Detailed response implementation update: December 2024 to August 2025

Key highlights:

The department and the APVMA have implemented a series of reforms to address the recommendations since the release of the <u>Detailed response to the final report on future structure and</u> governance arrangements for the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority on 4 November 2024. The reforms that have been implemented include the reinforcement of APVMA governance arrangements, and the optimisation of agency performance and operational processes. The department is prioritising work towards a sustainable funding model for the APVMA as a key enabling reform.

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	Detailed response – area of focus	Status	Update
Improvement in policy and regulation	1.1 Regulatory best practice	\checkmark	The Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry issued a new Ministerial Statement of Expectations in January 2025 The APVMA Board provided its Regulator Statement of Intent in February 2025 in response
		o ^o	The APVMA is developing a Regulatory Posture Statement
	1.2 Regulatory approaches across states and territories	\checkmark	Agvet Chemicals Subcommittee (ACS) established, workplan and terms of reference agreed Meetings held in February, March and July 2025
		\leftarrow	Next steps: ACS to consider and report on options for improved legislative consistency across jurisdictions
	1.3 Stakeholder engagement	\checkmark	The APVMA finalised its Stakeholder Engagement Model. This model was developed following a public consultation process and consideration of independent reviews, the findings of the 2024 Stakeholder Survey, and the engagement practices of comparable organisations.
	1.4 Efficiency of regulatory processes	o o	The department is leading policy analysis of prioritised reform in preparation for consultation: appropriate risk-based regulation for emerging products and low risk products
	1.5 Product labelling		Considering opportunities for reform, including through ACS
	1.6 Assessment and application pathways	o ^O	The department is leading policy analysis of prioritised reforms in preparation for consultation: enhancing the efficiency and transparency of chemical reconsideration; a cyclical registration model
	1.7 Product safety		Considering opportunities for reform, including through ACS
	1.8 Other regulatory processes	o	The department is leading policy analysis of prioritised reform in preparation for consultation: consistency in the application of limits on use of information, exploring removing APVMA's mediation and arbitration provisions
Improvement in governance of the APVMA	2.1 Links with APS and other regulators	\checkmark	A Reporting and Cooperation Framework has been agreed between APVMA and department and endorsed by the APVMA Board
	2.2 Transparency of governance	\checkmark	The APVMA Governance Framework was finalised in December 2024 The APVMA Corporate Plan 2025-2029 came into effect on 1 September 2025 The APVMA Strategic Plan 2025-30 was published on 29 August 2025 Underway
	2.3 Purpose of system	K	Agvet Chemicals Subcommittee to consider national consistency matters Next priority
Improvement in APVMA operations	3.1 People and culture	\checkmark	The APVMA's Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan was finalised in December 2024 The APVMA's People Plan was endorsed by the Board in August 2025
	3.2 Financial management and procurement	o	The 2025-2026 CRIS will come into force on 1 October 2025 Progressing cost analysis and review of APVMA's funding model: initial policy analysis by the department
		K	Next step: Government consideration of cost recovery model options