and additional briefing material
- C:** Draft communique

AGRICULTURE MINISTERS’ MEETING

AMM 01/2026 AGENDA

Friday, 24 April 2026, 9.30am – 12.00pm (AEST)

Dial-in details:

Join via Microsoft Teams link in calendar invitation

Item	Description	Format	Lead	Timing	Time
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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Member updates, commune and other business					
7	Updates – by exception only Australian Government update Jurisdictions’ updates	Verbal update	Chair + members	20 mins	11.25am – 11.45am

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

End meeting – 12.00pm

OFFICIAL

AGRICULTURE MINISTERS' MEETING

Friday 24 April 2026, 9am – 12pm (AEST)

AMM 01/2026 ATTENDEES

Australian Government**The Hon Julie Collins MP (Chair)***Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry***Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm***Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**Assistant Minister for Regional Development**Assistant Minister for Resources***Australian Capital Territory****Bren Burkevics****Executive Group Manager, City and Environment Directorate, ACT Government****Proxy for Ms Suzanne Orr MLA****New South Wales****The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC***Minister for Agriculture**Minister for Regional NSW**Minister for Western NSW***Northern Territory****The Hon Gerard Maley MLA***Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries**Minister for Mining and Energy**Minister for Corrections**Minister for Renewables**Minister for Recreational Fishing***Queensland****The Hon Anthony (Tony) Perrett***Minister for Primary Industries***South Australia****The Hon Clare Scriven MLC***Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development**Minister for Forest Industries***Tasmania****The Hon Gavin Pearce MP***Minister for Primary Industries and Water**Minister for Veterans' Affairs***Victoria****The Hon Michaela Settle MP***Minister for Regional Development**Minister for Agriculture*

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Western Australia**The Hon Jackie Jarvis MLC***Minister for Agriculture and Food**Minister for Fisheries**Minister for Forestry**Minister for Small Business**Minister for the Mid West***Apologies****Ms Suzanne Orr MLA***Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water**Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs**Minister for Disability, Carers and Community Services**Minister for Seniors and Veterans***Secretariat****s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

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AMM | MEMBER UPDATE

Australian Government

Member's name

The Hon Julie Collins, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

H5 High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (H5 bird flu) Preparedness Update

- s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- H5 bird flu vaccine procured by the Australian Government has been piloted in some captive populations of non-poultry birds to provide safety and efficacy data for vaccine use in birds weighing over 150 grams. Birds vaccinated in initial pilot studies have responded well.
- An additional batch of vaccine arrived in February 2026. Further vaccination pilots are planned as well as other trials to determine a safe and effective dose for birds weighing less than 150 grams.

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H5 HIGH PATHOGENICITY AVIAN INFLUENZA (HPAI) UPDATE**KEY SPEAKING POINTS:**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- We have all been working on preparedness for H5 bird flu for a long time, bolstered by more than \$113 million in Australian Government investment.
 - Preparedness actions have been extensive and include enhanced surveillance, stronger diagnostic capacity, agreed national governance arrangements, priority species and site planning, vaccine purchase and testing for priority native birds, and pre-positioned response equipment.

- We continue to work with industry on poultry outbreak management options, including humane depopulation technologies and vaccination policy, while coordinating public communications and stakeholder engagement.

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AGRICULTURE MINISTERS' MEETING AD HOC HPAI H5 BRIEF

Friday 03 July 2026, 11am – 11:45am (AEST)

ATTENDEES LIST – HIGHLIGHTED ATTENDEES ARE UNCONFIRMED AS OF 02/07/2026

Australian Government	The Hon Julie Collins MP (Chair)
	<i>Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</i>
	Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm
	<i>Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</i> <i>Assistant Minister for Regional Development</i> <i>Assistant Minister for Resources</i>
Australian Capital Territory	Ms Suzanne Orr MLA
	<i>Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water</i>
	<i>Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs</i>
	<i>Minister for Disability, Carers and Community Services</i> <i>Minister for Seniors and Veterans</i>
New South Wales	The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC
	<i>Minister for Agriculture</i>
	<i>Minister for Regional NSW</i> <i>Minister for Western NSW</i>
Northern Territory	The Hon Gerard Maley MLA
	<i>Deputy Chief Minister</i>
	<i>Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries</i>
	<i>Minister for Mining and Energy</i>
	<i>Minister for Corrections</i>
	<i>Minister for Renewables</i> <i>Minister for Recreational Fishing</i>
Queensland	The Hon Anthony (Tony) Perrett
	<i>Minister for Primary Industries</i>
South Australia	The Hon Clare Scriven MLC
	<i>Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development</i> <i>Minister for Forest Industries</i>
Tasmania	The Hon Gavin Pearce MP
	<i>Minister for Primary Industries and Water</i>
	<i>Minister for Veterans' Affairs</i>
Victoria	The Hon Michaela Settle MP
	<i>Minister for Regional Development</i> <i>Minister for Agriculture</i>

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Western Australia**The Hon Jackie Jarvis MLC***Minister for Agriculture and Food**Minister for Fisheries**Minister for Forestry**Minister for Small Business**Minister for the Mid West***Secretariat****s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

MB26-000252

To: Minister Collins

MEETING WITH THE HON CLARE SCRIVEN, MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES
AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Clearing Officer:	Beth Cookson	Australian Chief Veterinary Officer, Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer	Mob: s 47F(1)
Contact Officer:	Louise Palfreyman	Assistant Secretary HPAI Taskforce and Animal Health Policy	Ph: 02 6272 3992 Mob: s 47F(1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

3. Vaccination remains a key strategic sensitivity. Any decision to vaccinate poultry, wildlife or threatened species would need to consider vaccine availability, regulatory arrangements, surveillance implications, international disease-status requirements and potential trade consequences. Vaccination is not a silver bullet and enhanced biosecurity remains the most effective action.
4. The Australian sea lion is a mammal endemic to Australia, with more than 80% of the population found in South Australia. Vaccination of Australian sea lions may be raised in the meeting. There are currently no commercially available H5 bird flu vaccines authorised for use in mammal species in Australia. The department is aware of current avian influenza vaccination trials involving various seal species in the US and is closely following this work.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)**Attachments**

A: Talking Points

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

MB26-000252

Attachment A

TALKING POINTS

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

If raised – mammal (e.g. Australian sea lion) vaccination

- With more than 80% of the Australian sea lion population located in South Australia, I understand your concern about this species with regards to H5 bird flu.
- There are currently no commercially available H5 bird flu vaccines authorised for use in mammal species in Australia.
- The department is aware of current avian influenza vaccination trials involving various seal species in the US and is closely following this work

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Ref: MB26-000259

To: Minister Collins

**VISIT TO THE GEELONG AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR DISEASE PREPAREDNESS -
TUESDAY 28 JULY 2026, 1:30AM**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

3. The Australian Government's bird flu investment of more than \$113 million includes **over \$2.2 million** that has been provided to ACDP to conduct critical research and development projects. This includes:

Clearing Officer:	Beth Cookson	Australian Chief Veterinary Officer, Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer	Mob: s 47F(1)
Contact Officer:	Louise Palfreyman	Assistant Secretary HPAI Taskforce and Animal Health Policy	Ph: 02 6272 3992 Mob: s 47F(1)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- **\$891,211** to conduct vaccination trials to provide safety data and to determine appropriate dose rates for bird flu vaccine use in priority native Australian birds (non-poultry).

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Attachments

A: Talking Points

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

MB26-000259

Attachment A

TALKING POINTS

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- The Australian Government has committed more than \$113 million to strengthen Australia's bird flu preparedness, including more than \$2.2 million for critical research and development projects at ACDP.

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- The recent vaccination trials have provided important safety data and helped to identify appropriate dose rates for potential bird flu vaccine use in native Australian birds.

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Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**

PDR Ref: MB26-000263

EVENT SUMMARY
Minister Collins

Crawford Fund for Food Security Annual Conference, Networking Dinner

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Clearing Officer:	Joanna Stanion	First Assistant Secretary, Agricultural Policy Division	Mob: s 47F(1)	
Contact Officer:	Paul Denny	Assistant Secretary, Food Policy Branch	Mob: s 47F(1)	

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Other current issues – H5 avian influenza (bird flu)

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- The Australian Government is actively working through regulatory and policy arrangements for the potential vaccination of some priority native bird species. Government and industry are also jointly reviewing the implications of, and subsequent policy for vaccination of targeted poultry.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

MB26-000268

To: Minister Collins

**JOINT H5 AGRICULTURE MINISTERS' MEETING AND ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS'
MEETING - FRIDAY 31 JULY 2026, 10:30AM-11:30AM**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Clearing Officer:	Beth Cookson	Australian Chief Veterinary Officer, Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer	Mob: s 47F(1)
Contact Officer:	Louise Palfreyman	Assistant Secretary HPAI Taskforce and Animal Health Policy	Ph: 02 6272 3992 Mob: s 47F(1)

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7. There is increasing public interest in the potential use of H5 bird flu vaccines to provide additional protection to priority native wildlife populations and to poultry. Vaccination is not a 'silver bullet' and enhanced biosecurity will remain the most important prevention approach.
- Australia has undertaken H5 bird flu vaccination trials and pilot studies in a range of non-poultry bird species. Current planning is focused on the potential emergency vaccination of selected threatened bird populations (including species listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999) held in captivity. This will need to be managed in accordance with the conditions of the APVMA emergency use permit.
 - Free-ranging wild bird populations are not currently eligible for vaccination under the permit conditions, and in most cases, it will not be feasible to vaccinate these populations.
 - There are currently no H5 bird flu vaccinations registered for use in poultry in Australia. Australian governments and industry are actively considering the potential role of vaccination as a complementary tool for managing an incursion of H5 bird flu in poultry.
 - Decisions about vaccinating poultry for H5 bird flu are complex and must consider a range of policy, technical, regulatory, trade, supply, cost and industry factors.

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