

ANIMAL HEALTH AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT
2014–2015





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Frequently used abbreviations

AAHL	Australian Animal Health Laboratory	HPAI	Highly pathogenic avian influenza
AAPSP	Australian Animal Pathology Standards Program	ICP	International Colloquium on Paratuberculosis
AECL	Australian Egg Corporation Limited	ICT	Information Communications Technology
AGM	Annual General Meeting	LBN	Livestock Biosecurity Network
AHA	Animal Health Australia	LPC	Livestock Production Conditions
AHC	Animal Health Committee	LPCP	Livestock Production Conditions Project
AHSQ	Animal Health Surveillance Quarterly	MLA	Meat & Livestock Australia
ALFA	Australian Lot Feeders' Association	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
AOP	Annual Operating Plan	NAHIS	National Animal Health Information System
APAV	Accreditation Program for Australian Veterinarians	NAMP	National Arbovirus Monitoring Program
AUSVETPLAN	Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan	NBC	National Biosecurity Committee
AVA	Australian Veterinary Association	NBJD	National Bovine Johne's Disease Strategic Plan
AVPSN	Australian Veterinary Practitioners' Surveillance Network	NCN	National Communication Network
AWC	Animal Welfare Committee	NJDCP	National Johne's Disease Control Program
AWI	Australian Wool Innovation	NLIS	National Livestock Identification Service
AWPIT	Australian Welfare and Product Integrity Taskforce	NMG	National Management Group
BJD	Bovine Johne's disease	NSDI	National Significant Disease Investigations
CCA	Cattle Council of Australia	OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
CCEAD	Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Disease	OJD	Ovine Johne's disease
CHLT	Cattle Heat Load Toolbox	OJDMP	Ovine Johne's Disease Management Plan
CRAW	Crisis Response for Animal Welfare	PHA	Plant Health Australia
CRC	Cooperative Research Centre	RD&E	Research, development and extension
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	RIRDC	Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation
DAFFQ	QLD Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	RRT	Rapid Response Team
EAD	Emergency animal disease	SCA	Sheepmeat Council of Australia
EADRA	Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement	SCAHLs	Sub-committee for Animal Health Laboratory Standards (AHC)
FMD	Foot-and-mouth disease	SIHWT	Sheep Industry Health and Welfare Trust
HBDCF	Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund	SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
		TSEFAP	Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy Freedom Assurance Program
		TSES	Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies
		WPA	WoolProducers Australia

ABOUT US

Animal Health Australia (AHA) is a not-for-profit public company that facilitates innovative partnerships between governments, major livestock industries and other stakeholders to protect animal health and the sustainability of Australia's livestock industry.

AHA works in partnership with our Members and other stakeholders to keep Australia free of new and emerging diseases and to improve animal health, enhance market access and foster resilience and integrity of the Australian animal health system.

AHA's collaborative programs improve animal and human health, biosecurity,¹ food safety and quality, market access, animal welfare and livestock productivity.

OUR VISION

To establish a resilient Australian animal health system through effective partnerships, known for its integrity, and recognised nationally and internationally.

OUR MISSION

To assist our Members and partners to enhance, strengthen and protect animal health and the sustainability of Australia's livestock industries.*

*For AHA purposes; livestock are animals kept for use or profit including any class of cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses (including mules and donkeys), poultry, emus, ostrich, alpaca, deer, camel or buffalo, and farmed aquatic species.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

Protecting livestock production

Australia continues to be a major agricultural producer and exporter of livestock and animal products. The gross farm value of farm production increased to 5.9 percent in 2014–2015 and is forecast to increase by around 5.6 percent to \$25.9 billion in 2015–2016. (March issue of *Agricultural Commodities*, ABARES).

Effective national surveillance and control of animal diseases in Australia requires cooperative partnerships among government agencies, organisations, commercial companies and individuals who are involved in animal industries.

As well as contributing significantly to Australia's economy, animal industries help support and maintain rural communities. Australian farmers play an important role as environmental stewards, owning, managing and caring for 61 percent of Australia's land mass.

AHA coordinates and manages more than 60 national projects relating to animal biosecurity, health and welfare on behalf of its Members, the Australian Government, state and territory governments and the peak national councils of Australia's livestock industries and service providers.

“ AHA coordinates and manages more than 60 national projects relating to animal biosecurity, health and welfare. ”

¹ Biosecurity is the management of risks to the economy, environment and the community, of pests and diseases entering, emerging, establishing or spreading." Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity is an agreement between the Commonwealth, state and territory governments (with the exception of Tasmania) and provides a national framework on biosecurity. It came into effect in January 2012. AHA's role in the biosecurity continuum is focussed post-border.

“ Working together in strong partnerships leverages Members’ investments and maximises the return for all by achieving a shared commitment; to enhance the resilience and integrity of the national animal health system. ”

Facilitating effective partnerships

We work to:

- improve Australia’s animal health policy and practice by building capacity for emergency animal disease (EAD) preparedness
- ensure that Australia’s livestock health systems support productivity, competitive advantages and preferred market access
- ensure that animal health programs help to protect human health, the environment and recreational activities
- manage nationally agreed animal health programs.

Working together in strong partnerships leverages Members’ investments and maximises the return for all by achieving a shared commitment; to enhance the resilience and integrity of the national animal health system.

OUR MEMBERS

The key factor behind the success of AHA’s programs is the ability of Members to work together to achieve a common outcome.

AHA’s consultative processes seek to engage Members to ensure all Members have the opportunity to contribute to each stage of a project.

Members have a high level of involvement in the management of all activities and have formal input to the development of company annual and strategic plans through the Members’ Forums.

AHA has 32 Members spread across four categories:

- Australian Government, state and territory governments
- Livestock Industries
- Service Providers
- Associate Members

Australian Government

Australian Government Department of Agriculture²

State and Territory Governments

The State of New South Wales
The State of Queensland
The State of South Australia
The State of Tasmania
The State of Victoria
The State of Western Australia
The Australian Capital Territory
The Northern Territory

Livestock Industries

Australian Alpaca Association Limited
Australian Chicken Meat Federation Inc
Australian Dairy Farmers Limited
Australian Duck Meat Association Inc
Australian Egg Corporation Limited
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc
Australian Horse Industry Council
Australian Lot Feeders’ Association Inc
Australian Pork Limited
Cattle Council of Australia Inc
Equestrian Australia Limited
Goat Industry Council of Australia Inc
Harness Racing Australia Inc
Sheepmeat Council of Australia Inc
WoolProducers Australia Limited

Service Providers

Australian Veterinary Association Limited
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation

Associate Members

Australian Livestock Export Corporation Limited (LiveCorp)
Australian Racing Board Limited
Council of Veterinary Deans of Australian and New Zealand
Dairy Australia Limited
National Aquaculture Council Inc
Zoo and Aquarium Association Inc

² The Australian Government Department of Agriculture has since changed its name to the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Invariably, my previous Chairman's Reports have included mention of 'strong partnerships'. This phrase is the hallmark of AHA and the essence of the relationships we foster between industry and government, allowing us to deliver the services our Members require in challenging times. This Report continues the practice, not out of custom, but because the partnership approach has again demonstrated its value in 2014-2015.

This was never more obvious than during the development of the *AHA Strategic Plan 2015-2020*, when industry and government sat down together and agreed on the things they wanted AHA to do and more importantly – how to do those things. The net result was a shared vision that suited our industry and government Members alike and will take us into the future with the best possible opportunity of retaining and enhancing the solid reputation for achievement we have earned over the 19 years of AHA's existence.

Throughout the year, I spoke with many of AHA's Members who had been involved in the strategic planning exercise at three Members' Forums and, on numerous occasions, out of session. There was universal praise for the process and at least pragmatic acceptance of the outcome in the current operating environment.

The planning process wasn't all plain sailing. It unearthed some shortcomings with existing processes and systems and highlighted the lack of investment in key areas of the company over a number of years. It became clear that this resulted in an unsustainable effort by management and staff to efficiently deliver programs for our Members. This revelation was accepted early in the planning process by staff, Members and the Board.

I want to acknowledge our CEO's strategy to rectify the shortcomings over time and the support of staff both in accepting the need for change, and for playing such a proactive role over the past year in the planning process. This ensured the final plan accurately reflected the reality of services staff deliver for our Members every day. The Chairman's Report is fundamentally about the year just past and it's nice to be able to dwell on this component that was such a major focus during the year and yet is the basis of much optimism and enthusiasm for the years ahead.



“ The new office at 95 Northbourne Avenue Turner, offers a myriad of advantages over the previous location for our staff and Members alike. ”

“ I want to acknowledge the change and progress Kathleen Plowman, as CEO, has driven at AHA, and the enthusiasm of management and staff in giving effect to improved ways of delivering services for our Members. ”

Managing challenges

Sometimes the best laid plans of organisations fail to eventuate for reasons totally out of the company's control and AHA had two such situations during the past year. Firstly, the long anticipated co-location with Plant Health Australia (PHA) flagged in last year's report was called off when PHA ascertained the co-location figures simply didn't add up for them. We advised you of that decision at the time and have subsequently at joint meetings of the Boards, confirmed significant on-going cooperation in programs that offer scope for better outcomes or reduced costs for our membership. The second planned activity that hadn't occurred as previously indicated, is the establishment of a new company to replace NLIS Ltd, currently a subsidiary of Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) – an arrangement in which AHA would have significant influence. MLA and AHA have mutually agreed to pause the negotiations pending completion and release of recommendations from the SAFEMEAT Initiatives Review. Those recommendations include a range of committee and organisational changes that need to be clarified and agreed by a number of groups before there is merit in finishing the due diligence with NLIS Ltd. There is currently no scheduled date for completion of this frustratingly long running saga.

Moving times

While the big move from AHA's home for nearly two decades in Deakin occurred in the first weeks of the 2015-2016 financial year, the planning for relocation occurred in earnest once we became aware co-location with PHA was no longer a possibility in early 2015. It was another large body of work for a few key staff and a distraction for pretty much all of the staff in the lead up to the move. From the outside looking in, it seems to have all gone well enough but I'm sure there will be some stories recounted in the months ahead that cover the range of emotions associated with the move. The new office at 95 Northbourne Avenue Turner, offers a myriad of advantages over the previous location for our staff and Members alike. Additionally, the current downturn in the Canberra real estate market has enabled us to lock in attractive prices that were simply unavailable a few years ago.

Our CEO will touch on aspects of the *Annual Operating Plan 2014-15*, which was the final year of the *AHA Strategic Plan 2010-2015*.

I want to acknowledge the change and progress Kathleen Plowman, as CEO, has driven at AHA, and the enthusiasm of management and staff in giving effect to improved ways of delivering services for our Members. I appreciate the breadth of experience and sound advice my fellow Directors bring to the Board table and the organisation. Finally, I value the goodwill that exists throughout AHA and our membership despite challenges that are universally shared.



Peter Milne

CEO'S REPORT

'Working together for animal health' continues to characterise AHA, our services, projects and programs, the partnerships and collaborations that we have realised with the support and goodwill of our Members and many stakeholders, and the commitment and passion of our people. As this report shows, our three key service areas – **emergency animal disease preparedness and response, market access support, and biosecurity** – have made good progress this past year, delivering around 90 percent of agreed planned outcomes for the 66 projects we managed and made significant progress with other activities.

A collaborative approach not only results in greater resources for individual projects but also helps to achieve a shared commitment, to enhance the resilience and integrity of the national animal health system. Nevertheless, the enduring financial pressures that continue to challenge all our Members is beginning to impact on AHA's services, as evident in Member and stakeholder feedback during the development and finalisation of a new five year Strategic Plan – a key focus for the company during 2014–2015. While AHA's role was reaffirmed as vitally important during consultation, it is clear that the delivery of these services needs to change to better reflect the requirements of, and add value to, our Members.

The past year has been one of great change for the company as we work to reshape and enhance the organisation and model to leverage our performance and enhance our delivery while not diminishing the value and quality of the projects and outcomes. I would like to sincerely thank our Members for their ongoing support and the remarkable commitment, dedication and professionalism of our people in this challenging environment. I would also like to acknowledge the AHA Board, led by the Chairman, Peter Milne, for its substantive support and guidance and important role in shaping the strategic direction of the company and programs.

As this Annual Report is AHA's last report against the *AHA Strategic Plan 2010–2015*, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the significant achievements of AHA over the past five years. Some of the key highlights include:

- the signing of Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) by AHA's four horse industry Members
- Bovine tuberculosis listed as a Category 4 disease in EADRA, signalling another phase following the successful eradication of the disease
- all industry Members introducing farm biosecurity manuals for their industry sectors
- the renewal of the foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) vaccine bank and the maintenance of the Anthrax Bank
- the FMD Risk Management project completing key milestones with useful outcomes in understanding of FMD virus, efficacy of vaccines and diagnostic test refinements



“ I would like to sincerely thank our Members for their ongoing support and the remarkable commitment, dedication and professionalism of our people in this challenging environment. ”

- Australia mounting successful responses to low and high pathogenic avian influenza on poultry farms, through the utilisation of and reference to the EADRA and Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN)
- the AUSVETPLAN FMD disease strategy revision and the FMD Response Policy Review was completed
- AHA supporting our cattle, sheep and wool Members to fund personnel to attend real-time training in FMD recognition and response, through the utilisation of industry reserve funds
- compensated welfare culling under approved arrangements was accepted and included in the AUSVETPLAN Livestock Welfare Management Manual
- a major review of AUSVETPLAN Control Centres Management Manuals to align with contemporary emergency management structures and practices, including new industry liaison and specialist advice roles
- the co-funding of research delivering a new standardised high-through put sero-diagnostic test for Capripox viruses for cattle sheep and goats, which will be useful for future response and proof of freedom testing
- the enhancement of the Screw Worm Fly Surveillance and Preparedness Project
- the development of the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for cattle and sheep and the finalisation of the Land Transport Standards and Guidelines

And there were disappointments too including:

- the review of the AUSVETPLAN Enterprise manual for the dairy industry, including revised milk handling procedures during an emergency animal disease incident was not finalised
- a much needed information and communications technology (ICT) review of the Central Animal Health Database was not undertaken
- progress on the development of the national performance standards languishing
- not all our government Members able to update their biosecurity statements/ strategies
- the failure to finalise and implement an enhanced general surveillance strategy and business plan; perhaps the most frustrating of all.

On a positive note, all of these projects remain a work in progress, with a renewed commitment and effort by staff and Members.

In the year ahead, the AHA team will work to strengthen and enhance our services and delivery, investigate new funding models and improve our communications and partnerships. We remain sensitive to our Members' operating environments; and by continuing to strengthen partnerships between the livestock industries and governments, we will provide a unique opportunity for Members to maximise their contribution and leverage their investments to keep Australia free of new and emerging diseases and to improve animal health.



Kathleen Plowman

YEAR IN REVIEW

Key milestones

AUSVETPLAN goes online

AHA worked in conjunction with a technical supplier to develop a streamlined online collaborative authoring system, leading to significant cost savings in staff and Members' time, resourcing and travel costs.

Training programs development and management

AHA worked with stakeholders to develop an agreed model for training livestock industry personnel for new functions, described in the updated AUSVETPLAN control centre management manuals. This new model will assist industry Members with their responsibilities under the EADRA to have access to trained personnel for EAD responses.

Training resources for the newly described industry liaison function will be developed and delivered over the next financial year.

Acquisition of a second foam depopulation unit

In order to improve preparedness and capability for poultry disease outbreaks, a second foam depopulation unit was acquired. This acquisition enhances Australia's preparedness and response capacity and capability in the event of an outbreak.

Provision of critical vaccines for optimum emergency response

A new production, storage and supply agreement was established for the FMD vaccine bank.

The new FMD vaccine bank includes selected vaccine strains according to internally recognised scientific evidence to ensure Australia is prepared for an outbreak of FMD.



L-R) James Kellaway (AECL) Chair of the National Animal Biosecurity RD&E Steering Group, Annette Brown (AHA) Biosecurity RD&E Coordinator and Jef Hammond (NSW DPI).

First National Biosecurity Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) forum held in Canberra

Representatives from the livestock industries, Australian and state governments, CSIRO and universities converged in Melbourne to discuss animal biosecurity issues and national RD&E priorities. The Forum provided the ideal opportunity to further strengthen Australia's biosecurity system and ensure its continued best practice.

Identification of new funding sources

Biosecurity Services staff worked with stakeholders to identify and source funding for projects that add value to existing projects. The result was the procurement of over \$300,000 for an additional three projects.

Funding increase opens market access

Funding for the National Arbovirus Monitoring Program (NAMP) was increased, helping boost program integrity and achieve international market expansion for Australian livestock and products, including key markets such as China.

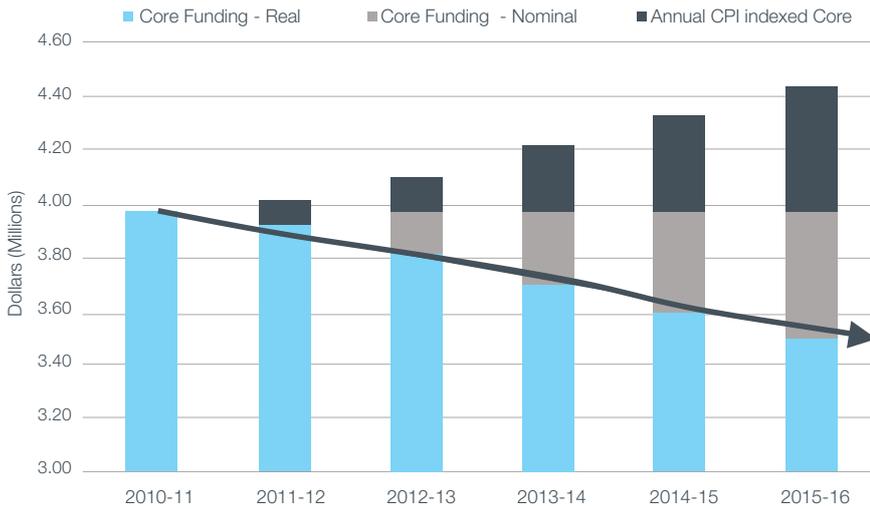
AHA relocation

AHA moved to a key central location, to support staff in the effective delivery of services to Members and provide substantial opportunity for Members, stakeholders and third parties to utilise meeting, training and conference facilities.

Financial snapshot

AHA continued to deliver a range of national animal health projects facilitating joint action between government and industry Members and other stakeholders. Total income for the company was \$16.02 million, up \$1.69 million on 2013–2014. This increase was largely attributable to special projects which received additional investment of over \$1.0 million, primarily due to the renewal of the FMD vaccine bank. AHA operated within budget for its core program and core administration costs (of \$3.96 million). Interest revenue continues to fall in line with market conditions,

CORE FUNDING DECLINE SINCE 2010-2011



and at \$0.43 million was half what was earned in 2012–2013. Core membership contributions have not been increased for five years, creating significant challenges to maintain contemporary and efficient office technology and systems and effectively deliver programs and services to Members. The real decline in the value of contributions since 2010–2011 is \$0.50 million (Figure 1), or 12%. AHA has continued to refine its financial framework and financial management information system to capture better detail to support transparency of costs and investment decisions. The equitable recovery of enabling system, support and administration costs from all projects by means of a ‘management fee’ or ‘overhead charge’ to special projects will go some way to ensuring that core programs are sustainable. Nonetheless AHA and its Members will need to continually review core and special programs priorities within the strategic plan.

Strategic Plan 2010–2015

During the past five years, spanning the *AHA Strategic Plan 2010-2015*, there has been a significant change in AHA’s business environment. Notably, the impact of the global financial crisis in the earlier years and the current challenging financial environment affecting government and industry Members alike.

Despite these challenges, AHA’s collaborative and cooperative approach of working together with our Members has enabled us to make significant progress against our 2010-2015 strategic priorities. A detailed report will be circulated to all Members outlining AHA’s progress against these priorities.

The eight strategic priorities for the period 2010–2015 were:

1. improve the national coordination and management of animal health
2. secure adequate sustainable resources for national animal health
3. strengthen emergency animal disease preparedness and response
4. maintain and increase market access through effective partnerships for livestock welfare and production, and disease policy development and implementation
5. improve disease surveillance nationally, to meet current and future trends
6. explore new opportunities for the national animal health system and AHA
7. identify and implement improved AHA business systems
8. strengthen AHA communications capability.

The *AHA Strategic Plan 2015-2020*, based on extensive consultation and feedback with Members and stakeholders, came into effect on 1 July 2015. The new Strategic Plan focusses on service innovation to enhance and evolve collaboration and engagement with our Members and stakeholders to leverage our performance and enhance our services and delivery, to maximise the return on investment for our Members.



The new Strategic Plan outlines how Members’ investment in AHA will be maximised over the next five years.

BOARD AND STAFF

AHA Board of Directors

AHA's Board comprises seven non-executive part-time directors selected on the basis of complementary skill sets and appointed by Members. The primary role of the Board is to set and monitor the implementation of the company's strategic direction and establish goals by which the achievement of this may be measured. Directors are nominated by an independent selection committee and are appointed by Members for a four-year term at AHA's Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Directors have combined expertise in, and experience of:

- major export markets for livestock and livestock products
- industry processing and marketing extensive and intensive livestock production
- industry organisational arrangements
- government networks, legislation and policy development processes
- animal health services and their delivery
- agricultural and medical biotechnology
- quality systems in animal health
- strategic, economic and financial management skills.

The current directors of the company are:

Mr Peter Milne – Chairman	Ms Sharon Starick
Dr Bruce Christie	Dr Bill Darmody
Professor Martyn Jeggo	Mr David Palmer
Dr Helen Scott-Orr PSM	

Staff

AHA's success depends on our people and how we foster their skills and abilities and apply these to developing, implementing and managing the achievement of the agreed outcomes.

AHA's employees combine skills and expertise from a wide range of areas including business, financial and program management, policy development, strategic planning, research and development, negotiation and conflict resolution, stakeholder engagement, communications, information technology, veterinary and technical expertise, facilitation and training, accounting, contract management and administration.



AHA Board Directors L-R: Dr Bill Darmody, Professor Martyn Jeggo, Dr Bruce Christie, Mr David Palmer, Dr Helen Scott-Orr PSM, Mr Peter Milne and Ms Sharon Starick.



Staff – 30 June 2015

NAME	POSITION
MANAGEMENT TEAM	
Ms Kathleen Plowman	Chief Executive Officer
Dr Peter Dagg	Acting Executive Manager Emergency Preparedness and Response
Dr Kevin de Witte	Executive Manager Market Access Support
Mr Duncan Rowland	Executive Manager Biosecurity Services
Mr Tony Marks	Executive Manager Corporate and Member Services and Company Secretary
STAFF	
Ms Liz Anderson	Executive Assistant
Dr Rob Barwell	Biosecurity Coordinator
Ms Annette Brown	Biosecurity RD&E Coordinator
Ms Gina Cherry	Finance Officer
Dr Lorna Citer	Manager Endemic Diseases
Ms Kat Crichton	Publications Coordinator
VACANT	Manager AUSVETPLAN
Dr Francette Geraghty-Dusan	AUSVETPLAN Veterinary Officer
Dr Kathy Gibson	Manager Training Services
Dr Ian Langstaff	Manager Disease Surveillance
Ms Tara McDonough	Executive Support Officer
Mr Harley McNamara	Communications Coordinator
Ms Judith Nettleingham	Coordinator Learning and Development
Ms Kristy Piper	Project Officer Training
Dr Brendan Pollard	Veterinary Officer
Mr Colin Sweeny	Financial Controller
Ms Kelly Wall	Senior Project Officer Welfare and Endemic Diseases
Ms Kim Wearn	Surveillance Information Coordinator
Ms Megan Wyllie	Project Officer Laboratories
VACANT	Manager Communications

Staff highlights

NOMINATIONS FOR PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS

AHA's Biosecurity Officer **Dr Rob Barwell** was nominated for the University of Sydney's Edmund Barton Medal. The Edmund Barton Medal was established in 2011 to honour Masters by coursework graduates who achieved academic excellence and who contributed to enriching the life of the University and the community.

As part of his Masters of Veterinary Public Health Management, Rob was involved in the development of a game that improves the awareness of rabies control in countries where the disease is endemic. 'Dogsville' is a role-playing game where children learn about preventative measures against rabies, such as vaccination and other ways to be a responsible pet owner. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations provided funds for the production and distribution of the game in the Philippines for World Rabies Day 2013.

Dr Peter Dagg, AHA Manager AUSVETPLAN, was nominated for the Australian Institute of Management 2014 Excellence Awards in the 'Not-for-profit Manager of the Year' category.

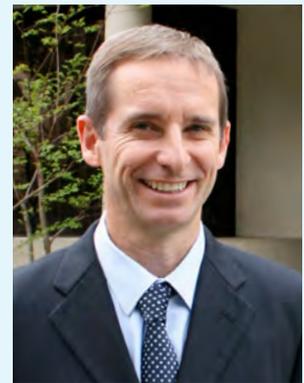
Peter's nomination recognised his outstanding contribution as a manager to transforming cultures, developing individuals and managing the demands of stakeholders. Peter's nomination is recognition by AHA's board, staff and other stakeholders in showing excellence in management and leadership.

Congratulations to both Rob and Peter on their nominations. While unsuccessful, it is a fitting acknowledgment of their commitment to animal health.

“ Congratulations to both Rob and Peter on their nominations – a fitting acknowledgment of their commitment to animal health. ”



Dr Peter Dagg



Dr Rob Barwell



Enhancing employee health and wellbeing

AHA has been featured in WorkSafe ACT's Healthier Work book of case studies highlighting Canberra businesses who have become Healthier Work Recognised.

AHA, in collaboration with Healthier Work, developed a 12 month health and wellbeing plan for staff and AHA has been formally recognised for putting these ideas into practice.

“ As part of AHA's Healthier Work plan, staff organised a tree planting day in conjunction with Greening Australia. Despite the Canberra May weather, a great time was had by all. ”

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Core funded projects

National animal health related projects that deliver a collective benefit for Members are funded using Members' core subscriptions and are managed by the relevant service stream. In 2014-2015, 21 major core funded projects were delivered:

Emergency Animal Disease Preparedness and Response

- AUSVETPLAN
- EADRA
- National Emergency Animal Disease Training
- Training Programs Development and Management

Market Access Support

- Livestock Welfare Program
- National Animal Health Information System
- National Animal Health Laboratory Coordination
- National General Surveillance Business Plan
- National Significant Disease Investigation
- Surveillance Enhancement and Support

Biosecurity Services

- Biosecurity Planning and Implementation
- Farm Biosecurity

Corporate and Member Services

- Board
- Company Management
- Corporate Communications
- General Administration
- Information and Communication Technology
- Members' Forums
- Representation - National Committees³
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Strategic and Business Planning

The financial support for these projects is shared equally amongst three Member groups: the Australian, State and Territory Governments and livestock industries.

Shares of individual Members within government and livestock industries are calculated using a formula based on the gross value of production of the industry or jurisdiction. A three-year rolling average of this figure is used to reduce fluctuations resulting from the performance of individual livestock industries, providing a more equitable outcome for all.

³ Animal Health Committee, National Emergency Preparedness Expert Group, CSIRO Biosecurity Flagship Advisory Committee, QLD FMD Preparedness Program, NBC Exotic Weeds Taskforce, Australian Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, to name a few.

Special projects

Projects which are of particular relevance to a limited number of Members are funded directly by those who benefit from them and are referred to as special projects. In 2014-2015, 43 major special projects were delivered:

Emergency Animal Disease Preparedness and Response

- Aquatic Animal Disease Response Arrangements
- Anthrax Vaccine
- FMD Risk Management
- FMD Vaccine Bank Management
- Capripox
- Rapid Response Team Training
- National Livestock Standstill
- Field Surveillance Vet Induction

Market Access Support

- Accreditation Program for Australian Veterinarians
- Animal Health Reference Laboratory Network
- Australian Animal Pathology Standards Program
- Australian Veterinary Practitioners Surveillance Network
- AAVet Training
- Crisis Response for Animal Welfare
- Livestock Production Conditions – Sheep Pilot Project
- Livestock Welfare Standards Development (goats, poultry)
- National Arbovirus Monitoring Program
- National Animal Health Laboratory Coordination
- Screw Worm fly Freedom Assurance Program
- Reference Laboratory Network

Biosecurity Services

- Alpaca Biosecurity
- Biosecurity Business Plans
- Biosecurity Planning and Implementation
- Biosecurity Research Development and Extension
- Goat Endemic Disease Management
- Industry Forums
- Livestock Biosecurity Network
- National BJD Strategic Plan
- National Johne's Disease Control Program
- National Livestock Identification Ltd Operations
- National Livestock Identification Scheme Goat Tag Trials
- National Property Identification Codes Register
- National Swill Feeding Compliance Scheme
- Newcastle Disease Management
- OJD Program
- Sheep Health Monitoring Program
- Tracing Exercises
- Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy Freedom Assurance Program

Corporate and Member Services

- Cattle Disease Contingency Fund
- Livestock Biosecurity Network
- Honey Bee Contingency Fund
- Sheep Industry Health and Welfare Trust
- National Livestock Identification Scheme

Agreements for funding contributions to special projects are conducted on a project by project basis, with regard to the 'beneficiary pays' principle and Member or stakeholder capacity to contribute to the funding. Non-members of AHA contribute to the funding of some special projects when they are clearly identified as being beneficiaries.

BIOSECURITY SERVICES STREAM

Effective biosecurity is an essential element of good livestock production for both producers and the wider community. Australia's trade in livestock and their products has long been based on its favourable animal health status. AHA plays a key role in maximising the effectiveness of partnerships and consultative mechanisms to ensure stakeholder commitment to biosecurity is achieved.



BIOSECURITY SERVICES STREAM

Effective biosecurity practices on-farm depend on the availability and delivery of information and tools. The strategic purpose of AHA's biosecurity projects is to strengthen awareness of the value and need for on-farm biosecurity practices and to provide tools for tracing and assessment of risks associated with the movement of livestock.

During 2014-2015, AHA focussed efforts on maximising the effectiveness of new and existing government and industry partnerships, as well as the communication mechanisms that contribute directly to the protection of Australia's favourable animal health status and AHA Member commitments to biosecurity and traceability.

During the reporting period, we were involved in a number of continuing projects focussed on ensuring that the signatories to the EADRA were meeting their commitments as set out in Clause 14 of the agreement. This involved working with the parties to develop on-farm biosecurity manuals that set out the minimum expected levels of biosecurity practices for their particular sector.

Additionally the Farm Biosecurity Program, driven in partnership by AHA and PHA, continued to raise awareness of the importance of biosecurity amongst producers and strengthen the notion that biosecurity is everybody's responsibility. The implementation of tracing systems in FMD susceptible animals (cattle, sheep and goats and pigs) combined with the implementation of the *National Animal Biosecurity Research, Development & Extension Strategy* provided additional benefits for the animal health system. We also piloted the Livestock Production Conditions Project (LPCP) for sheep. The LPCP was developed to bring together a number of sheep based projects to ensure biosecurity messages are consistent, improve the co-ordination of endemic sheep disease management and reduce the financial impacts of endemic diseases and other production conditions on-farm. The project was independently reviewed and is being used as a model for other species.

A key project for the reporting period included the coordination of the BJD Review, which brought together Australian livestock industries, government and the veterinary professionals to help determine the future of Bovine Johne's disease (BJD) management in Australia.

Success in 2014-2015

Eighty seven percent of all agreed deliverables, outputs and outcomes for the biosecurity projects we managed were achieved ensuring that the projects were delivered on time and on budget.

A key success in 2014-2015 was the release of the *National Farm Biosecurity Technical Manual for Egg Production*, produced by AHA in conjunction with the Australian Egg Corporation Limited (AECL). Endorsed by all the EADRA signatories and other industry members, the Manual covers all aspects of egg production and includes the latest, up-to-date tips and advice to avoid endemic and exotic diseases coming on to the property.

Outlook for 2015-2016

We will continue to build on the work undertaken this financial year, with a focus of working with PHA to renew the governments' biosecurity statements, with the aim of governments providing one statement to both AHA and PHA. These were last updated in 2003. We will also strive to ensure the awareness of biosecurity practices at the farm level are improved. The results of the LPCP review will be used to refine the program with the intention to roll out the LPC model to other species (e.g. cattle, alpacas and goats).

Key highlights for 2014-2015

FOCUS AREA: BIOSECURITY	
Project name:	Farm Biosecurity Program
Situation/ purpose:	Increasing the uptake of biosecurity practices on-farm is critically important to both AHA and PHA through the implementation of the Farm Biosecurity Program. AHA and PHA collaborate to deliver this and affect change on-farm.
Action:	AHA and PHA co-invested in another two videos on key aspects of on-farm biosecurity. The videos, filmed at a horse agistment property and a sheep farm, focussed on-farm 'inputs and outputs'. Anything moving on or off property can be a potential source of pests and diseases for livestock and plants. The videos cover import biosecurity essentials to help prevent disease spread. These videos complement the existing two videos completed last year. Two more videos will be filmed next year to complete the series of six in total.
Result:	The videos were placed on the Farm Biosecurity website (www.farmbiosecurity.com.au) and AHA/PHA's YouTube channel with the aim to raise awareness of farm biosecurity practices and drive adoption of these practices.
FOCUS AREA: INDUSTRY PROGRAMS	
Project name:	Livestock Production Conditions (Sheep Pilot Project)
Situation/ purpose:	The sheep industries requested that AHA look at a new governance model for the management of endemic diseases and production conditions. The project aims to take a more holistic approach to addressing endemic conditions as well as enhance collaboration and streamline governance costs.
Action:	AHA with industry devised and implemented a national pilot project called the LPC Sheep Pilot Project.
Result:	The LPC project was run for 12 months with an external review being undertaken. The review highlighted a number of areas where improvements could be made and these are now being incorporated into a revised project for 2015-2016 as well as being used as a model for other species.
FOCUS AREA: TRACEABILITY	
Project name:	NLIS Program
Situation/ purpose:	AHA facilitated a team of government and industry representatives to develop the National Cattle Traceability Standards
Action:	Implementation of the National Standards by governments and industry will provide a framework that sets the minimum expected standards for NLIS Cattle to meet the National Livestock Traceability Performance Standards.
Result:	Governments and industry can now use the Standards as a consistent means for setting these requirements in legislation and industry verification programs where required.
FOCUS AREA: INDUSTRY PROGRAMS	
Project name:	National Sheep Health Monitoring Program
Situation/ purpose:	This project collects surveillance data for a number of significant production conditions in sheep for the purposes of providing animal health feedback to the producers of these sheep.
Action:	AHA coordinated data collection and storage and presented summary data sets to key stakeholders and company Members as well as facilitated the delivery of data back to the producers of these sheep. In 2014-2015, 18 abattoirs and over 4,000 producers were involved in the project.
Result:	Producers are better able to make management decisions to improve animal productivity and welfare due to the access to this information.
FOCUS AREA: ENDEMIC DISEASE	
Project name:	National BJD Financial and Non-financial Assistance Package
Situation/ purpose:	The package provides financial and non-financial assistance to beef cattle producers whose herds are already known or found to be infected with BJD.
Action:	The National BJD Financial and Non-financial Assistance Package celebrated 10 years of service, with the Package supporting more than 440 cattle producers to assist in managing the devastating social, economic and trade impacts of BJD.
Result:	The Package continues to deliver benefits to beef producers seeking to return to unrestricted trading following the diagnosis of BJD.

Table: Biosecurity Services– program deliverables and outcomes

Table outcome key

 **Achieved** = achieved

 **Delayed** = project has been stopped temporarily

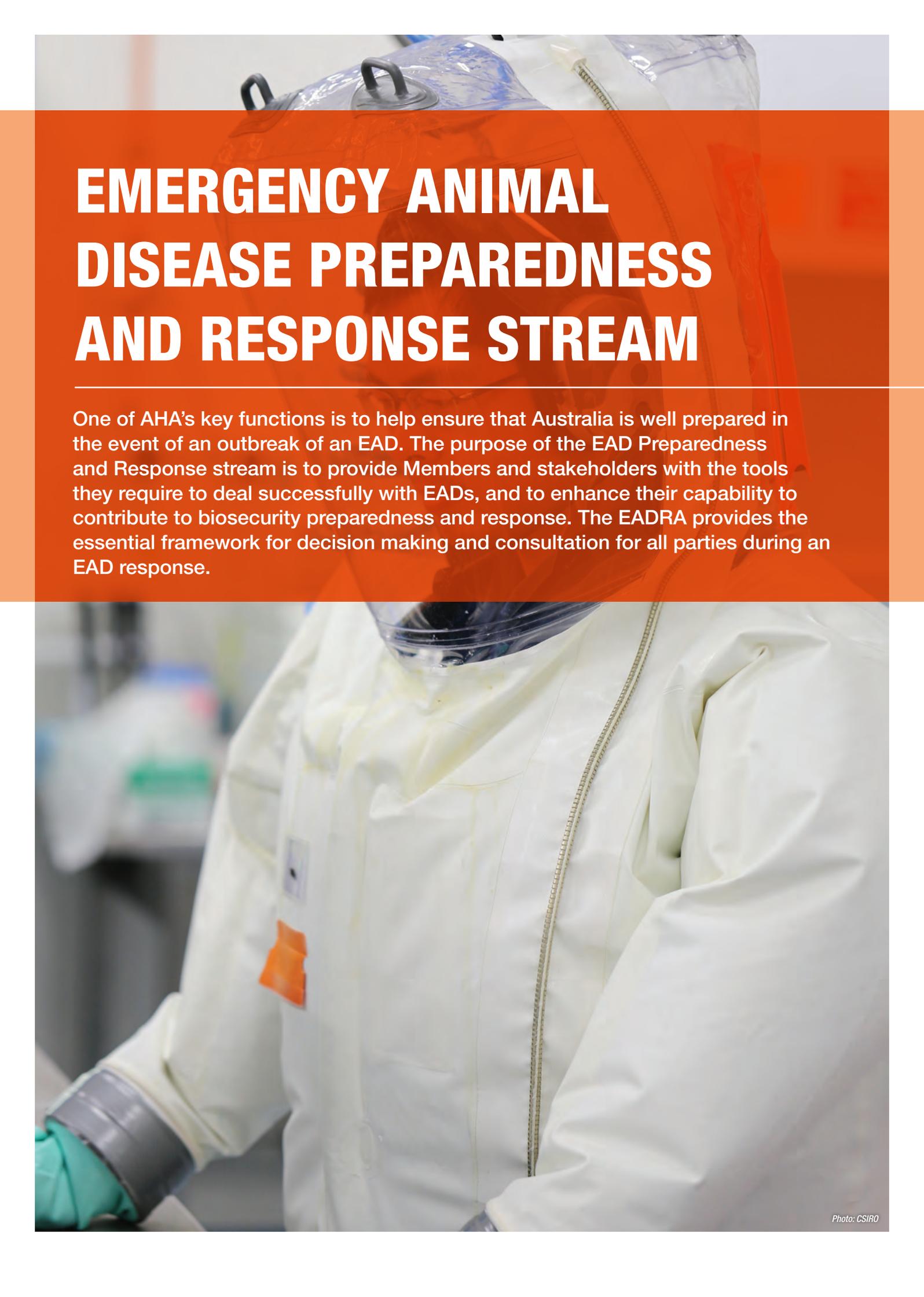
 **In progress** = over 70% done

 **Not achieved** = not achieved

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Biosecurity	Farm Biosecurity Program	Guidance and governance are provided through the Farm Biosecurity Steering Group (joint AHA/PHA membership).	Monthly	
		Communication strategies are developed for key projects identified in the Farm Biosecurity Communication Strategy 2014-2015.	September 2014	
		Objectives of the Farm Biosecurity Business Plan 2014-2015 are developed and delivered.	June 2015	
		The development of biosecurity related events and related collateral materials is identified and managed.	June 2015	
		Content development and production of biosecurity related publications including industry Biosecurity manuals, industry or topic specific brochures, fact sheets, web pages is managed.	June 2015	
	Industry Biosecurity Business Plans	Animal health, welfare and biosecurity plan for the Australian goat industry is developed. An industry sector Biosecurity Business Plan completed.	June 2015	 – stage 1 of the project was achieved; project suspended by GICA.
	Biosecurity Planning and Implementation	Biosecurity plans/statements are monitored for changes and submitted for endorsement by signatories as required. Establish and implement the Biosecurity Planning Reference Group that operates across AHA and PHA.	May 2015	
		50 percent of all government signatories to the EADRA have an endorsed biosecurity statement in place.	June 2015	
		Implementation of the plans/statements is reported to AHA and Members. Government biosecurity statements are reviewed and endorsed by all other Members.	June 2015	 – aligned to reflect the agreed process arising from March 2015 EADRA Workshop.
	RD&E	Annual <i>Animal Biosecurity RD&E Forum</i> is held.	February 2015	
		<i>Animal Biosecurity Extension Capability Audit</i> is undertaken.	June 2015	 – consultant engaged; audit to be achieved in early 2015-2016.
		Annual work plan for 2015-2016 is developed.	June 2015	

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Industry programs	Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Freedom Assurance Program (TSEFAP)	Annual report of TSEFAP (Ruminant Feed Ban [RFB] and Imported Animal Quarantine and Surveillance Scheme) is provided to the Animal Health Committee (AHC) and SAFEMEAT.	September 2014	
		Agreement on business, management and operational plans.	June 2015	
		Program description and annual summary of TSEFAP activity are published in <i>Animal Health in Australia</i> (AHiA). Cattle brains from three of the four sub-populations that provide Australia with a minimum of 150,000 points for BSE surveillance are collected.	November 2014	
		National TSE Surveillance program and RFB information is reported to the Department of Agriculture for reporting to the OIE. A minimum of 438 sheep brains from sheep showing clinical signs of scrapie and a minimum of 100 downer sheep brains collected.	November 2014	
	Screw Worm Fly Freedom Assurance Program	Recommendations arising from a review of the risks of entry of screw-worm fly into Australia and surveillance requirements are implemented. Implement the Screw Worm Fly Communications Strategy.	June 2015	
	Newcastle Disease Management	Surveillance results from broilers in Queensland and South Australia are reviewed by the Steering Committee. Assessment of compliance with vaccination of high-risk (long-lived) birds.	December 2014	 – following cessation of vaccination in South Australia and Queensland. Surveillance results are not expected until December 2015.
		Policy on vaccination requirements for short-lived birds in Victoria and New South Wales is drafted for Steering Committee consideration. Surveillance results from broilers in Queensland and South Australia.	June 2015	 – awaiting surveillance results.
		Compliance with vaccination of high-risk (long-lived) birds is assessed by the Steering Committee.	March 2015	
	National Swill Feeding Compliance Scheme	A nationally agreed project that deals with the compliance and awareness of swill feeding practices is implemented. A business plan will be developed for the project.	June 2015	
	Sheep Health Monitoring Program	An annual surveillance report for a defined list of sheep endemic diseases is produced.	December 2014	
		Data on agreed conditions are provided to jurisdictions for reporting to producers.	June 2015	
		Improved data collection processes are implemented.	June 2015	
		Coordination with the MLA Livestock Data Link pilot is completed.	June 2015	 – resolving differences in details of data sharing contract.

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Traceability	Tracing Exercises	Exercise completed as requested, with report provided to stakeholders.	June 2015	 – due to Exercise Odysseus.
	NLIS Program	Assistance is provided with the development of implementation and compliance rules for the four NLIS Species programs.	June 2015	
		Work is undertaken on behalf of NLIS Standards Committee.	June 2015	
		Work is undertaken on behalf of NLIS Monitoring Committee.	June 2015	
	Alpaca Biosecurity	South American Camelid movement document is completed.	August 2014	
		NLIS (alpaca and llama) plan is developed and implemented.	December 2014	 – awaiting AAA confirmation to progress implementation.
	National Property Identification Code (PIC) Register	Findings of the business case analysis are presented to industry and government stakeholders for their decision on how to progress.	December 2014	
	NLIS Goat Tag Trials	On-farm trial data at 12, 24 and 36 months are collected and reviewed to document progress and observations.	June 2015	
		Trial results are reported to the NLIS Standards Committee.	June 2015	
		Communication strategy is developed in collaboration with manufacturers and NLIS Ltd.	June 2015	 – steering Committee advised not required.

A person wearing a white biohazard suit and a clear face shield is working in a laboratory. The suit has a zipper and a small orange tag. The background is blurred, showing laboratory equipment.

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE STREAM

One of AHA's key functions is to help ensure that Australia is well prepared in the event of an outbreak of an EAD. The purpose of the EAD Preparedness and Response stream is to provide Members and stakeholders with the tools they require to deal successfully with EADs, and to enhance their capability to contribute to biosecurity preparedness and response. The EADRA provides the essential framework for decision making and consultation for all parties during an EAD response.

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE STREAM

Having a unified and agreed national approach to EAD responses is an asset to our Members, Australia's livestock industries and government, the economy and the community. As a strategic outcome, the EAD Preparedness and Response stream aims to effectively manage and strengthen Australia's EAD response arrangements through successful partnerships with our Members, and to enhance the EAD preparedness and response capability of AHA and its Members.

During 2014-2015, a range of activities were undertaken to help ensure AHA Members have some agreed response arrangements in place, with access to up-to-date technical response plans and suitably trained personnel. These activities are underpinned by specific contingency provisions such as vaccine banks for FMD and anthrax and appropriate diagnostic tests for FMD and Capripox.

AHA completed the FMD vaccine bank renewal process, and managed the joint industry-Australian government funded FMD Risk Management Project into FMD diagnostics, vaccine efficacy and related matters, which runs from 2014 to 2017. Preparation of a proposal for a third phase of FMD research activities from 2017 to 2020 has commenced. A proposal to conduct further technical support and validation of the Capripox test has received industry and MLA Donor company support with contracts being developed for commencement in 2015-2016 financial year. AHA also conducted a needs assessment and renewal of anthrax vaccine bank arrangements.

Additionally, at the request of Australian Pork Limited, AHA was successful in obtaining categorisation of porcine epidemic diarrhoea as a Category 4 disease in the EADRA with the agreement of EADRA signatories.

Our training projects continued to support preparedness and response capability by delivering training services to Members. Some examples of training services included:

- delivery of training to potential government and industry representatives on Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Disease (CCEAD) and the National Management Group (NMG), and contribution to the planning of two simulation exercises for CCEAD and one exercise for NMG representatives, as part of Exercise Odysseus
- sponsoring a trainers' professional development workshop on skills recognition and workplace assessment, to support government personnel to attain biosecurity response qualifications 'on the job'
- developing training resources for EAD response planning officers and making these available on AHA's trainers' extranet.

“ AHA staff contributed significantly to the planning, conduct and wrap-up of Exercise Odysseus – the national livestock standstill program of activities – and to Exercise Slapstick, an FMD vaccination exercise for the national Rapid Response Team, thus contributing to Australia’s preparedness for EAD outbreaks. ”

Success in 2014-2015

We achieved 90 percent of planned outcomes for the EADRA and AUSVETPLAN projects, and made significant progress with EAD training activities.

Under EADRA-related activities, AHA was successful in addressing issues identified by Members during the current business cycle that required modifications to the Deed or the preparation of EADRA guidance documents. Also, a formal agreement was established to acquire an additional foam depopulation machine for use in a poultry EAD event.

A major revision of the AUSVETPLAN Control Centre Management Manuals was completed, which ensures that they align with contemporary emergency management structures and practises as described in the Biosecurity Incident Management System guide.

AHA staff contributed significantly to the planning, conduct and wrap-up of Exercise Odysseus – the national livestock standstill program of activities – and to Exercise Slapstick, an FMD vaccination exercise for the national Rapid Response Team, thus contributing to Australia’s preparedness for EAD outbreaks.

Vaccine banks (FMD and anthrax) and associated arrangements, as well as two research projects, were managed as agreed in the business plans and our project partners were satisfied that we met their requirements. Specifically, a new production, storage and supply agreement was established for the FMD vaccine bank, and the new bank for 2015-2019 has been created and is available if required.

Outlook for 2015-2016

In 2015-2016 the EAD Preparedness and Response stream will focus on fulfilling the goals and strategies as set out in the new *AHA Strategic Plan 2015-2020*. This includes safeguarding the integrity of the EADRA to ensure the effectiveness and currency of the response framework and supporting tools. We will also continue to improve collaboration across governments and livestock industries to enhance EAD preparedness and response. A particular focus of the training area will be to implement new industry training to align with the revised AUSVETPLAN Control Centre Management Manuals.

The FMD Risk Management project will continue to be a focus and AHA will seek an extension of the Capripox test development project to investigate new technology improvements to facilitate international acceptance of the test.

Key highlights for 2014-2015

FOCUS AREA:	RESPONSE PLANS
Project name:	AUSVETPLAN
Situation/purpose:	AHA Members contribute to the development and approvals process for AUSVETPLAN manuals.
Action:	AHA worked with stakeholders – both government and industry – to complete a major revision of the AUSVETPLAN Control Centre Management Manuals, which ensures that they align with contemporary emergency management structures and practises as described in the Biosecurity Incident Management System guide.
Result:	The completion of this complex review increased Australia's EAD preparedness by ensuring that the Australian arrangements and structures necessary for managing EAD responses are clearly articulated and consistent with contemporary incident management systems.
FOCUS AREA:	TRAINING
Project name:	Training Memorandum of Understanding with PHA
Situation/purpose:	Both AHA and PHA have similar requirements for training service providers and joint arrangements can deliver increased value for money and simplified arrangements.
Action:	AHA and PHA negotiated new service agreements for registered training organisation services and the eLearning platform that reflected the evolving needs of AHA, PHA and our Members.
Result:	The ongoing partnership delivers increased value for money for AHA, PHA and our Members and the new service agreements have streamlined access to services for our Members.
FOCUS AREA:	TRAINING
Project name:	Training Programs Development and Management
Situation/purpose:	AHA sponsored a professional development workshop on skills recognition and workplace assessment for jurisdictional biosecurity response trainers
Action:	The purpose of the workshop was to develop jurisdictional trainers' expertise in assessment by skills recognition (formerly known as 'recognition of prior learning') and workplace assessment. The knowledge and skills gained in the workshop will allow trainers to support suitably experienced jurisdictional response personnel to achieve biosecurity qualifications through the process of skills recognition or through formal assessment 'on the job'. Response personnel can also continue to work towards these qualifications through formal 'class-room' training and exercises.
Result:	Response personnel will have the opportunity to gain recognition for their contributions to emergency responses, by achieving formal vocational qualifications under the Public Safety Training Package.
FOCUS AREA:	VACCINE MANAGEMENT
Project name:	FMD Vaccine Bank Renewal
Situation/purpose:	AHA has been funded by Commonwealth, state and territory governments and relevant industry Members to establish and manage the FMD Vaccine Bank. The quantities and strains of antigens held in Australia's vaccine bank have been determined by a risk analysis process that considered the incursion and outbreak scenarios that might affect Australia.
Action:	A new production, storage and supply agreement was established for the FMD Vaccine Bank and the new antigens for 2015-2019 have been created.
Result:	The new FMD vaccine bank includes updated vaccine strains to ensure Australia is prepared for an outbreak of FMD.

Table: EAD program areas – deliverables and outcomes

Table outcome key

 **Achieved** = achieved

 **Delayed** = project has been stopped temporarily

 **In progress** = over 70% done

 **Not achieved** = not achieved

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	KEY 2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Response framework	EADRA	Updated versions of the Deed and guidance documents are published.	October 2014	
		The annual EADRA workshop is completed, and key issues are resolved or pathways forward agreed.	March 2015	
		Agreed guidelines and procedures are established to facilitate greater and earlier involvement of affected industries in the preparation and implementation of EAD Response Plans.	June 2015	
		A guidance document is published on cost sharing of compensation in the EADRA.	June 2015	
	Aquatic Emergency Animal Disease Response Arrangements	Establish working group to assist with implementation of the work plan.	December 2014	
		Develop a communication strategy in consultation with industry peak bodies.	June 2015	
Response plans	AUSVETPLAN	The useability of the AUSVETPLAN website is improved.	August 2014	 – further improvements are scheduled pending the completion of the AHA website refresh project.
		Priority disease strategies are published in Edition 4 format.	August 2014	
		A generic outbreak manual (including for emerging diseases) is drafted.	December 2014	
		A major review of the control centres management manuals is completed.	June 2015	
Training	National Emergency Animal Disease Training	The trainers' extranet is fully updated and accessible to training steering committee members.	September 2014	
		Prioritised training resources are developed and made available to biosecurity response trainers on AHA's trainers' extranet.	June 2015	 – competing priorities and unavailability of key consultants led to delays in completion of training resources; work on these resources continues.
	Training Programs Development and Management	Action items prioritised by 2013 National Animal Health Training Steering Committee annual meeting/workshop are 90% completed.	September 2014	
		A contract is maintained with a registered training organisation for delivery of training accreditation and quality assurance services.	June 2015	
		Skill sets for government and industry biosecurity response roles are submitted to the appropriate national industry skills council.	June 2015	

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	KEY 2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Training		Training review of industry response roles is conducted.	June 2015	
	National Livestock Standstill	Contributions are made to the oversight, planning, conduct and evaluation of National Livestock Standstill program activities.	June 2015	
	Rapid Response Team Training	Rapid Response Team (RRT) recruitment and induction are conducted.	July 2014	
		RRT participates in NSW national livestock standstill exercise activities.	September 2014	 – partially achieved – NSW exercise was not suitable for RRT attendance; replaced with other RRT activities.
		Planning commences for functional exercise in WA in 2015.	June 2015	
	Field Surveillance Vet Induction	Training resources for induction of field veterinarians are completed and posted on AHA's trainers' extranet.	November 2014	
Vaccine management	FMD Vaccine Bank Management	Agreement for vaccine bank continuation is established.	July 2014	
		Business plan is updated following the FMD Vaccine Contract Advisory Committee meeting.	November 2014	
		Management plan and budget for 2015/16 approved.	December 2014	
		New FMD antigen is securely stored and available.	January 2015	
		Vaccine receipt and logistics preparedness arrangements (Cryosite) are reviewed.	June 2015	
	Anthrax Vaccine	Reinvestment needs are determined and the bank size is stabilised.	July 2014	
		Vaccine bank meets audit and service delivery requirements.	June 2015	
Research	FMD Risk Management	Phase two, milestone 1 report is completed and outcomes communicated to parties in the project.	July 2014	
		Expert technical review is conducted.	October 2014	
		Phase two, milestone 2 report is completed and outcomes communicated to the parties in the project.	November 2014	
		Project oversight committee annual review meeting is held.	November 2014	
		Phase two, milestone 3 report is completed and outcomes communicated to the parties in the project.	July 2015	
	Capripox R&D	Milestone 5 report is completed and outcomes are communicated to parties in the project.	September 2014	
		Final report is completed and outcomes are communicated to parties in the project.	October 2014	

MARKET ACCESS SUPPORT STREAM

A key focus of AHA's work is to support industry access to domestic and international markets for livestock and livestock products, enhance and sustain industry competitiveness and mitigate risk. We do this through delivering a variety of projects including animal health surveillance, livestock welfare, diagnostic and laboratory capability and management of livestock production diseases. We also work to assist Members with the development of contemporary welfare policy positions and representation of these positions to committees as required.



MARKET ACCESS SUPPORT STREAM

The national coordination of animal health information including Australia’s animal health status, policies and services supports Australia’s livestock industries access to domestic and international markets. During 2014-2015, in collaboration with our Members, we reviewed, evaluated and revised key ongoing programs to maintain and advance animal disease surveillance and reporting and national diagnostic laboratory capability.

Specifically, important discussions around targeted and general national surveillance matters continued. Funding for the NAMP was increased and this project has been important in achieving market expansion for cattle in China. Reference laboratory services for Johne’s disease (JD) and anthrax were contracted. The Australian Animal Pathology Standards Program (AAPSP) upgraded IT systems and continues to maintain client service to veterinary pathologists.

The National Wild Dog Action Plan was officially launched by the Federal Minister for Agriculture in July 2014. AHA played a key role in funding early activities and coordinating technical input on disease risks and animal welfare for the development of the plan.

The National Sheep Health Monitoring Project continues to collect data on a number of significant sheep production diseases. A joint project with MLA on a ‘proof of concept’ trial for the electronic return of data to producers through the Livestock Data link was successfully piloted. Implementation of the National Kid Rearing Communication Plan began with the development of newsletter articles and fact sheets.

Success in 2014-2015

We achieved most planned outcomes (95%) for the implementation of National Animal Health Information System (NAHIS), NAMP, National Significant Disease Investigations (NSDI) and JD management programs.

Discussions on enhanced general surveillance for animal diseases progressed including the conduct of a private veterinary workshop by the Department of Agriculture. However, the development of a draft business plan for enhanced animal disease surveillance activities was delayed to enable alignment with the Animal Health Committee National Animal Health Surveillance and Diagnostics business plan.

Progress towards commencement of the poultry and goats welfare standards and guidelines was made. AHA secured funding from the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) on two related welfare projects. The first being a communications project for the dairy and fibre goat industries, worth \$53,374, to promote the development of the goat industry standards and guidelines. The second subproject, worth \$37,676, was to develop poultry standards and guidelines for game bird species.

Outlook for 2015-2016

AHA will focus on managing existing programs and contributing to the National Animal Health Surveillance and Diagnostics Business Plan. This will also incorporate the enhanced general surveillance business requirements. It is anticipated that the ‘Animal Health Alerts’ smartphone application will be revised and piloted under new arrangements. A review of AHA animal health databases hosting and functionality will be undertaken to scope optimum arrangements for reinvestment. Welfare standards and guidelines projects for poultry and goats commenced with Member agreement.

Key highlights for 2014-2015

FOCUS AREA:	SURVEILLANCE
Project names:	NAHIS, NAMP, NSDI
Situation/purpose:	NAHIS collates animal health information from government and non-government surveillance activities to satisfy Australia's information needs for trade in animals and animal commodities. NAMP monitored the distribution of select insect-borne viruses and their vectors which would impact the export of live sheep, goats and cattle and their germplasm. It also aimed to identify changes to the distribution of these viruses and detect incursions of exotic strains that may enter the country. NSDI supported the private veterinary investigation of animal disease cases.
Action:	Data projects were maintained. AHA supported a number of monitoring activities for select insect-borne viruses and provided timely reports of results to Members and other stakeholders in quarterly newsletters <i>Animal Health Surveillance Quarterly</i> (AHSQ) and an annual synopsis <i>Animal Health in Australia</i> report (AHiA) were produced.
Result:	The NAMP bluetongue zone map was updated, providing support to the Australian Government to enable it to manage its livestock export protocols. Details of surveillance activities were published in <i>AHSQ</i> and the annual <i>NAMP Report</i> .
FOCUS AREA:	DIAGNOSTICS AND LABORATORIES
Project names:	Laboratory coordination, reference laboratories and Australian Animal Pathology Standards Program (AAPSP)
Situation/purpose:	The program provides a focus for AHA's support to laboratory and diagnostic matters for animal health.
Action:	Reference laboratories for JD and anthrax were funded. The AAPSP continued to provide training in and a resource for histology. Contributions were made to discussions on diagnostic test development.
Result:	Members' needs were met for the provision of reference laboratory services for JD, anthrax and histology training. With the termination of SCHALS, the future administration of diagnostic test policies and procedural matters will be managed under AHC.
FOCUS AREA:	LIVESTOCK WELFARE
Project names:	Livestock welfare, and poultry and goat industry Australian animal welfare standards and guidelines development
Situation/purpose:	Facilitate livestock welfare discussions and support to industry welfare projects including the Australian Lot Feeders' Association Inc. heat load management project, the National Wild Dog Action Plan and development of units of competency for spaying of cattle and mulesing of sheep. Facilitate development of welfare standards and guidelines for cattle and sheep for improved and sustainable animal welfare outcomes including consistency of legislation across states and territories by converting model codes of practice's into standards and guidelines taking into account scientific advances, industry practice and community views.
Action:	AHA also contributed to a number of Members' and stakeholders' animal welfare guides. Existing projects managed / progressed include ALFA heat load management project, the National Wild Dog Action Plan and funding was secured for commencement of the Poultry Standards and Guidelines and the Goat Industry Standards and Guidelines.
Result:	The development of the cattle and sheep standards and guidelines are an important initiative of all governments and relevant industries. The standards underpin the development of new, nationally consistent animal welfare arrangements in all Australian states and territories, communications and industry welfare verification systems and tools.

Table: Market Access Support – program deliverables and outcomes

Table outcome key

 **Achieved** = achieved

 **In progress** = over 70% done

 **Delayed** = project has been stopped temporarily

 **Not achieved** = not achieved

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Surveillance	Surveillance Enhancement and Support	Animal Health Alerts surveillance pilot project is evaluated for its potential contribution to meeting contemporary surveillance needs.	September 2014	 – to incorporate Member feedback when resources allow.
		Development of policy papers and responses to issues to support and improve Australia's national animal health status (as required).	June 2015	
		Proposed changes to AHA's activities (Surveillance Focus Area) arising from an agreed National General Surveillance Business Plan are agreed by AHA Members.	June 2015	 – to incorporate Member feedback when resources allow.
	National General Surveillance Business Plan	General Surveillance business plan is approved by AHA Members.	July 2014	 – to incorporate Member feedback when resources allow.
		Business Plan is reviewed.	November 2014	 – this will now occur in association with the National Animal Health Surveillance and Diagnostics Business Plan development.
NAHIS		Prioritised activities of the General Surveillance business plan are implemented.	June 2015	
		New and modified data projects (identified in consultation with AHA Member stakeholders and AHC) are incorporated into the database.	June 2015	
		Current summary national animal health data in the NAHIS application is maintained.	June 2015	
NSDI		AHSQ reports and AHIA 2014 are published.	Quarterly and May 2015	
		Frequency and/or quality of livestock and wildlife disease investigations by private veterinary practitioners is increased.	June 2015	
National Arbovirus Monitoring Program		Available funds are monitored to ensure budget is not exceeded.	June 2015	
		A NAMP bluetongue zone map is published that supports the information needs of the livestock exporters industry and Australian Government to manage livestock export protocols.	June 2015	
Australian Veterinary Practitioners' Surveillance Network (AVPSN)		Reports are published in AHSQ and an annual NAMP Report.	Six-monthly	
		Contribute to a redevelopment of the AVPSN and manage the consultancy.	June 2015	
Heat load Monitoring		Managed the contract for the refinement and delivery of heat load advisory service.		

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Surveillance	Wild Dog Action Plan	Supported the National Wild Dog Action Plan via the Stakeholder Consultative Group.		🏆
	RIRDC Goat S&G Communications	Secured funding and project contract.		🏆
	RIRDC S&G Game species	Secured funding and project contract.		🏆
	Livestock Welfare Program	Contributions are made to issues management identified at Animal Welfare Task Group and other relevant meetings and conferences.	June 2015	🏆
		Welfare issues are effectively communicated to all Members.	June 2015	🏆
		AHA livestock welfare and animalwelfarestandards.net.au websites are updated and current.	June 2015	🏆
		Priorities for the development of standards are determined with Members.	June 2015	🏆
	Livestock Welfare Standards Development – Goats	Reference group has ratified business plan, funding and policy options.	July 2015	🏆
		Drafting of standards and guidelines has commenced.	June 2015	🔄
	Livestock Welfare Standards Development – Poultry	Reference group has ratified business plan, funding and policy options.	June 2015	🏆
Drafting of standards and guidelines has commenced.		June 2015	🔄	
Diagnostics and laboratories	National Animal Health Laboratory Coordination	Contributions are made to issues management identified by the Subcommittee on Animal Health Laboratory Standards and other relevant meetings and conferences.	June 2015	🏆
		Funding support to reference laboratories is managed.	June 2015	🏆
		Options to rectify reference laboratory service delivery gaps and inefficiencies for key diagnostic capabilities are identified.	June 2015	🚫 – project was stopped as the AHC Sub Committee on Animal Health Laboratory Standards has been disbanded; much of the work will be taken on by AAHL and/or the Australian Government Department of Agriculture but no further action in this area.
	Reference Laboratory Network	Funding arrangements maintained – JD and Anthrax Reference Labs.	June 2015	🏆
	AAPSP	An annual two-day continuing education pathologists' training workshops is coordinated in each state and territory.	2015	🏆
AAPSP website, including education modules, digitisation of collection resources for on-line use and refresh online slide data is reviewed.		December 2014	🏆	
Business plan for 2009-2014 is reviewed.		June 2015	🏆	
Proficiency testing in histopathology interpretation is delivered.		Quarterly	🏆	

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME	
Livestock production diseases ⁴	National Johne's Disease Control Program (NJDCP)	Crohn's response strategy is maintained, and emerging public health implications arising from JD are monitored.	November 2014	🏆	
		Implementation of risk-based trading systems for all species is monitored to ensure the program objectives are met, and findings are reported to the NJDCP Steering Committee.	November 2014	🏆	
		Annual review of national management plans for JD for each affected livestock species is conducted.	November 2014	🏆 – for OJD. 🔄 – for BJD; the annual review folded into the BJD Review.	
		Stakeholders are consulted to establish annual operational priorities for inclusion in each industry plan.	November 2014	🕒 – waiting for the BJD Review to be completed.	
		The Market Assurance Program (MAP) is maintained, and risk assurance and the availability of low-risk stock for each industry are improved.	November 2014	🏆	
		SheepMAP review completed.	November 2014	🕒 – due to delay in delivery of industry feedback.	
		Advice is provided to stakeholders on the technical elements of JD management.	June 2015	🏆	
		National Bovine Johne's Disease Strategic Plan	Progress of the implementation of the National BJD Strategic Plan is reported to the National BJD Steering Committee.	September 2014	🏆
			Research and development projects funded by Cattle Council of Australia are monitored.	December 2014	🏆
			Management of the Financial and Non-Financial (FNF) Assistance Package is reported to the NBJD FNF Assistance Package Committee.	August 2014 February 2015	🏆
Management of projects identified by the National BJD Steering Committee to achieve the program objectives.	May 2015		🕒 – awaiting results of BJD Review.		
Goat Endemic Disease Management	Webpages to support activities identified in the National Kid Rearing Communication Plan are revised.	September 2014	🏆		
	Project plan is developed for a feasibility trial of abattoir monitoring for endemic disease in farmed goats.	November 2014	🕒 – GICA has reprioritised and is focussing on the progression of other projects.		
	Implementation of a Contagious Arthritis Encephalitis program for the goat industry has commenced.	December 2014	🏆		
Cattle Endemic Disease Management	A workplan for the Theileriosis Working Group is developed.	September 2014	🕒 – AHA's involvement has ceased while NSW DPI and AHC determine a process for any future work.		
	Electronic Cattle Health Statement is in place and operational.	December 2014	🕒 – awaiting MLA to develop an electronic system and trial.		

⁴ Programs in the livestock production disease focus area were moved to the Biosecurity Services Stream half way through the 2014-15 reporting period.

A large group of fluffy yellow ducklings, filling the background of the page. The ducklings are densely packed, with their heads and beaks visible in various directions. The lighting is warm, highlighting the soft texture of their feathers.

CORPORATE AND MEMBER SERVICES

The effective operation of AHA is underpinned by the essential support services delivered by our Corporate and Member Services employees. Services include communication, ICT, finance, administration, legal and Corporations Law compliance, Board of Directors' activities, representation on national committees and support for industry related animal health trust funds and service agreements.

CORPORATE AND MEMBER SERVICES

Corporate and Member Services supports program delivery by AHA service streams through better practice financial, technology, communications and human capital frameworks and management. Corporate governance is provided through compliance and risk management activities to meet AHA's corporate obligations and inform the Board to assist it manage the company effectively and efficiently. Members and other stakeholders are also supported through the provision of information, services and advice.

The year was marked by scoping change and refresh of fundamental corporate support activities spanning people, process and systems. Substantial consultation was undertaken with Members and stakeholders to develop a new strategic plan to guide the company's operations for the next five years. The financial management information system was reviewed and a path for enhancement to support the required detail for the contemporary operations of a member services company. Integrated reporting subsystems were scoped and the first phase of development was implemented to improve timeliness and granularity to support greater analysis and value-adding to staff and Members.

The company's human capital management policies were reviewed with a view to having clear and consistent practices across the company to meet the needs of company and employee goals. Consultations were undertaken to inform a review of the effectiveness of AHA's website as a key information channel. As a result, a new information architecture was developed, coupled with testing of updated AHA branding and signage to a contemporary scheme which maintains recognition with AHA's existing product suite. In addition to changes to foundation frameworks, policies, systems and corporate livery, AHA office accommodation needs and options were investigated taking into account the expiry of three separate leases over its five combined units of accommodation and the decision by PHA to withdraw from the planned co-location of office premises with AHA.

Success in 2014-2015

The first phase of the enhancement of the financial management information system (FMIS) was achieved with the implementation of a data extraction and reporting cube system and the testing and selection of a business intelligence analysis and reporting tool.

A new office premise was identified with existing and enhanced fit-out for staff office facilities and amenities and substantial scope for greatly enhanced in-house meeting and conference facilities for AHA and its Members' use. Favourable commercial terms for the enhanced facilities, close to stakeholders, were negotiated.

“ A new office premise was identified with existing and enhanced fit-out for staff office facilities-and amenities and substantial scope for greatly enhanced in-house meeting and conference facilities for AHA and its Members’ use. Favourable commercial terms for the enhanced facilities, close to stakeholders, were negotiated. ”

After extensive member and stakeholder consultation, the *AHA Strategic Plan 2015-2020* was finalised. Members reaffirmed that what AHA does remains critically important but the ‘how we deliver this’ needs to change to better reflect the needs of, and add value to our Members.

Following amendments to levies legislation by negotiation between PHA, AHA, the Department of Agriculture and the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC), the Australian Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund Trust was vested and agreement reached with PHA to singularly henceforth manage the honey bee levies and biosecurity response. AHBIC subsequently resigned their membership of AHA becoming effective 30 June 2015.

Outlook for 2015-2016

A number of initiatives that began in 2014-2015 will be further advanced or completed. Final phases of the upgrade of the FMIS with the implementation and configuration of the business analysis and reporting system as well as redevelopment of the company chart of accounts facilitating greater transparency and financial analysis and reporting. The payroll system will be upgraded to provide greater capability for staff and management to ‘self-service’ leave and other functionality, and remove duplication of data entry and other manual processes.

AHA’s refreshed corporate brand will be delivered, most noticeably through the organisation’s key communication channel; the AHA website. It will go live mid 2015-2016 with a new information architecture and appearance delivering greater ease of access to AHA’s wealth of information to support Members and stakeholders.

During 2015-2016, a strategic review of AHA’s ICT current state and future direction will be undertaken, ensuring future hardware and software developments align to AHA’s strategic business plan.

Corporate and member services will continue to implement efficient systematic approaches to minimise the underlying business support costs to maximise investment in animal health programs. In addition, an investigation will be undertaken to explore appropriate additional revenue streams to AHA business to support business accounts and defray support costs over a larger base.

Key highlights for 2014-2015

FOCUS AREA:	STRATEGY AND ENGAGEMENT
Project name:	Strategic and Business Planning
Situation/purpose:	To develop the <i>AHA Strategic Plan 2015-2020</i> , focussing on service innovation to strengthen and enhance collaboration and relationships with Members and stakeholders.
Action:	After an extensive consultation process, Members reaffirmed that what AHA does remains critically important – our suite of programs and projects undertaken with, and for, our Members. They were also clear that ‘how’ we deliver these needs to change to better reflect the requirements of, and add value to, our Members. Recognising the challenging economic environment that continues to face AHA Members, the strategic plan recognises AHA needs to improve its systems, structures and processes to deliver greater operational efficiencies, build sustainable funding through other potential income sources and above all, enhance our people, their capacity and their skills.
Result:	The <i>AHA Strategic Plan 2015-2020</i> will be AHA’s ‘blueprint’ for the future; setting the company’s future direction for the next five years.
FOCUS AREA:	SUPPORT SERVICES
Project names:	Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund
Situation/purpose:	The fund was established as a trust within AHA by the AHBIC member receiving levies for the benefit of the honey bee industry. It was proposed to have levies redirected to PHA of which AHBIC was also a member.
Action:	Vest the trust and assist with the redirection of levies to PHA.
Result:	The trust was vested on 30 June 2015 as legislation to redirect the levies to PHA took effect on 1 July 2015. Arrangements have been made for the transfer of the funds held within the trust to PHA and the de-registration of the trustee company following audit of financial statements for the trust and trustee company for 2014-2015.
FOCUS AREA:	COMMUNICATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS
Project names:	Corporate website development
Situation/purpose:	While AHA’s existing website was quite sophisticated at the time it was developed, a new website is required to improve access of information to AHA Members as well as to reflect AHA’s new brand identity.
	The AHA website is a key communication tool for the organisation. Its content covers a broad range of subject material on issues of animal diseases (both emergency and endemic), emergency animal disease response and preparedness, disease surveillance, farm biosecurity etc.
Action:	A website redevelopment working group was established to facilitate the creation of the information architecture and updating and preparation of content. Key professional suppliers were contracted to ensure content was search engine optimised and WAG 2.0 ready and keeps within best practice online information requirements. After undertaking a competitive tendering process, a website developer was contracted to develop and build AHA’s new website.
Result:	After consultation with staff and members, a suitable website concept has been developed and is currently being built; due for completion mid 2015-2016.

Table: Corporate & Member Services – program deliverables and outcomes

Table outcome key

 **Achieved** = achieved

 **In progress** = over 70% done

 **Delayed** = project has been stopped temporarily

 **Not achieved** = not achieved

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Strategy and Engagement	Company Management	Compliance with the <i>Constitution Act</i> and <i>Corporations Act</i> is monitored and reported to Members through the Annual Report.	October 2014	
		Key focus area outcomes are delivered and fully reported to Board and to Members.	June 2015	
		HR management, performance and staff training initiatives are developed and implemented.	June 2015	
	Board	Board Selection process (three positions to be filled) is completed.	September 2014	
		Board and Board Committee meetings are held as planned.	June 2015	
		The strategic direction of the Company is monitored and maintained.	Each Board meeting	
	General Office Administration	Staff and overhead budgets are met and costs fully allocated to projects.	June 2015	
	Ralph Hood Scholarship	Seek nominations, progress assessment by the Selection Panel and identify recipient.	October 2014	
	Co-location with PHA	Co-location with PHA is completed and leases are arranged to secure premises for a five year horizon.	January 2015	 – PHA advised its decision not to proceed with the co-location initiative at the February 2015 joint board meeting.
	Strategic and Business Planning	Five year <i>AHA Strategic Plan 2015-2020</i> is developed and endorsed by Members.	April 2015	
		Five year <i>AHA Strategic Plan 2015-2020</i> is launched.	June 2015	 – soft launch rescheduled to align with AHA office relocation.
		Annual Operating Plan 2015-2016 is developed and supported by Members.	April 2015	
		Annual Operating Plan 2015-2016 finalised and endorsed by Members.	June 2015	
	Stakeholder Engagement	Stakeholder Engagement Strategy is developed and implemented.	December 2014	 – focus is on reviewing AHA's ICT system; an important enabler for effective communications and partnerships.
Members' Forums	Processes for Members' Forum are reviewed and improvements implemented.	September 2014		
	Webinar or Forum conducted on forward estimates for 2015-2016.	March 2015 November 2014	 – not necessary.	

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Strategy and Engagement	Industry Forum	Three-year business plan is agreed by Industry Forum.	September 2014	
		Industry Forum meetings are successfully organised and valued by industry Members.	September 2014	
			March 2015	
		Industry Forum contacts list in AHA Contacts Management System is updated and current.	June 2015	
	Industry Forum Rules are reviewed and updated as required.	June 2015		
	Representation – National Committees	Development of policy papers and responses to issues to support and improve Australia's national animal health status (as required).	June 2015	 – submissions made: the Agricultural Competitiveness Green and White Paper; Senate Inquiry into Industry Structures and Systems; Governing levies on grass-fed cattle; Submission on use of Compound 1080.
	Representation at relevant national committees as required.	June 2015	 – Animal Health Committee, National Emergency Preparedness Expert Group, CSIRO Biosecurity Flagship Advisory Committee, QLD FMD Preparedness Program, NBC Exotic Weeds Taskforce, Australian Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance, to name a few.	
Communications	Communication	New Corporate Communications Strategy aligns with the new five year <i>AHA Strategic Plan 2015-2020</i> .	April 2015	 – focus is on reviewing AHA's ICT system; an important enabler to communications delivery and delivery on the 2015-2020 strategic goals.
		AHA Corporate Communications Strategy is implemented.	June 2015	 – as above.

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Support Services	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	ICT three-year Business Plan is completed and adopted.	July 2015	 – pending the completion of an ICT review and scoping of future needs to support the 2015-2020 strategic goals.
		Successful transition and installation of IT systems in new (co-located) premises is completed.	January 2015	 – changed deliverable to 'relocation' premises.
	Accreditation Program for Australian Veterinarians (APAV)	Provide administrative support to non-government veterinarians to enable them to undertake the APAV initial training.	June 2015	
		Manage the annual renewal process for APAV registered veterinarians.	June 2015	
	Australian Government Accredited Veterinarian (Livestock) (AAVet) Training	Provide administrative support to learners to enable them to seek government accreditation, as required.	June 2015	
	Cattle Disease Contingency Fund (CDCF)	Annual financial audit process is completed.	September 2014	
		Reports are provided to the Board and to the shareholders of the CDCF on the ongoing funding and expenditure of the trust.	June 2015	
		Health and welfare funding initiatives that benefit or enhance the Australian cattle industry, are supported and administered, as required.	June 2015	
		Investment management and liaison with banks are conducted as required.	June 2015	
	Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund (HBDCF)	Annual financial audit process is completed.	September 2014	
		Reports are provided to the Board and to the shareholders of the HBDCF on the ongoing funding and expenditure of the trust.	June 2015	
		Health and welfare funding initiatives that benefit or enhance the Australian honeybee industry, are supported and administered, as required.	June 2015	
		Investment management and liaison with banks are conducted as required.	June 2015	 – financial support services require improvement.

KEY FOCUS AREA	PROGRAM	2014-2015 DELIVERABLES	WHEN	OUTCOME
Support Services	Sheep Industry Health and Welfare Trust (SIHWT)	Annual financial audit process is completed.	September 2014	
		Reports are provided to the Board and to the shareholders of the SIHWT on the ongoing funding and expenditure of the trust.	June 2015	
		Health and welfare funding initiatives that benefit or enhance the Australian sheep industry, are supported and administered, as required.	June 2015	
		Investment management and liaison with banks are conducted as required.	June 2015	
	NLIS Ltd	AHA management of services to support NLIS Ltd NewCo.	June 2015	 – MLA and AHA have mutually agreed to pause the negotiations pending the completion and release of recommendations from the SAFEMEAT Initiatives Review.
Livestock Biosecurity Network (LBN)	Administrative and financial support services are provided to management of LBN as required.	June 2015	 – financial support services require improvement.	

COMMUNICATIONS

AHA's communication activity utilises a range of tools and channels to provide information on the company's partnership contributions to the national animal health system and explain the outcomes and direct benefits these actions provide



COMMUNICATIONS

This year, AHA has produced a number of documents and manuals, newsletters, educational brochures, fact sheets, videos, reports, journal articles, media releases, presentations and posters.

As well as using electronic and standard delivery methods to distribute our communication products to our Members, stakeholders, producers and others with an interest in the work of AHA, we make all content available online at the AHA website www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au or on the Farm Biosecurity website www.farmbiosecurity.com.au. AHA also maintains content relevant to the work it does regarding animal welfare standards on a series of discrete web pages, which can be accessed at www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au.

Stakeholder Publications

NATIONAL FARM BIOSECURITY TECHNICAL MANUAL FOR EGG PRODUCTION

AHA and the AECL worked together to produce the annual *National Farm Biosecurity Technical Manual for Egg Production*, a valuable addition to egg producers' biosecurity toolkits.

Developed by industry, this manual (available in print and electronic versions) provides tailored information and the latest tips and advice to avoid endemic and exotic diseases coming on to the property. It covers all aspects of egg production, from the time of delivery of new layers until depopulation of the spent layer hens, including transportation and delivery of point of lay pullets.



ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE QUARTERLY

Responding to increased demand for electronic versions of this print publication, subscribers now have the opportunity to enjoy the newsletter delivered straight to their inboxes – in full colour.

Sporting a revamped and easier to read electronic design, *Animal Health Surveillance Quarterly* continues to cover investigations of disease incidents, monitoring and surveillance activities from the states and territories.

STOCK HEALTH MONITOR

Stock Health Monitor, AHA's specialist publication about livestock production conditions, was digitised this financial year. The move caters for increasing internet usage by a growing number of producers in Australia. *Stock Health Monitor* is a joint initiative between AHA and livestock industries in recognition that livestock production conditions impact the red meat value chain and Australia's market access certification requirements.

ANIMAL HEALTH IN AUSTRALIA

Animal Health in Australia 2014 (23rd edition) is an annual report produced by AHA on behalf of the Australian Government providing an annual overview of Australia's animal health status. The report (available in print and electronic versions) is produced for presentation at the World Organisation for Animal Health conference, and is an important tool in outlining Australia's animal health status to overseas markets.

AHA UPDATE

AHA's monthly e-newsletter contains company news, events and animal health information. The publication gained 65 new subscribers, bringing the total up to 600.

Additionally, AHA's contributions to the National Livestock Standstill Exercise Odyssey have been a monthly feature of the *AHA Update*.

FARM BIOSECURITY NEWS

A monthly e-newsletter with the latest on-farm biosecurity news, tips and alerts across livestock and plant health was produced. The publication gained 133 new subscribers, bringing the total up to around 750 subscribers.

Corporate Publications

AHA Annual Report 2013-14

AHA Annual Operating Plan 2015-16

Media releases

AHA issued nine media releases to national print, radio and television media in the reporting period. The releases were targeted towards increasing awareness of or participation in AHA programs or projects including:

- Help shape a national approach to BJD
- Got something to say about BJD?
- Forum kick starts new way forward
- AHA to conduct BJD review
- Make stock surveillance your New Year's resolution
- 10 years beefing up support for cattle producers in time of need
- David beefs up support for cattle producers in time of need
- Campbell beefs up support for cattle producers in time of need
- Development of the welfare standards and guidelines for cattle and sheep has concluded

Submissions

- Agricultural Competitiveness Green and White Paper
- Senate Inquiry into Industry Structures and Systems governing levies on grassfed cattle
- Submission on use of Compound 1080
- Developing a National Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy for Australia

Collateral

Goat factsheets

AHA and the Goat Industry Council of Australia have produced a poster and fact sheet to help producers understand, avoid and manage the impacts of JD in their goat herds.

Both the fact sheet and the poster have been provided as professional, print-ready PDF files that can be downloaded for free and are formatted to be printed by a professional printing company in a finish and style of the producers' choice or they can simply be printed from the home or office printer.

3 steps to avoid Johne's disease in your goat herd
Implementing this 3-step plan is your best defence against spreading Johne's disease during kid rearing.

Step 1: Deliver and Separate
Prepare a clean birthing pen for does.
Remove newly born kids from their dams as soon as possible after birth (no later than 12 hours) and place in a clean rearing pen.

Step 2: Rear and Wean
Feed newly-born kids on pasteurised colostrum from a herd with a high assurance rating score for Johne's disease (colostrum can be frozen).
Rear kids on pasteurised milk, artificial milk replacer or the milk of a doe from a herd with high assurance rating for Johne's disease.

Step 3: Introductions
Avoid contact with adult animals and contaminated fodder and water.
Only accept goats into the herd which have a current GoAMAP status or a high assurance rating on the National Goat Health Statement.

Biosecurity is vital
Remember, Johne's disease is spread with animal movement. Follow these important on-farm biosecurity steps, secure your fences and always ask for a National Goat Health Statement when agitating or purchasing stock to ensure Johne's disease and other diseases are not imported into your herd from outside sources. For more biosecurity information visit: www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

The National Kid Rearing Plan has been developed by Animal Health Australia and the Goat Industry Council of Australia on behalf of the national goat industry and the state departments of primary industries.
www.gica.com.au www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au

Animal Health AUSTRALIA
GICA

Websites

AHA maintains up-to-date information on all its programs and projects through its various websites.

AHA website – www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au

A large number of regular updates and refreshes to content published on the AHA website were approved over the reporting period to ensure information is accurate, timely and easily accessible.

To improve the visitor experience, AHA is currently reviewing the site's information architecture to increase functionality and usability for AHA Members and all visitors.

A new AHA website is expected to be launched in October 2015.

OJD website – www.ojd.com.au

This dedicated website is home to everything the sheep industry needs to know about managing Ovine Johne's disease (OJD) and preventing its spread, including the National OJD Management Plan 2013-2018. Central to the plan is the national Sheep Health Statement – an important disease risk management tool that buyers can use.

At the request of industry, AHA now manages and regularly updates the OJD website, ensuring information is accurate and timely.

Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines website – www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au

AHA also maintains a series of pages within its main website containing detailed information regarding the work conducted by AHA on animal welfare standards.

Updates to information on the sub-site were also made regularly throughout the year to keep information accurate and current.

Providing a one-stop shop of information for Members and interested parties, AHA works hard to regularly update the website with relevant and AHA-associated material. In the 2014-2015 reporting period a number of documents were added to the website including:

- For Government Endorsement - The Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Cattle
- Final cattle Decision Regulation Impact Statement
- Final cattle Public Consultation Response Action Plan
- For Government Endorsement - The Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep
- Final sheep Decision Regulation Impact Statement
- Final sheep Public Consultation Response Action Plan

Farm Biosecurity Program

Farm Biosecurity is a communication program delivered by AHA in partnership with PHA and aims to increase awareness and uptake of simple to implement on-farm biosecurity practices amongst Australian livestock and plant producers.

The combined planning, resourcing and implementation of the program maximises the program's reach and influence across both livestock and plant producers.

FARM BIOSECURITY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS IN 2014-2015

The program produced two five-minute awareness-raising videos covering two of the six biosecurity 'Essentials'. The videos were formerly launched at an event hosted by AHA, bringing together government and industry stakeholders.

A nation-wide print and electronic marketing and PR campaign for the latest Farm Biosecurity 'Essentials' videos was conducted in late 2014. As a result, the latest videos were viewed almost twice as many times in the first three months, when compared with the previous videos in the same period in 2013.

A Farm Biosecurity Action Planner: The essentials was developed for both plant and livestock producers.

Work commenced on the *Farm Biosecurity Farm Plan* smartphone app and in early January 2015 a smartphone and tablet-compatible Farm Biosecurity website was developed.

In early 2015, filming commenced on the next two awareness-raising Farm Biosecurity 'Essentials' videos and a significant print advertising campaign was undertaken with 100,000 brochures about the Farm Biosecurity Program inserted in rural newspapers across the country.

Farm Biosecurity website – www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

The Farm Biosecurity site is regularly updated with new information as it is generated or becomes available.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Foundations for governance

BOARD CHARTER

All responsibilities and activities of the Board are covered in detail in the Board charter. The charter delineates the responsibilities and role of the Board, the chairperson, the CEO and the company secretary and addresses all aspects of Board appointments, activity and performance. The charter is regularly reviewed by the Board's Corporate Governance Committee to ensure that it continues to reflect best governance practice.

LETTERS OF APPOINTMENT

Directors are provided with a formal letter of appointment prior to their induction. This letter covers details of the induction process, current remuneration and the manner in which it is determined, the term of the appointment, requirements for making a statement of interests and details of directors' and officers' insurance.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The Corporate Governance Committee provides additional assurance that the company's governance arrangements provide an optimum effective working partnership between the Board and management. Membership consists of at least three directors and the CEO and all directors are given notice of all meetings and have the right to attend and speak. The committee is required to meet at least twice a year. The responsibilities of the committee are set out in detail in the Board charter.

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Both the Corporate Governance Committee and the Audit and Risk Management Committee are charged with aspects of implementing appropriate compliance systems. In practice the company secretary oversees the company's compliance system. The CEO is required to report compliance exceptions at each Board meeting and the company secretary may be required to elaborate on any relevant aspects of this report.

Structure and selection of the Board

BOARD SELECTION

The constitution of AHA establishes the structure of the Board as seven directors including the chairperson, prescribes a selection process to be undertaken by an independent selection committee and sets out a 'skills based' matrix. Directors are all non-executive directors, are appointed for a four year term and are eligible for reappointment.

The selection committee membership is independent of the Board and management and is defined in the company constitution. In 2008, the Members resolved that one director currently not seeking re-nomination be an additional Member of the selection committee.

RIGHT OF ACCESS

Each director has the right of access to all relevant company information and to the company's executive and, subject to prior consultation with the chairperson, may seek independent professional advice at the company's expense.

BOARD MEETINGS

The Board holds at least five meetings each year and may meet at other times as necessary, including by telephone. Processes and procedures for setting agendas and for the preparation and circulation of Board papers are covered in the Board charter. The CEO and other senior managers regularly attend Board meetings.

Ethical and responsible decision making

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

As specified in the Board charter, directors must declare on an ongoing basis any interests that could potentially conflict with those of the company. A standing agenda item at all Board meetings involves the update by each director of a statement of interests. In addition directors are asked to sign a statement annually affirming that they have no specific interests that will impact on their ability as a director and that should such interests arise that may result in a potential conflict of interest, they will declare such to the Board.

Integrity in financial reporting

AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The detailed responsibilities of the Audit and Risk Management Committee are documented in the Board charter. Membership comprises at least three directors. The company secretary, directors, and external auditors are given notice of all meetings and have the right to attend and speak. The committee is required to meet at least twice each year.

MANAGEMENT'S LETTER OF REPRESENTATION

Prior to approval of the annual financial report, the Audit and Risk Management Committee asks the CEO and the company secretary to provide the independent auditors with a signed comprehensive letter of representation that affirms that the company's financial report presents a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the company's financial condition and operational results and is in accordance with relevant accounting standards.

FINANCIAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Comprehensive practices are established and included in the company's policy and procedure manuals such that all unbudgeted expenditure and commitments require prior Board approval; financial exposures are controlled; investment of funds is governed by a specific investment policy; work health and safety standards and management systems are monitored and reviewed; and business transactions are properly authorised and executed.

CONTRACTING AND TENDERING

The company has adopted comprehensive policies and procedures in respect of purchasing, contracting and tendering. All contracts exceeding \$40,000 in value are subject to competitive quotation. Where proposed expenditure exceeds \$100,000 a formal open contracting process is used to seek competitive quotations.

Disclosure

The company is not subject to the ASX Listing Rule disclosure requirements but discloses significant information to Members on a continuous basis as outlined below.

Respecting the rights and interests of Members and stakeholders

MEMBER CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Board aims to ensure that all Members are informed of all major developments affecting the company. Information is communicated as follows:

- The Annual Report is distributed to all Members and associate Members.
- Notices of all general meetings are sent to all Members and associate Members and all are actively solicited to attend such meetings either in person or by proxy.
- Meetings of Members associated with the management of specific programs are held to provide opportunities for the Board to provide its strategic vision to Members and allow their input in determining operational priorities.
- The company has established a Members' Forum that meets at least twice a year specifically to enable Members to provide input on the strategic direction of the company and the Annual Operating Plan.

COMPANY GENERAL MEETINGS

The Board encourages full participation of Members at the AGM. Full participation is also encouraged at a general meeting held by the company in June each year at which the Annual Operating Plan is presented and core subscription levels are formally agreed on by Members for the upcoming financial year. The company auditor is given notice of and invited to attend all company general meetings.

Members are requested to vote on the appointment and aggregate remuneration of directors, changes to the constitution, the appointment of auditors and other key issues.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Board Charter contains a Directors' Code of Conduct with which each director is expected to comply. In addition, the company has documented standards that each manager and employee of the company is expected to operate within. The requirement to comply with these ethical standards is communicated to all employees.

Directors, managers and employees are expected to strive at all times to enhance the reputation and performance of the company. Every employee has a nominated supervisor to whom they may refer any issues arising from their employment. The Board reviews the employee manual regularly and processes are in place to promote and communicate these policies.

Recognition and management of risk

RISK MANAGEMENT

Monitoring of corporate and program risks is a specific responsibility of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. The company's process of periodic risk assessment and review covers the business environment, work health and safety, property, financial reporting and internal control.

INTERNAL AUDIT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

The company does not have an internal audit function as the size of the organisation does not warrant this. From time to time the Audit and Risk Management Committee will initiate an independent internal audit of any area of the company's operations that it deems appropriate.

Enhancement of performance

BOARD PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

The Board is committed to the ongoing development of both individual directors and the Board as a whole. Evaluation regularly involves the engagement of independent external expertise.

COMPANY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

AHA has commenced a measurement and evaluation framework, in consultation with Members, to report on key deliverables as outlined in the strategic plan.

STAFF PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Each staff Member is employed under an employment contract that specifically calls for an annual performance agreement against which performance is measured by the staff member's manager. The performance of the CEO is evaluated on the same annual basis by the chairperson and Board.

Fair and responsible remuneration

DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

The remuneration payable to directors is approved at an AGM of the company as stipulated in the constitution. There are no schemes for retirement benefits, aside from statutory superannuation.

EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION

The remuneration of the CEO is set by the Board and reviewed annually as part of the CEO performance review. The remuneration of all other staff is set and reviewed by the CEO as part of their annual performance review. All employee remuneration is performance based.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
DIRECTORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

The directors present their report together with the financial report of the Australian Animal Health Council Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 30 June 2015 and the auditor's report thereon.

Directors

The names of the directors of the company at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Name and qualifications	Experience and special responsibilities
Mr Peter Milne Dip. Bus. F.I.P.A. Member A.I.C.D.	Extensive experience in the cattle industry and as a director. Member Corporate Governance Committee. Director since November 2002, Chairman since November 2011.
Dr Bruce M Christie B.V.Sc; M.A.N.Z.C.V.S; G.A.I.C.D.	Extensive experience in government leadership and development of biosecurity and disease mitigation policy and strategies. Deputy Director General Biosecurity and Food Safety New South Wales. Member Audit and Risk Management Committee. Director since November 2012.
Dr Bill (William) Darmody B.V.M.S.(Hons); M.A.C.V.S.; F.A.I.C.D.	Extensive national and international consulting experience on animal health and food production. Member Corporate Governance Committee. Director since November 2012.
Professor Martyn Jeggo B.Vet.Med. M.Sc. Ph.D. F.A.I.C.D. M.R.C.V.S.	Extensive national and international experience in animal health policy development, governmental interfaces and strategic planning. Member Corporate Governance Committee. Director since November 2008.
Mr David Palmer Dip Farm Mgmt Grad Dip Bus Mgmt G.A.I.C.D.	Extensive mixed farming experience. Extensive national and international experience in market access, food safety, stakeholder relationships and corporate leadership. Chairperson Audit and Risk Management Committee. Director since December 2011.
Dr Helen Scott-Orr PSM B.V.Sc.(Hons) Dip.Bact.(Lond) M.A.N.Z.C.V.S. (Epidem) F.A.I.C.D.	Extensive state, national and international experience in animal health policy and government and extensive board experience. Member Audit and Risk Management Committee. Director since November 2010.
Ms Sharon Starick B.Ag.Sci.(Hons) Member A.I.C.D.	Extensive livestock farming, industry organisation and board experience. Chairperson Corporate Governance Committee. Director since November 2010.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
DIRECTORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

Directors' meetings

The number of directors' meetings and the number of meetings attended by each of the directors of the company during the financial year were:

	Board Meetings		Audit & Risk Management Committee		Corporate Governance Committee	
	No of meetings held *	No of meetings attended	No of meetings held *	No of meetings attended	No of meetings held *	No of meetings attended
Mr Peter Milne	5	5	3	2		
Dr Bruce M Christie	5	4	3	2		
Dr Bill Darmody	5	4			2	1
Professor Martyn Jeggo	5	4			2	2
Mr David Palmer	5	4	3	3		
Dr Helen Scott-Orr	5	5	3	3		
Ms Sharon Starick	5	5			2	2

* reflects the number of meetings held during the time the director held office during the year.

Objectives

AHA seeks a resilient Australian animal health system through effective partnerships, known for its integrity, and recognised nationally and internationally. In the short term this will be achieved by AHA working in partnership with our Members and other stakeholders to keep Australia free of new and emerging diseases and to improve animal health, enhance market access and foster resilience and integrity of the Australian animal health system.

Strategic Priorities

During the year the Board adopted a new strategic plan for 2015-2020 setting out four priorities:

- Effectively manage and strengthen Australia's emergency animal disease response arrangements through successful partnerships with members;
- Enhance the emergency animal disease preparedness and response capability of AHA and its members;
- Strengthen biosecurity, surveillance and animal welfare to enhance animal health, and support market access and trade; and
- Deliver member value, organisational performance enhancement and sustainable resourcing.

The company will continue to provide a sustainable platform for improving the contribution of agriculture to national prosperity, national policy and direction.

Principal activities

The principal activities of the company were, working with members, to develop and deliver projects to keep Australia free of new and emerging diseases and improve animal health, enhance market access and foster the resilience and integrity of the Australian animal health system. AHA plays an active role in maximising the effectiveness of government and industry partnership and consultative mechanisms to manage livestock biosecurity risk.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
DIRECTORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

Review and result of operations

AHA continued to deliver a range of national animal health projects facilitating joint action between government and industry members and other stakeholders. AHA's income increased to \$16.02 million, up from \$14.33 million in 2013/14. Of this, income representing member levies was \$7.34 million, which exceeded prior year and 2014/15 budget by \$0.25 million. Conversely, interest earnings on the company's reserves continued to decline due to prevailing financial market conditions, with \$0.43 million interest revenue representing only half the income from two years ago, compounding the tight fiscal conditions of AHA and its members. However, special program expenditure increased by over \$1.0 million in 2014/15 to \$10.89 million, due to the renewal of the FMD vaccine bank. AHA delivered its core operations below budget while assisted by the revised management fee applied to special projects, ensuring a more equitable spread of underlying corporate costs to AHA activities. Overall an operating surplus of \$0.86 million was achieved, up from \$0.25 million in 2013/14 (and a \$1.42 million deficit in 2012/13) due predominantly to levy income received for special programs, against which committed work will progress early in 2015/16.

State of affairs

The planned co-location of office accommodation with Plant Health Australia (PHA) did not occur due to the withdrawal by PHA from the co-location Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) attesting insufficient cost savings. AHA therefore relocated itself to new premises, taking advantage of prevailing leasing market conditions while removing the risks associated with its 'co-location' preparatory position of leasing on a month to month basis five separate units of accommodation with three different lessors and lease terms (combining to make-up its Deakin premises). AHA and PHA continue to collaborate on important national biosecurity issues through MOUs, for example, the farm biosecurity, biosecurity training joint initiatives, and harmonisation of the two deeds - Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) and the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD).

AHA has continued to collaborate with key stakeholders and provide options to support the potential changes to the operations of the National Livestock Identification database. AHA will continue to support this important initiative, though it is anticipated calls upon its resources will subside during 2015/16 as the findings of sectoral reviews are contemplated.

During 2014/15 a number of key personnel within AHA have changed, and a methodical and progressive review and enhancement of fundamental systems and processes commenced. These reviews are being undertaken with reference to the 2015-2020 strategic plan which was adopted by the Board during the year following extensive Member and stakeholder consultation.

Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc, a member of both AHA and PHA and a signatory to EADRA and EPPRD, concluded its consultations culminating in the cessation of its membership of AHA and amendments to the *Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Funding Act 1996*. This Act now provides for amounts representing honey bee levies assessed subsequent to 1 July 2015 to be paid to PHA (rather than AHA). As part of these arrangements, the Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund Pty Ltd of which AHA holds a third of the shares, vested the Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund Trust on 30 June 2015. The fund balance, net of current fees and winding up costs shall be transferred to PHA during 2015/16.

AHA has commenced the process of preparing a detailed Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to measure the performance of its programs and shall be consulting with Members on the framework and key performance indicators to finalise the framework during 2015/16.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
DIRECTORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

Events subsequent to balance date

There have been no events subsequent to balance date.

Likely developments

The commencement of AHA's lease in new office premises includes plans for the fit-out of a suite of meeting, training and seminar style facilities designed to provide a hub for AHA business and engagement with its members and stakeholders, and for use by its members and theirs, on highly favourable terms.

Upon the vesting of the Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund Trust on 30 June 2015, the purpose of the trustee company, Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund Pty Ltd, of which AHA holds a third of the shares becomes redundant and therefore application shall be made to deregister the company.

Member commitment on winding up

The company is limited by guarantee and in the event of the company being wound up, every member of the company undertakes to contribute an amount not exceeding \$100.

Auditor's independence declaration

The Auditor's independence declaration is set out on page 24 and forms part of the directors' report for the financial year ended 30 June 2015.

Directors' interests and benefits

Since the end of the previous financial year, no director of the company has received or become entitled to receive any benefit (other than a benefit included in the aggregate amount of remuneration received or due and receivable by directors shown in the financial statements) by reason of a contract made by the company or a related company with a director or with a firm of which they are a member, or with a company in which they have a substantial financial interest.

Insurance of officers and auditors

Since the end of the previous financial year, the company has paid insurance premiums totalling \$20,231 on behalf of its directors and officers for directors' and officers' liability insurance. The insurance policies relate to costs and expenses incurred by the relevant officers in defending proceedings, whether civil or criminal and whatever their outcome, and other liabilities that may arise from their position with the exception of conduct involving a wilful breach of duty or improper use of information or position to gain a personal advantage.

The premiums were paid in respect of the directors of the company listed in the report.

Non audit services

During the year RSM Bird Cameron Partners, the company's auditor, have not performed services in addition to their statutory duties.

Signed on 29 September 2015 in accordance with a resolution of the directors:



Peter Milne
Chairman



David Palmer
Director

Canberra, 29 September 2015

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
Revenue from members	2	15,516,713	13,355,439
Interest income		426,214	576,166
Other income		81,932	396,423
TOTAL REVENUE		16,024,859	14,328,028
Core activities		(4,101,421)	(4,011,274)
Special activities		(10,891,411)	(9,811,334)
Transfer to Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund Trust		(116,104)	(156,483)
Levy collection costs		(56,200)	(102,739)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3	(15,165,136)	(14,081,830)
OPERATING SURPLUS /(DEFICIT) BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE		859,723	246,198
Income tax attributable to operating surplus	1(f)	-	-
NET OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		859,723	246,198
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		859,723	246,198

Notes to and forming part of these financial statements are annexed.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	9,674,663	1,398,937
Held-to-maturity investments	5	5,700,000	14,222,993
Inventory held for distribution	6	3,651,446	3,350,489
Trade and other receivables	7	1,667,317	1,098,882
Other	8	30,836	41,479
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		20,724,262	20,112,780
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	9	24,953	42,765
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		24,953	42,765
TOTAL ASSETS		20,749,215	20,155,545
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	10	1,370,073	2,658,137
Subscriptions in advance		118,829	123,816
Unearned revenue	11	3,783,328	2,779,165
Lease restoration provision		95,000	35,000
Employee benefits	12	193,034	244,913
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,560,264	5,841,031
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefits	12	77,505	62,791
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		77,505	62,791
TOTAL LIABILITIES		5,637,769	5,903,822
NET ASSETS		15,111,446	14,251,723
EQUITY			
Accumulated members' funds		15,111,446	14,251,723
TOTAL EQUITY		15,111,446	14,251,723

Notes to and forming part of these financial statements are annexed.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
CASHFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash receipts in the course of operations		16,451,028	14,371,029
Cash payments in the course of operations		(17,101,757)	(15,174,802)
Interest received		426,214	500,507
Net cash flows (used in) operating activities		(224,515)	(303,266)
CASHFLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Acquisition of held-to-maturity investments		-	(1,000,000)
Redemption of held-to-maturity investments		8,522,994	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(22,753)	(8,822)
Net cash flows (used in)/from investing activities		8,500,241	(1,008,822)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash held		8,275,726	(1,312,088)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,398,937	2,711,025
Net foreign exchange movement		-	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	4	9,674,663	1,398,937

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Notes	Accumulated Members' Funds \$	Total Equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2013		14,005,525	14,005,525
Operating surplus for the year		246,198	246,198
Balance at 30 June 2014		14,251,723	14,251,723
Operating surplus for the year		859,723	859,723
Balance at 30 June 2015		15,111,446	15,111,446

Notes to and forming part of these financial statements are annexed.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report of the Australian Animal Health Council Limited for the year ended 30 June 2015 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the directors on 29 September 2015.

The following significant policies have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial report is a general purpose financial report, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*, Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. The financial report has also been prepared on a historical cost basis.

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars unless otherwise stated.

(b) Statement of Compliance

The Company is a not for-profit, private sector entity. Therefore the financial statements of the Company are tier 2 general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements (AASB – RDRs) (including Australian Interpretations) adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

(c) Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of judgements regarding the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates. These accounting policies have been consistently applied by the company.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(d) Revenue

Industry levies collected by the Commonwealth

The Australian government collects levies from industry under the authority of the *Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Act 1996*. The Commonwealth pays AHA an amount equal to levies collected which are then used by AHA to reimburse the Commonwealth for the costs of levy collection and to fund AHA expenditure incurred in accordance with its annual operating plan. Revenue received in accordance with the above Act is considered to be a non-reciprocal transfer and is recognised as revenue when the revenue is received/receivable from the Australian government.

Direct member subscriptions

Membership fees are recommended by the AHA Board for each class of member, including those members subject to the *Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Funding Act 1996* and set by the Company at general meeting. Membership subscriptions are recognised as revenue when the subscription becomes receivable.

Special program's revenue

Where special program funds are received on the condition that specified services are delivered to the provider, or specific conditions met, then these receipts are considered to be a reciprocal transaction. Revenue is recognised as services are performed/conditions are met and at year end, a liability is recognised until the service is delivered or condition met. No revenue is recognised if there are significant uncertainties regarding recovery of the amount due, or if the costs incurred or to be incurred cannot be measured reliably.

Interest income

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrued using the effective interest method. This is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocating the interest income over the relevant period using the effective interest rate, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

Sale of non-current assets

The net proceeds of non-current asset sales are recognised as revenue at the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed. The gain or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal (including incidental costs).

Other revenue

Other revenue includes miscellaneous items which are recognised as they accrue.

(e) Operating leases

The determination of whether an arrangement is or contains a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement and requires an assessment of whether the fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of a specific asset or assets and the

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

arrangement conveys a right to use the asset, even if that right is not explicitly specified in an arrangement.

Payments made under operating leases are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income on a straight line basis over the term of the lease. Operating lease incentives are recognised as a liability when received and subsequently reduced by allocating lease payments between rental expense and reduction of the liability.

(f) Income tax

Under the provisions of Section 50-1 and 50-40 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, as amended, the company is eligible for exemption from income tax and currently no tax provision has been provided for in the financial statements. Such eligibility is reviewable by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

(g) Other taxes

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of the goods and services tax (GST), except where:

- the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item as applicable; and
- Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or liability in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST components of the cash flows, arising from investing and financing activities, which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are stated with the amount of GST included.

(h) Foreign currency

Foreign currency transactions are translated to Australian currency at the rates of exchange ruling at the dates of the transactions. Bank accounts and amounts receivable and payable in foreign currency at reporting date are translated at the rates of exchange ruling on that date.

(i) Investment policy

The company's investment policy is to invest surplus funds, after authorisation from the board, only with those banks or financial institutions which are subject to prudential supervision or regulation under a law of the Commonwealth, a state or a territory and which have a Standard & Poors Credit rating of at least A1 at the time the deposit is placed.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Consistent with this policy the company seeks the best rate of return available on the investment of funds via cash deposits, which are surplus to the day to day requirements of the company. This is consistent with the need to have such funds available for use within reasonable time frames, the cost of maintaining such investments, including the cost of moving funds to and from normal operating bank accounts, the preservation of other favourable banking and investment relationships which are already in place, and the fiduciary responsibilities of the company to its members in respect of funds.

(j) Inventories held for distribution

Inventories held for distribution are valued at cost, adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential.

(k) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are to be settled within 60 days and are carried at amounts due. The collectability of debts is assessed at balance date and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts where there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect the receivable.

(l) Impairment

At each reporting date, the company assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where an indicator of impairment exists, the company makes a formal estimate of the recoverable amount. Where the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if the Company were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

An impairment loss is reversed if the reversal can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised. For financial assets measured at amortised cost and available-for-sale financial assets that are debt securities, the reversal is recognised in profit or loss. For available-for-sale financial assets that are equity securities, the reversal is recognised directly in equity, unless the reversal relates to a previous permanent diminution, in which case it cannot be reversed.

(m) Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Such cost includes the cost of replacing parts that are eligible for capitalisation when the cost of replacing the parts is incurred. All other repairs and maintenance costs are recognised in profit or loss as incurred.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount. These are included in the statement of comprehensive income.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value basis over the estimated useful life of the specific assets as follows:

	2015	2014
• Furniture and fittings	20%	20%
• Office equipment	20-33 ^{1/3} %	20-33 ^{1/3} %

(n) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are carried at amortised cost and due to their short term nature they are not discounted. They represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the company prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid and arise when the company becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of these goods and services. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 45 days of recognition.

(o) Employee benefits

Defined contribution plans

Obligations for contributions to defined contribution superannuation plans are recognised as an expense in the statement of comprehensive income as incurred.

Long service leave benefits

Long service leave benefits included in the provision for employee benefits represent the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made resulting from employees' services provided to reporting date. The provision is calculated using expected future increases in wage and salary rates including related on-costs and expected settlement dates based on turnover history. When material, the benefit is discounted to determine its present value.

Wages, salaries and annual leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits and annual leave expected to be settled with 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date. They are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(p) New standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

At the date of this financial report the following standards and interpretations, which may impact the entity in the period of initial application, have been issued but are not yet effective:

Reference	Title	Summary	Application date (financial years beginning)	Expected Impact
AASB 2015-3	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Withdrawal of AASB 1031 Materiality</i>	The Standard completes the AASB's project to remove Australian guidance on materiality from Australian Accounting Standards.	1 July 2015	No expected impact
AASB 2014-4	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation</i>	This Standard amends AASB 116 and AASB 138 to establish the principle for the basis of depreciation and amortisation as being the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits of an asset, and to clarify that revenue is generally presumed to be an inappropriate basis for that purpose.	1 January 2016	Minimal impact
AASB 2015-1	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements to Australian Accounting Standards 2012-2014 Cycle</i>	The Standard makes amendments to various Australian Accounting Standards arising from the IASB's Annual Improvements process, and editorial corrections.	1 January 2016	Minimal impact
AASB 2015-2	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101</i>	The Standard makes amendments to AASB 101 <i>Presentation of Financial Statements</i> arising from the IASB's Disclosure Initiative project.	1 January 2016	Disclosures Only
AASB 15	<i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers</i>	This Standard establishes principles (including disclosure requirements) for reporting useful information about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising	1 January 2017	Minimal impact

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

		from an entity's contracts with customers.		
AASB 2014-5	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15</i>	Consequential amendments arising from the issuance of AASB 15.	1 January 2017	Minimal impact
AASB 9	<i>Financial Instruments</i>	This Standard supersedes both AASB 9 (December 2010) and AASB 9 (December 2009) when applied. It introduces a "fair value through other comprehensive income" category for debt instruments, contains requirements for impairment of financial assets, etc.	1 January 2018	Minimal impact
AASB 2014-7	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014)</i>	Consequential amendments arising from the issuance of AASB 9	1 January 2018	Minimal impact

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

2. Revenue

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Revenue from members¹		
Collected by the Commonwealth as levies ²	7,335,196	7,105,026
Direct member subscriptions	2,642,578	2,771,492
Other revenue for special programs	5,538,939	3,478,921
Total revenue from members	15,516,713	13,355,439
Interest income	426,214	576,166
Other income	81,932	396,423
	16,024,859	14,328,028

¹ Members include: Commonwealth, State and Industry representatives. Members contribute equally, either directly through member subscriptions, or through levies collected by the Commonwealth and passed through to AHA, to the core operations of AHA. In addition various other interested organisations are associate members. Revenue is prioritised to core operational expenditure, then specific projects approved by the Board in consultation with members. Operating surpluses are invested for future use.

² The Australian government collects levies from industry under the authority of the *Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Act 1996*. Pursuant to the Act, an amount equivalent to the levies collected by the Commonwealth is paid to AHA, from which AHA pays the Commonwealth's collection costs, its operational (core) costs and other expenditure in accordance with its annual operating plan, determined with members.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

3. Expenses

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Employee Benefits expense		
Salaries, wages and accrued leave entitlements	2,368,135	2,556,855
Workers compensation insurance	14,040	11,907
Superannuation - defined contribution plans	343,260	223,368
Total employee benefits expense	2,725,435	2,792,130
Administration and Program expenses		
Audit fees	31,500	46,898
Directors fees	270,541	232,605
Consultants and Contractors	8,805,121	6,694,420
Property operating	378,382	280,946
Levy collection costs	56,200	102,739
Other administration and program expenses	2,741,289	3,655,464
Depreciation and amortisation	40,564	120,145
	12,323,597	11,133,217
Transfers to Trust Funds	116,104	156,483
	15,165,136	14,081,830

4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Cash on Hand	400	400
Cash at Bank	9,674,263	1,398,537
	9,674,663	1,398,937

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

5. HELD TO MATURITY INVESTMENTS

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
3 Month Term Deposit at 3.73% p.a.		4,029,840
10 Month Term Deposit at 3.83% p.a.		1,530,535
12 Month Term Deposit at 3.85% p.a.		3,528,427
12 Month Term Deposit at 3.95% p.a.		5,134,191
6 Month Term Deposit at 3.56% p.a.	5,200,000	-
3 Month Term Deposit at % p.a.	500,000	-
	5,700,000	14,222,993

6. INVENTORIES HELD FOR DISTRIBUTION

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Inventory held for distribution at cost	3,651,446	3,350,489
	3,651,446	3,350,489

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

7. RECEIVABLES

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Subscriptions receivable	7,772	142,688
Receivables - special programs	1,561,105	406,109
Other receivables	98,440	-
Industry levies receivable	-	514,857
GST Receivable	-	35,228
	1,667,317	1,098,882

8. OTHER ASSETS

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Prepayments	30,836	41,479
	30,836	41,479

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

9. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Office Equipment	Fixtures and Fittings	Total
Cost			
Balance at 1 July 2013	56,905	205,935	262,840
Additions	4,328	3,691	8,019
Balance at 30 June 2014	61,233	209,626	270,859
Balance at 1 July 2014	61,233	209,626	270,859
Additions	22,292	461	22,753
Balance at 30 June 2015	83,525	210,087	293,612
Depreciation and impairment losses			
Balance at 1 July 2013	39,149	165,152	204,301
Depreciation for the year	6,039	17,754	23,793
Balance at 30 June 2014	45,188	182,906	228,094
Balance at 1 July 2014	45,188	182,906	228,094
Depreciation for the year	13,384	27,181	40,565
Balance at 30 June 2015	58,572	210,087	268,659
Carrying amounts			
At 30 June 2014	16,045	26,720	42,765
At 30 June 2015	24,953	-	24,953

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

10. PAYABLES

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Trade accounts payable	450,050	1,765,132
Accrued expenses	751,866	893,005
GST Payable	168,157	-
	1,370,073	2,658,137

11. UNEARNED REVENUE

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Special program receipts not yet recognised as income	3,783,328	2,779,165
	3,783,328	2,779,165

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

12. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Employee Benefits	270,539	307,704
Carrying amount at end of financial year - Current	249,344	244,913
Carrying amount at end of financial year - Non-Current	21,195	62,791
a) Number of employees at year end	24	26

13. RECONCILIATION OF CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO OPERATING RESULT

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Operating result	859,723	246,198
<i>Non-cash flows in operating result</i>		
depreciation & amortisation	40,565	23,793
Other movements	-	(74,856)
<i>Net changes in working capital:</i>		
change in inventories	(300,957)	120,145
change in trade & other receivables	(568,435)	(69,840)
change in other assets	10,643	(15,829)
change in trade & other payables	(1,288,064)	(283,394)
change in subscriptions in advance	(4,987)	(4,115)
change in unapplied special program funds	1,004,163	(267,681)
change in provisions	22,834	22,313
Net cash from operating activities	(224,515)	(303,266)

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

14. RELATED PARTIES

a). Directors

The names of each person holding the position of Director of Animal Health Australia Council Ltd during the financial year were:

Peter Milne – Director

Bruce Christie - Director

Bill Darmody - Director

Martyn Jeggo – Director

David Palmer – Director

Helen Scott-Orr – Director

Sharon Starick - Director

b). Cattle Disease Contingency Fund Pty Ltd

The company has a 25% shareholding in Cattle Disease Contingency Fund Pty Ltd (CDCF), trustee for the Cattle Disease Contingency Fund Trust. The shareholding is in 'B' class shares meaning the company is not entitled to any dividends or capital returns. Animal Health Australia is entitled to appoint a Director and this is included in the CEO's duties. Transactions with the CDCF as trustee were as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Received from CDCF for administrative services	18,381	9,880
Special Program Funding received from CDCF	-	1,000,000
	18,381	1,009,880

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

14. RELATED PARTIES continued

c). Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund Pty Ltd

The company has a 33.3% shareholding in Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund Pty Ltd (HBDCF), trustee for the Honey Bee Disease Contingency Fund Trust. The shareholding is in 'B' class shares meaning the company is not entitled to any dividends or capital returns. Animal Health Australia is entitled to appoint a Director and this is included in the CEO's duties. Transactions with the HBDCF as trustee were as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Received from HBDCF for administrative services	12,537	6,500
Other	5,493	5,000
	18,030	11,500
EXPENDITURE		
Industry levy income placed on trust with HBDCF	116,104	151,934
	116,104	151,934

d). Sheep Industry Health and Welfare Pty Ltd

The company has a 33.3% shareholding in Sheep Industry Health and Welfare Pty Ltd (SIHW), trustee for the Sheep Industry Health and Welfare Trust. The shareholding is in 'B' class shares meaning the company is not entitled to any dividends or capital returns. Animal Health Australia is entitled to appoint a Director and this is included in the CEO's duties. Transactions with the SIHW as trustee were as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Received from SIHW for administrative services	5,667	8,808
	5,667	8,808

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

15. COMMITMENTS

The company's future minimum operating lease payments are as follows:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Within one year	278,752	203,450
After one year but not more than five years ³	1,545,675	92,216
After more than five years ³	331,120	-
	2,155,547	295,666

³ Lease commitments include those for the AHA's office premises in Turner. The former long term leases for Deakin office premises ceased during 2014 and were extended only to June 2015.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

16. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The following were directors of key management personnel of the company during the year. Unless otherwise indicated, they were in their position for the entire reporting period:

Directors:

Peter Milne – Director

Bruce Christie - Director

Bill Darmody - Director

Helen Scott-Orr – Director

David Palmer – Director

Martyn Jeggo – Director

Sharon Starick - Director

Key Management Personnel:

Kathleen Plowman - CEO

Duncan Rowland – Executive Manager

Kevin de Witte – Executive Manager

Eva-Maria Bernoth – Executive Manager (Ceased 5/2/2015)

Michael Willoughby – Executive Manager (Ceased: 31/3/2015)

Tony Marks – Executive Manager & Company Secretary (Commenced: 17/3/2015)

Peter Dagg – Acting Executive Manager (Commenced: 6/2/2015)

Director and key personnel remuneration for year was **\$1,231,698** (2014: \$1,211,563)

16. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO REPORTING DATE

No events have occurred subsequent to reporting date which have a material impact on the financial operations of Animal Health Australia.

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

- 1 In the opinion of the directors of Australian Animal Health Council Limited (the company):
 - (a) the financial statements and notes, set out on pages 6 to 22, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of their performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Regime, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
 - (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.
- 2 The directors have been given declarations equivalent to those required by Section 295A of the *Corporations Act 2001* from the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer for the financial year ended 30 June 2015.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors:



Peter Milne
Chairman



David Palmer
Director

Dated at Canberra, ACT this 29th day of September 2015



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AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

As lead auditor for the audit of the financial report of Australian Animal Health Council Limited for the year ended 30 June 2015, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

RSM Bird Cameron Partners

RSM Bird Cameron Partners

G M STENHOUSE
Partner

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory
Dated: 29 September 2015

Major Offices in:
Perth, Sydney, Melbourne,
Adelaide and Canberra
ABN 36 965 185 036

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Australian Animal Health Council Limited ("the company"), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2015, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of Australian Animal Health Council Limited, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.



Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of Australian Animal Health Council Limited is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

RSM Bird Cameron Partners
RSM Bird Cameron Partners

G M Stenhouse
G M STENHOUSE
Partner

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory
Dated: 29 September 2015

