

Strategic Investment Advisory Panels (SIAP) - FAQs

| Panel makeup and scope | | |
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| What will SIAPs do? | Each SIAP has been established to provide strategic investment advice to Hort Innovation. Hort Innovation will use this advice in its investment of industry levies and Commonwealth Government matching funds in research, development and extension (and marketing) within Hort Innovation's levy funded investment pool (Pool 1). | |
| | The SIAP has responsibility for overseeing the industry's strategic investment plan and providing strategic investment advice to Hort Innovation. The panel will be guided by the strategic investment priorities identified within the industry strategic investment plan. | |
| What is the make-up of each SIAP? | On each panel there will be a majority of levy paying growers, one or two representatives of the IRB, an independent chair and other skills based members as necessary. Other appointments to the panel will depend on the needs of the industry, as described in the industry strategic investment plan. In appointing the panel Hort Innovation will strive to ensure geographic and sectoral diversity as well as continuity from the interim advisory panels to the SIAPs. | |
| What is the scope of the SIAPs? | The panels will provide strategic investment advice to Hort Innovation, guided by the strategic investment plans. They will not be involved in procurement activity or project management; however Hort Innovation may seek involvement of industry in such matters separately. | |
| Who will Chair the SIAP? | Hort Innovation will appoint an independent Chair to chair each panel. The Chair's role will be primarily focused on ensuring the smooth conduct of meetings, governance procedures and ensuring the objectives of each meeting are achieved. | |
| How can I get involved and have input into the R&D program? | Panel members have been appointed based on their expertise and experience. It is expected that Panel Members have an ear to the ground with industry and represent the sentiment of their industry while executing their responsibilities as Panel Members. However individual growers can also have a direct input into their industry program by submitting ideas through the concept form on the Hort Innovation website, participating in the development of the strategic investment plan or by contacting the Hort Innovation relationship manager for that industry. | |



| Operational | |
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| Who is making the appointments? Who decides? | The appointments are made by Hort Innovation. The appointments will be based on the recommendations of the interview panel. The interview panels include a Hort Innovation Director, a director of the industry representative body (IRB), and an independent. |
| What is the appointment term for panel members? | Appointments to the panel will be for a period of three (3) years, with a maximum number of three terms. |
| Who will take meeting notes? | Professional, external meeting note takers will be provided for each meeting. |
| When is the first meeting? | Each SIAP will have its individual meeting schedule, based on the needs of the industry, including seasonal impacts, progress and status of current Strategic Investment Plans. |
| How often will the SIAPs meet and where? | The panel will meet at least twice annually face to face, however requirements may vary depending on the needs of the industry investment program. |
| How will the discussions of the SIAPs be transparent? | Key discussion points and next steps, which are not commercially sensitive, will be made available on the website following the meeting. In addition financial statements, detailed project lists, program highlights and contact details for Hort Innovation staff and service providers will be made available on the specific industry page on the Hort Innovation website. |
| How will conflict of interest and confidentiality be managed? | Hort Innovation is preparing appropriate protocols for management of Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality. All members will be provided with this information in an induction at or before attending their first meeting of the new SIAP. |
| Who pays for the SIAPs? | The activities of the panel are funded with industry levies and matching Commonwealth funds. |
| | Panel members are entitled to claim sitting fees for their time on the panel and will also be reimbursed for any reasonable out of pocket expenses. Travel and accommodation will be booked and paid for by Hort Innovation. |
| | All sitting fees and reimbursements will be awarded in accordance with Hort Innovation policies and procedures. |



| Appointment process | Appointment process | |
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| How were panel members chosen? | The makeup of individual panels is dependent upon the structural and operational characteristics of the industry and the specific needs of the industry program, as outlined in the industry strategic investment plan. | |
| | Although the needs of each industry vary, representational elements for consideration within each individual SIAP include: | |
| | Scale of production operation (large, medium, small) | |
| | Commodities grown (within the specified industry) | |
| | Geographic location, especially relating to key production regions | |
| | Position in supply chain (production, packing, processing etc) | |
| | Production method (protected cropping, field, hydroponic, high/low density, trellised etc) | |
| | Sub-sectors (eg table olives vs olive oil, organic) | |
| | Export vs domestic focus | |
| | R&D vs marketing | |
| How were the industries for wave one chosen? | Hort Innovation has split the process into waves to ensure that the volume of work and applications is manageable. The first wave of applications is the larger industries and those with a lower seasonal impact (ie less harvest pressure). The second wave will cater for any industries wishing to progress with the appointment of their panel in the near term. The final waves will cater for those industries that are currently harvesting in full swing and the smaller industries. The smaller industries are likely to have slightly different requirements to the larger industries and these will be taken into account. Interim industry advisory panels will continue to operate as required until the SIAP is appointed. | |
| Can someone be on more than one panel? | Yes | |
| Are the SIAPs just the same as the old advisory mechanism under HAL? | No. The Strategic Investment Advisory Panels are newly formed advisory panels that will provide strategic investment advice to Hort Innovation around Pool 1 investment in Research and Development, and Marketing projects. Unlike IAC's, the new panels will not be involved in procurement activity or project management; however Hort Innovation may seek involvement of industry in such matters separately. | |
| Why hasn't my industry's panel been announced? | The recruitment of the Strategic Investment Advisory Panels (SIAPs) is being conducted in waves. This announcement details the establishment of SIAPs in wave one. Wave 2 recruitment has commenced, following the close of applications on 12 February. These industries are Cherry, Chestnut, Custard Apple, Dried Grapes, Lychee, Mango, Papaya, Passionfruit, Persimmon, Pineapple, Potato and Summerfruit. Subsequent waves will be timed to best fit with industry peak times (eg harvest) and other factors, such as confirmation of the industry's status as a Collective Industry Fund (CIF). | |