

BIOSECURITY FUTURES GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

The Biosecurity Futures group provides information and strategic advice, from the perspective of its membership, to the Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management, the Hon. David Littleproud MP, on matters relevant to Australia's biosecurity.

The Minister may, from time to time, seek views or advice from the group or individual members on specific matters.

Scope

The group will have regard to current and emerging biosecurity risks to and issues for Australia, the operation of the national biosecurity system and its underpinning arrangements, activities and agreements, and Australia's national and international obligations.

Membership

The Minister will chair the group.

The Minister may invite stakeholders with a direct interest in Australia's biosecurity to participate in the group. Members will serve a nominal 24 month term and are eligible for reappointment.

The Minister can terminate any membership at any time, including but not limited to where there has been a breach of the terms of engagement. A member may dissolve their membership at any time by written notice to the Minister. Unless otherwise specified, membership ceases on receipt of that notice.

Others, including government officials, may be invited to meetings at the Minister's discretion.

Meeting arrangements and resourcing

The group will meet at the minister's request, on an as needs basis.

Members' participation is in a voluntary capacity. Members will not be remunerated and are responsible for their own costs of attending meetings or events related to the group.

The group will be supported by a secretariat based in the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.

Review

The group was announced on 27 November 2019. These terms of reference will be reviewed every two years.