

Key discussion items

The Horticulture Industry Working Group met online on Thursday 1 September 2022. The Working Group welcomed Byron de Kock, seconded to a newly created role as Acting Head of Business Transformation and Service Delivery to specifically support the delivery of the second phase of activity under the Reset and Refresh process.

The initial focus of the Working Group meeting was the project plan set out in the [Workshop Summary Report](#), released in August 2022. That project plan detailed next steps arising from the industry workshops held in June 2022, with indicative timelines for their delivery.

Anthony Kachenko, GM Stakeholder Experience, stepped through the project plan to provide the Working Group with an update on the progress that has been made since the workshops and intended next steps. **The delivery of the project plan is on track and in line with the timeframes set out in the report.**

Anthony Kachenko and Byron de Kock then provided an **outline of advice mechanism models that some industries are considering**. This gave the Working Group an opportunity to discuss key elements of the models, including:

- Utilising existing structures or committees, for those industries that have those in place
- Refresh of existing Strategic Investment Advisory Panels (SIAPs), for those industries that want to keep that model, including renewal of membership
- The concept of a skills matrix for participation in any mechanism, noting it is potentially more appropriate to consider diversity of membership that reflects the diversity of an industry
- Cost implications of potential models, along with a need to accurately reflect the cost of the current SIAP model to allow appropriate comparison and basis of future consultation payments
- Secretariat support and chairing functions for all potential models, including flexibility around how this is delivered
- Resource requirements for the models presented, noting that this may have an impact on the cost of the operation of a mechanism

The Working Group then considered the potential content, program and delivery of **online industry workshops**. Hort Innovation is considering holding two online workshops in early October, inviting commodity PIBs and industry stakeholders to participate. The workshops would be the same format and content, delivered twice to enable as many stakeholders to participate as possible. In addition to outlining progress made against the Phase 2 project plan, the intention is to have representatives from several industries discuss their intended advice mechanism model as part of the workshops.

The Working Group was supportive of this approach, discussing the need for those workshops to deliver:

- Practical information on how the advice mechanism principles can be applied, using specific industry models under consideration as the basis
- Context for the models being presented, particularly in relation to size of industry
- Format of an online workshop to allow as many attendees as possible to raise their questions or ask for additional information they require, which can be addressed via follow-up meetings between Hort Innovation and individual commodity PIBs
- Prompts to enable commodity PIBs to consider potential models before the workshops

Next Steps and Contact

The Working Group will meet once more before the end of 2022 to discuss the status of the project plan and outcomes of the online workshops. If you have follow-up questions regarding the outcomes from the Working Group meeting in September 2022, please feel free to contact Sally Schilg, Account Director, Seftons sally.schilg@seftons.com.au