



The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP

Minister for Primary Industries

Minister for Small Business

MEDIA RELEASE

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LANDMARK REVIEW INTO LHPA RELEASED

Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, today announced that the review of the NSW Livestock Health and Pest Authority model has been released for public comment.

Ms Hodgkinson said the review - conducted by independent consultant Terry Ryan - was commissioned mid-last year to investigate and address concerns with the LHPA model that was put in place in 2009 by the former Labor Government.

“The State’s Livestock Health & Pest Authorities do play a major role in delivering animal health, pest management and biosecurity services.

“However, the Ryan Review recommends landmark and far-reaching changes to the delivery of these services to rural landholders across NSW,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

These include:

- a new regional framework to deliver frontline biosecurity functions and a broader range of services,
- the development of a new risk-based funding model that takes into account the need for appropriate contributions from industry, landholders and Government, and
- the implementation of a new management system to improve service delivery, reduce operating costs and improve transparency and accountability

Mr Ryan was advised by a Steering Committee, made up of Government and industry representatives including Dr Richard Sheldrake - Director General, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Ian Donges - Representative of the LHPA State Council and Charles Armstrong - Representative of the NSW Farmers’ Association.

“The LHPA model and all its previous variants have been in place for a century. The Ryan Review clearly says it is now time to move on,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is committed to delivering relevant and cost-effective services and the independent review into the State’s LHPAs plays a vital role in this plan.

“The NSW Government encourages the community to have a say on the Ryan Review’s recommendations over the next two months and this feedback will inform our final response to the report,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

The Ryan Review can be viewed on the NSW DPI website and submissions are due by 23 May, 2012. Submissions can be sent to lhp.review@dpi.nsw.gov.au