



# Enabling agricultural exports into the future

Draft Cost Recovery  
Implementation statement  
(CRIS) consultation

2 February 2026

Agricultural Trade and Regulation Group  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

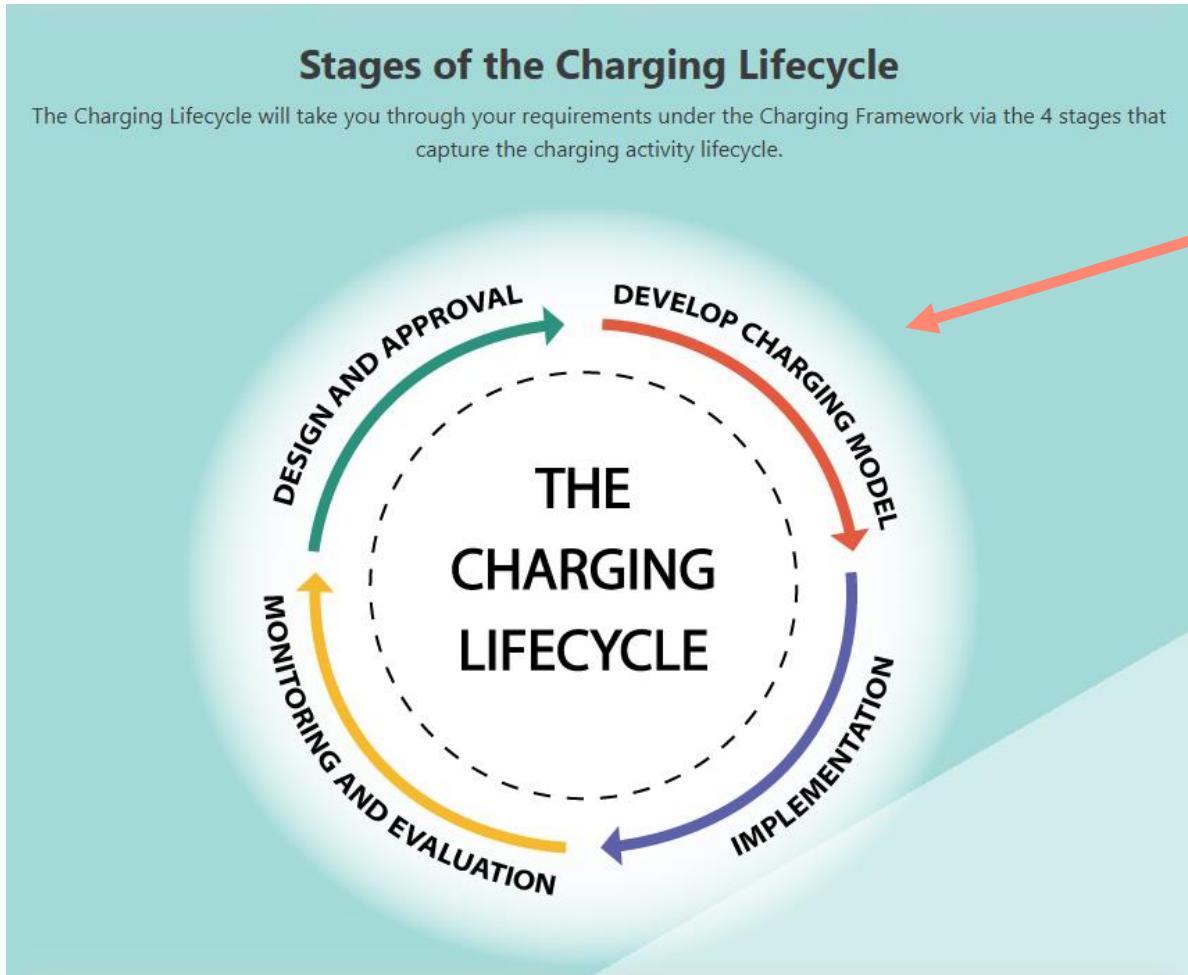


# Purpose

To provide an overview of the consultation scope and process, outline the timelines, and explain how you can participate

- Where we are at in the process
- Consultation scope and information
- Guidance on feedback for purposes of the draft CRIS
- Next steps.

# Stages of the Charging Lifecycle



Implementing the Charging Framework (RMG 302) | Department of Finance

# Timeline

**2025**

**OCT – DEC**

Industry briefing session 30 October (industry feedback received by the Department over past 18 months)

**2025**

**DEC – JAN**

Government MYEFO decision  
Official announcement of CRIS development  
Preparation and drafting for the initiation of a CRIS

**2026**

**LATE JAN – APR**

Formal draft CRIS public consultation (29 January to 6 March)  
Consideration of industry feedback and evaluation for CRIS development

**2026**

**MAY – JUN**

CRIS finalisation and progression towards parliamentary and legislative processes (enabling implementation)

**2026**

**1 JULY**

New CRIS implemented

# Context for the decision of Government

- Proposals met requirements of the Government Budget process
- Decisions are considered in context of the Government's fiscal strategy to grow the economy and achieve improvements to the budget position (including):
  - Assessment of impacts on the economy and output
  - Policy Impact Analysis
  - Adherence to the Australian Government Charging Framework
  - Financial offset requirements
  - Agreement of costs with the Department of Finance

For further information: [https://www.finance.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-05/budget-process-operational-rules\\_0.pdf](https://www.finance.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-05/budget-process-operational-rules_0.pdf)

# Decisions of Government

- The Government will introduce new cost recovery arrangements for export regulatory services from 1 July 2026, with a **phased transition to full cost recovery** over a three-year period (for most arrangements)
  - Government is providing funding of **\$48.7 million** to supplement a revenue gap in seven export arrangements.
- The package also proposes certain regulatory activities currently undertaken to be moved to cost recovery, including some activities allowing DAFF to regulate agricultural exports to China (China's CIFER listing process).
- The Government is also providing ongoing appropriation funding for a limited range of activities in Live Animal Export that exist to meet community expectations, as well as support for delivering a new regulatory and cost recovery model for Non-Prescribed Goods
- Government is providing funding for the department's non-regulatory technical market access and international engagement functions for 2025-26 of **\$7.1 million**.

# CRIS consultation – scope

## In scope

Informing stakeholders on:

- The MYEFO decision and how it will be implemented, including the process for transition and change
- The need for a new sustainable funding model, how the cost base will change, and the drivers for change
- The cost allocation policy used by the department
- How the department is applying the Australian Government Charging Framework and Cost Recovery Policy
- The methodology of determining prices of regulatory services and modelling the cost of delivering the services.

Consulting stakeholders on:

- The new proposed price structure for export regulatory services including tables comparing current and proposed fees and charges over the full phasing timeframe set out in the draft CRIS'
- The rationale and explanation of the changes including the drivers of change to the cost base, and description of activities being transitioned from appropriation funded to cost recovery set out in consultation papers or fact sheets
- How proposed fees may impact businesses.

## Out of scope

MYEFO 2025-26 decision of government

The outcome for past results within arrangements.

# CRIS consultation - information

**The draft Cost Recovery Implementation Statements contain information on:**

- Proposed new prices 2026-27 to 2029-30
- Rationale for and explanation of how new activities will transition into cost recovery
- Risk assessment
- Approach to stakeholder engagement
- Cost recovery model
- Information on design of regulatory charges
- Financial forward estimates
- Financial and no-financial performance reporting
- Ongoing review process

**Draft CRIS 2026-27 supporting documents**

Overview of Activity Based Costing model  
[\[PDF 310 KB\]](#) [\[Word 226 KB\]](#)

Additional cost recovery activities  
[\[PDF 369 KB\]](#) [\[Word 241 KB\]](#)

Exports cost base changes  
[\[PDF 338 KB\]](#) [\[Word 237 KB\]](#)

Regulatory efficiency function  
[\[PDF 354 KB\]](#) [\[Word 238 KB\]](#)

Indirect costs  
[\[PDF 300 KB\]](#) [\[Word 236 KB\]](#)

# CRIS consultation – structure of fees and charges

## Activity-based costing model:

1. **Cost base** - Cost centre managers set their budgets (circa 250 in Agricultural Trade and Regulation Group e.g., meat export market access, Plant Regulatory Program Management), indirect costs (e.g., property, HR, IT etc.) are added based on work points, head count, transactions etc.
2. **Allocation of costs to activities and programs** –Stage 1 outputs are allocated to programs (e.g., meat, plant, LAE) and activities (e.g., assessment of information, audit, risk management, capability)
3. **Allocation of costs to charge points (a levy and/or fee)** – total cost of an activity within a program is divided by the number of outputs to derive a unit cost (e.g., modelled cost of issuing certificates in the Dairy arrangement is  $\$410,330 / 27,026$  modelled certificates = \$15 per certificate)

### Price structure question guidance:

- Does the charging model make sense?
- Are there alternatives to allocating costs to charge points that could work better?
- How can we improve our volumetric estimates?

# CRIS consultation – rationale for changes

Additional cost recovery activities:

- Overseas listing – China Import Food Enterprise Registration (CIFER)
- Market maintenance regulatory services
- Non-compliance investigation and triage
- Fit and proper person assessments
- Manual of Importing Country Requirements (Micor) sustainment
- Regulatory efficiency function

## **Cost recovery rationale question guidance:**

- Is there a clear link between who demands/ benefits from these services and those who pay?
- Is the allocation of costs across programs fair and proportional?
- How can we improve your understanding of the costs you are being asked to pay for?

# CRIS consultation – business impacts

- Export fees and charges (direct and indirect) are a cost to exporting businesses alongside other requirements of governments (tax compliance, training, OHS, industrial relations etc.)
- Impacts may vary according to:
  - Price elasticity of different products (e.g., how responsive consumers will be to marginal increases in prices, whether those products can be substituted)
  - Size of the business (e.g., larger businesses will generally have greater capacity to absorb and diffuse or pass costs on)
  - Price structure of the CRIS (e.g., impacts may be reduced for smaller businesses from volume-based charging rather than higher fixed upfront charges such as registration).
- Australia's export cost recovery arrangements are like other comparable jurisdictions (United States, New Zealand, and Canada), and in compliance with WTO requirements.

**Industry impacts  
question guidance:**

- How might the proposed changes impact market behaviour?

# CRIS consultation

- There will be opportunities to have your say as part of the CRIS consultation process.
- Consultation will inform changes to the current agricultural export cost recovery arrangements through updating the 2026–27 CRISS and amendments to the relevant legislation
- Subject to interest, we will hold several in-person meetings.
- Registration will open soon for meetings in the locations below:
  - Wednesday 11 February 2026 – Brisbane (registration open)
  - Friday 13 February 2026 – Darwin (registration open)
  - Tuesday 17 February 2026 – Geelong
  - Thursday 19 February 2026 – Launceston
  - Tuesday 24 February 2026 – Mildura
  - Thursday 26 February 2026 – Perth
  - Tuesday 3 March 2026 - Sydney
- Your Feedback can also be provided via:
  - Have Your Say online platform
  - Email to the Exports Funding Team – [Exportsfunding@aff.gov.au](mailto:Exportsfunding@aff.gov.au)
  - Telephone and or virtual meetings (if requested)

# Questions

- Please raise a hand and say your name and organisation or ask a question in the chat



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry

# Thank you

Share your feedback

[https://haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/  
sustainably-funded-exports](https://haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/sustainably-funded-exports)

## Contact us

[ExportsFunding@aff.gov.au](mailto:ExportsFunding@aff.gov.au)