

Australian Wool Innovation Performance Review Submission

04/05/2018
IWBA Secretary; Lexi Cesnik
1 Dangar Place, East Wagga
NSW, 2652

To whom it may concern,

The below review submissions have been developed by the Inland Woolbrokers Association.

I. Obligation under the Statutory Funding Arrangement

- a. It is the Inland Woolbrokers Association's belief that Australian Wool Innovation are not entitled to be a trade entity as it would be a conflict of interest to levy payers. There are concerns that WoolQ has the potential to develop into a trading platform which would allow Australian Wool Innovation to function in the trade space.
- b. Inland Woolbrokers Association thinks there should be policy agreements put in place to ensure that the above doesn't occur.

II. Governance arrangements

- a. Communication between other industry organisations has been poor and is clearly costing levy payer's money.

III. Planned Outcomes

- b. The information about the cost of projects and the return on investment to levy payers is not well communicated and budgets are not well communicated to levy payers

IV. Benefits

- c. The IWB members understand The Woolmark Company may be opening up avenues for Australian growers to become members of WM. Inland Woolbrokers Association support progressing this initiative, and would seek to receive any information pertaining to this initiative.

V. Engagement approach

- a. Repeatedly, Australian Wool Innovation have suggested that the need for change and development of new tools has been derived from woolgrowers, however, there seems to be no defined (moment/evidence) of when this information was collected?
- b. After Inland Woolbrokers Association provided a submission to the WSSR, the association did not receive any correspondence in reply, even to acknowledge receiving our submission.
- c. Feedback from Inland Woolbrokers Association member's clients is, that there seems to be a lack of available information, which can be easily accessed, regarding current on farm and off farm research and development.
 - i. It appears to us that there is a restriction of the extension of the current projects.
- d. Inland Woolbrokers Association would like to commend Australian Wool Innovation for the previous broker forums, Inland Woolbrokers Association cannot express enough how informative these forums have been to our staff and business'. We would be very disappointed if these we no longer offered to Brokers.

VI. Collaboration with Research Development corporations

- a. Inland Woolbrokers Association supports the development of an electronic specification system, however we are confused as to why WoolQ persisted in developing the e speci app, when other industry bodies had signalled that they were in the development phase.
- b. The lack of communication with other industry bodies and an inability to collaborate has resulted in the loss of valuable information, specifically regarding the systems and

interested parties involved, which lead to the duplication of physical products, where by the Australian Wool Innovation version looks at this stage to be under developed.

VII. Australian Wool Innovation employment practices.

- a. Inland Woolbrokers Association believe that the term of the chairman of Australian Wool Innovation be limited to a maximum of two terms. Which is line with similar organisations.
 - i. Two terms gives the chairman adequate opportunity to govern across two strategic planning calendars, giving more than enough time to see through industry implementation.

Regards,

Inland Woolbrokers Association