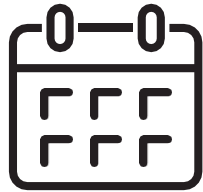




# Phase out of live sheep exports by sea — transition plan



It is law that live sheep exports by sea will end on 1 May 2028



**\$139.7 million**

Commitment of 5 years in transition assistance

## Commitment



- Election commitment made to meet Australian community expectations for sheep welfare

## Advice



- Appointment of an independent panel and public consultation
- The panel undertook an extensive national consultation process:
  - more than 2,000 people attended forums in Western Australia (WA)
  - more than 330 people attended virtual forums
  - almost 100 stakeholder meetings were held
  - 800+ written submissions and 3300+ unique survey responses were received
- The panel – in its report to the Australian Government – made 28 recommendations focused on individuals, businesses, communities, trade and animal welfare

## Certainty



- The Government provided certainty by announcing:
  - the phase out date for Australia’s live sheep exports by sea
  - passage of legislation to implement the phase out
  - the release of the panel report and Government response
  - trade may continue without caps or quotas until the trade ceases

## Time



- For those impacted, there is time to plan and adapt
- Early action will support resilience and position individuals, businesses and communities to:
  - plan and alter on-farm practices
  - develop markets for sheep products
  - increase onshore processing
  - secure and train workers
  - access support and funding

## Transition Assistance



- \$139.7m over 5 years available from 2024-25 to assist those impacted:
  - \$97.3m to support sheep producers and the supply chain, particularly in WA
  - \$27m to enhance market demand within Australia and internationally for sheep products, food and fibre
  - \$2.6m to maintain sheep standards during land transport, and international engagement
  - \$1.7m for a Transition Advocate
  - \$11.1m for implementation and engagement
- Leverage existing whole-of-government initiatives:
  - ACCC reviews
  - employment programs, including for First Nations people
  - programs to re-skill and up-skill
  - migration, and labour conditions
  - mental health support

## Transition Oversight



- Appointment of a Transition Advocate
- Monitoring of the transition will occur via a stocktake in 2026-27

## Animal Welfare



Continued regulation of live sheep exports



Funding for reviewing the standards and guidelines for land transport of sheep



Enhanced engagement in the World Organisation for Animal Health



**\$77m**

ABS value of live sheep exports by sea from Australia in 2022-23



**\$4.5b**

ABS value of Australian sheep meat exports in 2022-23



**\$3.5b**

MLA estimate of value of domestic retail markets of sheep meat 2022