

## Olive Strategic Investment Advisory Panel meeting summary

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**Date:** 16 Feb 17

**Attendance:**

Rita Bikins  
Michael Harbison  
Peter Herborn  
Leandro Ravetti  
Lisa Rowntree  
Tim Smith  
Robert Spooner-Hart  
Kevin Whithear  
Rod Mailer  
Richard De Vos (chair)

**Location:** Melbourne

**Next Meeting:** Sept/October 2017

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### Overview

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Hort Innovation convened a meeting of the olive Strategic Investment Advisory Panel (SIAP) on February 16, 2017.

The primary purpose of the meeting was for the panel to review the new Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and other meeting inputs in order to provide advice to Hort Innovation on the next tier of priorities for investment.

The panel received of updates on:

1. Hort Innovation operations, including recent changes to the Hort Innovation board and voting arrangements for growers as well as Hort Innovation's evolving communications outputs
2. The outcomes and progress of a number of multi-industry investments by Hort Innovation, including:
  - ✓ The opening of the Horticulture Innovation Centre for Robotics and Intelligent Systems  
<http://horticulture.com.au/research-levy/research-levy-hicris/>
  - ✓ The securing of a further \$1.2m in Federal Agvet grants (including 2 olive projects)  
<http://horticulture.com.au/horticulture-industry-secures-more-than-1-2-million-in-chemical-grants/>
  - ✓ Commencement of the Masterclass in Horticultural Business and announcement of scholarships  
<http://horticulture.com.au/more-than-20-scholarships-up-for-grabs/>
  - ✓ Scholarships for women in horticulture  
<http://horticulture.com.au/supporting-women-in-horticulture-through-new-scholarships/>

- ✓ Increased investment in trade

<http://horticulture.com.au/australian-pavillion-front-and-centre-at-chinas-fruit-and-vegetable-fair/>

- ✓ QA harmonisation

<http://horticulture.com.au/global-first-agreement-with-australian-retailers-to-benefit-horticulture-growers/>

3. The outcomes and progress of Hort Innovation's olive specific investments into:
  - ✓ Industry benchmarking
  - ✓ Olives and olive oil in the food service sector
  - ✓ Olive oil quality
  - ✓ Minor use permits for the olive sector
  - ✓ International olive council participation
4. The Australian Olive Association's 'Everyday' olive oil marketing campaign

A financial summary of the Hort Innovation olive fund was provided, including a mid-range investment forecast and an overview of current and historical investment.

The panel was asked to provide advice on investment priorities in relation to two key aspects of olive oil quality and received a presentation from a service provider in the course of the discussion.

The panel participated in a workshop to identify and prioritise the next tier of priorities for R&D investment. The key priorities were then discussed in further detail in order to add further context to the scope of the investment.

In coming weeks Hort Innovation will move to invest in the key areas identified by the panel.

Anyone seeking further information on Hort Innovation's olive R&D investments should note that a full list of projects, together with an overview of the program financials are available on the olive webpage of the Hort Innovation website.

## Next steps

Hort Innovation is currently working to progress specific investments addressing grower best practices in production, industry communications, biosecurity, risk management and olive oil quality.

The panel will meet again in approximately September/October 2017.

## Contact

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