

22 January 2014

STAKEHOLDER FORUMS TO SUPPORT AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF HAL

Horticulture Australia Limited (HAL) is the Research and Development Corporation for the Horticulture Industry. It invests around \$100 million annually in R&D and marketing programs aimed at addressing industry and government priorities.

ACIL Allen Consulting has been commissioned to undertake an independent performance review of HAL, and examine the HAL service delivery model and the efficiency of the levy arrangements. Issues with HAL's existing structure and operations have been a concern to a number of stakeholders, including the Australian Government which is a major contributor to rural R&D. These concerns include, amongst other things, the potential for conflicts of interest and the need to ensure effective use of levy and matching funding.

As part of the review, ACIL Allen Consulting will conduct forums with relevant stakeholders of HAL. Each forum will provide an opportunity to deliver feedback on the performance of HAL, the efficiency of levy arrangements on the horticulture sector and discuss the need for change. Forums will be conducted during February 2014, in specific regional locations across Australia.

The Consultation Paper that will be presented at stakeholder forums around Australia is available for download from the website: <http://www.acilallen.com.au/microSite?idMicroSite=22>.

How you can contribute

You and your organisation have been identified as an important stakeholder(s) to HAL. We are seeking your assistance to nominate people to participate in a forum. A schedule of the forums can be found at: <http://www.acilallen.com.au/microSite?idMicroSite=22>.

We ask that you register your interest by emailing the details of your name, organisation, and return contract information to: halreview@acilallen.com.au. A member of our team will contact you to confirm your attendance prior to the forum taking place.

If you feel other organisations or individuals in your network would like to attend the forum, we encourage you to forward this email to them.

In addition to attending a forum, stakeholders are also invited to provide feedback on the consultation paper by either:

- calling the review team via the HAL Review hotline 1300 794 025
- providing brief comments via an email to halreviewteam@acilallen.com.au
- making a written submission via email to halreviewteam@acilallen.com.au or in hard copy to:
HAL Review Team, ACIL Allen Consulting, Level 1, 50 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Bartos – Executive Director, ACIL Allen Consulting



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Forum details

Key details for each forum are provided in Table 1. We ask that you arrive at least 10 minutes in advance of each forum to ensure a timely start. We also ask stakeholders to familiarise themselves with the Consultation Paper prior to attendance at the forums. This will ensure that any feedback gained at forums is aligned with the objectives of the independent performance review.

Please consult with the website prior to attending forums as details may change.

TABLE 1 FORUM SCHEDULE

Forum	Date	Time	Location and street address
Lismore, NSW	3-Feb	10.30-12.30	DPI Research Station, NSW Trade & Investment, 1243 Bruxner Highway, Wollongbar, NSW (Hudson Conference Room)
Bundaberg, QLD	4-Feb	10.30-12.30	Bundaberg Enterprise Centre, Cnr Quay and Tantitha Streets, Bundaberg, QLD (Neville Room)
Innisfail, QLD	5-Feb	Morning forum: 10.00-12.00 Evening forum: 17.30-19.30	Innisfail Brothers Leagues Club, Ernest St, Innisfail, QLD
Wagga Wagga, NSW	6-Feb	10.30-12.30	Charles Sturt University, Boorooma Street, North Wagga, NSW (CSU Convention Centre)
Mildura, VIC	5-Feb	10.00-12.00	Quality Hotel Mildura Grand, Seventh St, Mildura, VIC (Don's Room)
Adelaide Hills, SA	11-Feb	10.30-12.30	University of Adelaide, Waite Campus, Waite Rd, Urrbrae, SA (Charles Hawker Conference Centre)
Melbourne, Vic	12-Feb	10.00-12.00	Costa Group Business Support Centre, 275 Robinsons Rd, Ravenhall, VIC
Bunbury, WA	17-Feb	12.30-14.30	Quality Hotel Lord Forrest, 20 Symmons Street, Bunbury, WA
Sydney, NSW	18-Feb	10.00-12.00	Horticulture Australia Limited, Level 7, 179 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW (Limited to 50 people)*
Launceston, TAS	27-Feb	9.00-11.00	Clarion Hotel City Park Grand, 22 Tamar St, Launceston, TAS

Note: Tea, coffee and water will be provided at each session. *An additional Sydney forum may be held on the 28 Feb if more than 50 registrations are received. The evening session for the Innisfail forum is dependent on the number of registrations received for that forum.

Additional information about the independent review can be found at: www.acilallen.com.au/halreview