

Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer

Business Plan (overview)

Our purpose We work with national and international governments and industry partners to grow the value of agricultural trade and reduce risk to the agricultural sector

Our objectives *Objective 1:* Increase, improve and maintain markets (manage risks to market access)

Our functions

Provide international representation of Australia's animal health status and systems and influence international policy and standards

- **Shape the international animal health agenda**

- Utilise the OIE Presidency to increase Australia's international profile and influence, further strengthen our reputation as an international leader and contributor to global animal health, and influence the direction and development of OIE policies and activities to advance Australia's strategic interests.
- Influence the global animal health agenda, including policy and standards development, in accordance with Australia's national animal health, biosecurity and trade objectives.
- Fulfill Australia's obligations as a member of the OIE, including representing Australia's animal health status and delivering international reporting obligations to provide confidence to trading partners and the international community on the integrity of Australia's animal health systems, standards and claims.

- **Champion Australia's animal health services**

- Represent Australia's animal health status to the international community and providing definitive advice to Australian stakeholders.
- Represent Australia's interests in the development of international standards for animal health; including establishing effective working relationships to influence the development and uptake of standards in Australia's interests.

- **Connect and collaborate with key animal health stakeholders**

- Provide advice to Australian stakeholders on international standards for animals and animal products and emerging international policy issues with the potential to affect their trade.
- Utilise international networks to support intelligence gathering and horizon scanning activities.

Resourcing: *International and Strategic Policy Unit*

Director (EL2)
Senior Veterinary Officer (VO3)
Veterinary Officer (VO2)
Policy Officer (APS5)

Provide strategic analysis of, influence, and champion Australia's animal health systems and services

- **Shape the Australian animal health agenda**

- Adopt an objective and overarching view of Australia's animal health systems to identify potential weaknesses and strengths, and support their integrity and reputation.
- Undertake and promote strategic intelligence gathering and horizon scanning activities to identify and analyse potential/emerging animal health risks and opportunities in Australia, including by leading a cross-organisational animal health horizon scanning network, as part of a future-focussed approach.
- Communicate risks and opportunities through reports to the department's executive, national committees and other stakeholders. This includes the delivery of approximately six reports annually.
- Influence the national animal health agenda, and provide strategic leadership and other support, including during responses to animal disease incidents – such as through the Animal Health Committee and the Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases, for which secretariat services are also provided.

- **Champion Australia's animal health services**

- Promote the achievements of the animal health sector within Australia in support of its ongoing success.
- Facilitate where possible, and promote development opportunities for government veterinary and animal health officers in Australia, to support Australia's future animal health capabilities and services.

- **Connect and collaborate with key animal health stakeholders**

- Foster collaborative relationships between the department and stakeholders within Australia to support departmental objectives and an engaged, informed, and future-orientated animal health sector.
- Utilise domestic networks to support intelligence gathering and horizon scanning activities.
- Facilitate the sharing of information between the domestic and international animal health communities.

Resourcing: *Domestic Strategy & Engagement Unit*

Director (EL2)
Veterinary Officer (VO2 – rotating)
Policy Officer (APS4)

Ensure the Australian animal sector is well represented in local and global discussions on antimicrobial resistance

- Contribute to the development of policies and practices to address the issue of AMR in accordance with the One Health approach.
- Maximise the ability of Australian producers to prepare for, take advantage of, the emergence of new trade rules around AMR.
- Reduce the risk to producers of the introduction of onerous or detrimental international standards and trade policies.
- Represent the efforts of Australian producers on AMR at national and global levels
- Reduce the risk of Australian producers contributing to the growth and spread of resistant organisms.

Resourcing: Resources dedicated to this priority have been consolidated in Animal Health Policy Branch (AHPB). This function will be delivered under the direction of the Assistant Secretary, AHPB, Animal Division.

Our culture

- We understand agriculture
- We are professional and high performing
- We are future-orientated
- We know the impacts of our decisions
- We work collaboratively
- We value diversity
- We prioritise our effort and resources
- We are accountable and ethical