



Minutes

DAFF Cargo Consultative Committee (DCCC)

Meeting 104 — 02 September 2026

Agenda item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

The Chair, Monica Collins, First Assistant Secretary, Biosecurity Operations Division (BOD), opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of country and welcomed members attending in person and online.

The Chair noted the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of preparing the minutes and reminded members of the confidential nature of committee discussions.

The following additional papers were tabled with the group prior to meeting 104:

- Cargo Operations Update
- Compliance Audit Report
- Approved Arrangements Update
- DCCC forward workplan and priorities 2026

Industry members discussed recent communications from the department (Import industry advice notice 149-2026) and that more forward notice of these would be beneficial to be able to factor in cost impacts. Assistant Secretary Cargo Operations South & Detector Dogs, Holly Buckle advised that the notice is reinforcing existing requirements. Nevertheless, the Chair agreed engagement with industry is appropriate if we anticipate an impact. Further discussion was agreed to occur offline between Assistant Secretary Buckle and FBIA representative.

The Chair provided an update on national response to H5 bird flu, which the department is leading.

Agenda item 2 – Minutes and Actions

The minutes of DCCC Meeting 103 were noted as finalised and published.

The Secretariat provided an update on the DCCC action register. Eight actions were noted as closed, with 3 remaining actions continuing to be progressed. The eight items closed in summary:

ID no	Action Item	Closure summary
004	Increase refresh frequency of Cargo Status Tracker	The Cargo Status Tracker Report was updated on 22 July 2026 to refresh 3 times a day, up from its previous once per day. This was advised via Industry Advice Notice 122-2026.
005	Revisit Vessel Seasonal Pest Scheme with Shipping Australia	Nil action on this from Shipping Australia.



007	HCI scheme – provide examples of unintended effects; case studies	Correspondence between the department and IFCBAA has resolved this.
008	Circulate the Have Your Say survey – Reviewing documentation requirements for imported goods	The IGB circulated the Have Your Say to their external contact list which includes many DCCC members.
010	Clarify timeline for postcode review and land-bridging policy, including whether communication may occur earlier than Q1 2026–27	Combined into action item 002.
011	Provide a future visual presentation to DCCC on ICCP, including legacy vs future systems	Presented at meeting 104.
012	Provide an updated Approved Arrangements paper including Class 3 data	Data presented in Approved Arrangements paper for meeting 104.
013	Confirm whether members have received the Have Your Say consultation email Cargo Scheduling Policy	The 2025 Scheduling Policy Have Your Say survey was open 1 July 2025 to 8 August 2025. The department received 91 submissions, including from persons representing FBIA and FTA. Over 150 industry participants attended in-person and online consultation sessions including representatives from QANTAS, IFCBA and FTA.

Agenda item 3 – Update on the SAC program

Jo Laduzko, Assistant Secretary Goods and Conveyance Policy, provided an update on the Self-Assessed Clearance (SAC) Reform Program. The update included circulation of a paper detailing information on volumes including non-compliance in the pathway, updates on DAFF resourcing for the pathway, verification efforts, risk setting changes, updates to system, data and detection capability across the pathway and associated industry engagement.

Members were briefed on the development of specific new ICT reforms in the pathway including:

- The Threat Management System will provide improved data maturity and profile visibility for the pathway.
- The Document Lodgement System, replacing SAC paperless, and providing direct system to system document lodgement capability enhancing both data exchange and security.



- The Biosecurity Activity Reporting Tool, which will provide a system for industry to directly report outcomes of activities they perform and allows the implementation of Class 14.3 Approved Arrangement.

Assistant Secretary Laduzko encouraged relevant industry stakeholders to participate in SAC reform processes. Current joint efforts with Australian Border Force in relation to Future Cargo Reporting Models were noted.

The Chair added that the SAC pathway was the highest pathway by volume of consignments and by compliance activity. The SAC pathway is a key focus for the department, looking at the biosecurity system, offshore, at border and post border and that the department utilizes resources in the most efficient and effective manner.

Discussion

The committee discussed the importance of non-compliance risk and verification on the pathway and that the department needs to work with industry to target specific areas of non-compliance including via education campaigns and compliance tools such as enforceable undertakings. The role of enhanced ICT systems and data to help with enforcement was also considered.

Industry members highlighted the benefit of DAFF sharing information with industry to assist in identifying and preventing non-compliance, which was acknowledged by the department.

Agenda item 4 – Seasonal Pest update

Members were provided information on the 2026-27 Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) season by Assistant Secretary Jo Laduzko. It was noted that over the past year there has been an increase in post-border interceptions of BMSB which has shaped the program for this season to remove gaps for pest leakage including the discontinuation of the Safeguarding Arrangement Scheme and Rolled Goods Policy. Where arrangements have been discontinued, the department has worked closely with affected parties with transition arrangements to mitigate impacts.

The update included the approval of Ethyl formate fumigation for treatment of BMSB onshore, a minor update on verification inspections to improve data for the pathway, and discussion on compliance activity on treatment providers.

Discussion

Industry members noted that it was good news to see only minor changes to requirements from the previous season but asked if there was specific data linking pest leakage to the discontinued schemes and if there was scope for other measures to be provided for exceptional circumstances. Assistant Secretary Laduzko noted the importance of good data, and that those schemes that were being discontinued had made it harder in getting data and therefore lacking in confidence as a protection measure.

Graeme Grosse, First Assistant Secretary Compliance & Enforcement Division, noted that there had been non-compliance detected with onshore treatment providers who perform seasonal pest treatments and advised members that this is an area of focus for the department.



Agenda item 5 – Update on postcode review

Members received an update on the postcode review and land bridging enhancements from Assistant Secretary Jo Laduzko. The department has reviewed policy settings for rural movements of containers to better safeguard against biosecurity risk. This included development of a new method for classifying postcodes using a cascading model based on general land use data and specific biosecurity risk factors. This has seen a reset of what is determined to be metro and what's rural, together with a more nuanced approach for postcodes that have traditionally been split metro/rural. The draft policy will also reset the requirements for goods transiting through a rural area to another metro area, including expanding the class 14.4 Approved Arrangement conditions to enable further industry participants to undertake required inspections.

The draft Postcode Classification and Rural Movement Policy will be shared shortly for consultation via a Have Your Say process (likely October). The department confirmed this would be announced through an import industry advice notice. The new policy will establish a nationally consistent approach to managing rural destinations and transit risks. It is expected that the policy will be implemented in phases with reclassification of postcodes to begin followed by the broader policy.

Discussion

Members discussed issues around inconsistencies in the reporting of the destination in systems, which can cause inefficiencies in systems and processes around managing delivery of goods. The need to work with Australian Border Force to resolve some of these matters was noted.

Industry members raised the importance of working with all levels of government to understand when metropolitan areas are being expanded, and the pull factors that are provided to industry to move to potential rural or 'fringe' areas including the benefits that flow from businesses setting up in these locations. Industry members also mentioned that it is important that messaging is clear when releasing the policy as there are a number of different postcode classification schemes from different departments that may cause confusion.

The department will ensure early visibility to key industry stakeholders to test the veracity of this draft policy before releasing it for broader consultation.

Agenda item 6 – Digital Tools and Technology update incl. ICCP presentation

Martin Coates, Assistant Secretary Digital Solutions and Enablement, Digital Business Division, joined the meeting and provided members with a presentation on the Integrated Cargo and Container Platform (ICCP) and an update on the wider Simplified Targeting and Enhances Processing Systems (STEPS) program.

The presentation covered achievements in the STEPS program since the previous meeting in May 2026, including the implementation of ICCP and subsequent enhancements, transition of lodgement of unaccompanied personal effects and military entries from email to the Cargo Online Lodgement System and implementation of the TradeClear portal.

Members were provided with context on the rationale for the ICCP, to remove the need for a consignment to pass through multiple nonintegrated systems to a centralised and unified system providing consistent experience for department and industry users.



The future roadmap for ICCP was provided showing the intent to expand the system to cover a wider range of entries and commodities.

Discussion

Holly Buckle, Assistant Secretary Cargo Operations South & Detector Dogs, mentioned how the ICCP was an intuitive system for staff to use and allows all participants in the import process to be treated in the same way.

Members discussed the future funding for the STEPS program and the use of artificial intelligence in a proof of concept in the development of code for software in an accelerated timeframe and the efficiencies they can provide whilst still ensuring human oversight.

Agenda item 7 – Final report for pest risk analysis of khapra beetle – Part 1 (plant product pathways)

The committee was provided with an update on the department's final pest risk analysis report of khapra beetle which was published on the department's website on 27 August 2026. The report recommends ongoing risk management measures and operational systems to reduce biosecurity risk to an appropriate level of protection. These measures largely mirror the current seven emergency measures with some amendments including:

- Revising phytosanitary certificate requirements for treated consignments to ensure they have been inspected post treatment by the National Plant Protection Organisation in the country of treatment.
- Requiring offshore treatment providers to be registered under one of the Australian schemes such as the Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (AFAS) or AusTreat.
- An additional measure for imported plant products for research purposes.

The department is finalising an implementation plan for the updated measures intended to be implemented progressively into 2027. The current emergency measures will remain in place in the interim.

Discussion

The Chair mentioned that khapra beetle is the department's number 2 plant priority pest and that the department had recently completed the final report on *Xylella*, the number 1 plant priority pest. It was great to see the amount of thinking that went into these reports to ensure that measures being implemented were quite targeted.

Agenda item 8 – Lessons learnt from middle east response

Bernie Murphy, Acting Assistant Secretary Operational Strategy & Reform, thanked members for their participation and engagement during the response and asked members to reflect on what was learnt from the response but also what we can build upon those lessons to strengthen resilience. The Acting Assistant Secretary highlighted some reflections and recognitions including:

- The importance of industry and government working together.
- The department supported by industry acted on the situation quickly and were responsive together in sharing information.



- That relationships were established and strengthened between government and industry and it is important to maintain these.
- The opportunity that was created through this response to attain better access to data and working closely together to better collect, share and understand it.
- Work by industry to diversify markets and supply chains.

Discussion

Members discussed the benefits of industry being involved in being able to see the bigger picture, and how other industries and stakeholders were affected, as well as being able to provide clarity to others based on their involvement in the response. Members noted that lessons learnt from the response to COVID were leveraged for this response and that there was a more holistic view of supply chains now in government that helps in preparedness for responses to future issues.

Agenda item 9 – Finance/budget update

Maria Loyman, Assistant Secretary, Funding and Revenue, Finance and Investment Division provided a budget update for the committee. The update included a circulated paper for the 2025-26 interim financial performance report on the Biosecurity cost recovery arrangement. This report showed totals for revenue, expenses and resulting surplus.

Agenda item 10 – Other Business/Closing remarks

The Chair talked about the Draft New Imported New Vehicle Policy. It was stated that there was a structured consultation process in place and that any issues raised are being managed and will be responded to by the department via that process.

The committee was advised by Rachel Granton-Smith, Assistant Secretary Biosecurity Strategic Capability via the meeting chat of the department's completion of the Biosecurity Legislation sunseting program with relevant instruments to be remade on 1 October 2026.

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

The next meeting of the DAFF Cargo Consultative Committee (DCCC Meeting 105) is scheduled to be held in **November 2026**.



Action Register – DCCC action items

ID no	Action Item	Action Officer	Status
002	Conduct structured engagement on postcode/land-bridging review.	Jo Laduzko, Assistant Secretary	Open – In progress
003	SAC reform – early 2026 data deep-dive; align with ABF future cargo reporting model initiative	Jo Laduzko, Assistant Secretary	Open – In progress
009	Provide a copy of the relevant discussion paper on Service Standard Review/ update out of session	Jason Preece, Assistant Secretary	Open – In progress

Attendees

Chair – Monica Collins, First Assistant Secretary
Rachel Granton-Smith, Assistant Secretary

Graeme Grosse, First Assistant Secretary
Josephine Laduzko, Assistant Secretary
Holly Buckle, Assistant Secretary
Jim Simpson, Assistant Secretary
Sonya Errington, Assistant Secretary
Bernie Murphy, A/g Assistant Secretary
Maria Loyman, Assistant Secretary

Ben Wilson, Assistant Secretary

Martin Moseley
Lauren Dowell

Biosecurity Operations Division (BOD)
Biosecurity Strategic Capability, Biosecurity Strategy and Reform Division (BSRD)
Compliance & Enforcement Division (CED)
Goods & Conveyance Policy / BOD
Cargo Operations South & Detector Dogs / BOD
Cargo Operations West & Maritime / BOD
Cargo Operations North & Response / BOD
Operational Strategy & Reform Division / BOD
Funding and Revenue / Finance and Investment Division (FID)
Plant Import Operations / Biosecurity Plant and Science Services Division
Reg Assurance Audit and Partnerships / CED
Customs and Trade Modernisation Branch, Strategy and Capability Group, Australian Border Force

Industry

Bradley Leonard

Carolyn Macgill
Paul Bagnall
Dianne Tipping
Michael Gallacher
Craig Birchall

International Forwarders and Custom Brokers Association of Australia
Food and Beverage Importers Association
Conference of Asia Pacific Express Carriers
Export Council of Australia
Ports Australia Ltd
Qantas Airways Ltd

Observers

Lucy Robinson
Krithika Arun

Freight and Trade Alliance
Australia Post



Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Cargo Consultative Committee



Guests

Martin Coates, Assistant Secretary

Digital Solutions and Enablement / Digital Business
Division

Leanne Payne, Director

Funding and Revenue / FID

Apologies

Tanya Thornton

Australia Post

Peter Van Duyn

International Cargo Handling Coordination Association

Sal Milici

Freight and Trade Alliance

Dianne O'Hara

Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries

Melwyn Noronha

Shipping Australia Limited

Stephen Pearse

Board of Airline Representatives

Christie Sawczuk, First Assistant Secretary

Biosecurity Strategy and Reform Division

Jason Preece, Assistant Secretary

Operational Strategy & Reform Division / BOD

Aaron O'Neill

Assistant Secretary, Customs and Border Modernisation
Branch, Customs Group, Australian Border Force

Secretariat

Heidi Young

Operational Strategy & Reform / BOD

Michael Paragreen

Operational Strategy & Reform / BOD

Megan Davies

Operational Strategy & Reform / BOD