

Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) – Australian Animal Welfare Industry Standards & Guidelines for Pigs

Communique – Meeting 4

Date: 30 July 2026

Australian Pork Limited has initiated a project to develop Australian Animal Welfare Industry Standards and Guidelines for Pigs. This project will update the Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals - Pigs (2008) to recognise the expectation for minimum standards to evolve and reflect contemporary research and scientific advancements.

Membership of the SAG includes pork producers representing all sectors of the industry (free-range, outdoor, small, medium, large, and corporate), AVA pig veterinarians, RSPCA, state and federal government participants and research experts.

Key Outcomes from SAG 4

Key outcomes from this meeting include:

- APL provided an update on the literature review process.
- The meeting focused on the feed and water section of the animal welfare industry standards and guidelines. The format being utilised is aligned with other existing Standards and Guidelines (e.g. poultry, cattle, and sheep).
- A draft position was presented on the objective and potential standards and guidelines for this section.
- Discussion focused on ensuring the Objective, Standards and Guidelines met the intent of continuous improvement in pig welfare. Clauses were discussed and clarified, practicalities considered and the discussion was recorded to inform drafting of this section. A total of 5 Standards and 8 Guidelines were discussed. An additional Standard was suggested.
- It was noted that there is overlap with other sections, and those sections will need to be reviewed as a whole to prevent duplication or minimise gaps.

This communiqué has been developed for public use to support transparency and stakeholder awareness throughout the development and implementation of the Australian Animal Welfare Industry Standards and Guidelines process.