

Sheep Producers Australia Policy Council Recruitment

Applications close 11:59 Sunday 18 July 2021

About the SPA Policy Council

The SPA Policy Council (“Policy Council”) enables producer representation, consultation, and input into the development of proactive industry policy that is in the best interests of the Australian sheep industry. The development of industry policy is vital so that the industry can influence the framework that guides the sheep industry to a productive, sustainable and profitable future.

In addition to creating policy for industry, the Policy Council also plays an important role in advising the SPA Board on issues related to the strategic objectives of SPA and its Members. The Policy Council’s key responsibilities are to:

- (a) Provide a forum for SPA Members to address the key issues and challenges of national significance in relation to the sheep industry and recommend industry policy to be adopted by the SPA Board.
- (b) Identify, discuss and recommend courses of action in relation to industry policy and current industry priorities.
- (c) Provide recommendations and advice to the SPA Board on:
 - i. input into levy expenditure by MLA, AHA and NRS (“Service Providers”).
 - ii. strategic policy issues to represent industry to Stakeholders (as defined in the Policy Council **Terms of Reference**).
 - iii. collaboration with Stakeholders on red meat supply chain and cross-commodity issues as they relate to the sheep industry.
 - iv. establishment of Taskforces and Working Groups to inform Council discussions and decision making.

Applicant eligibility

SPA is seeking applications from passionate and skilled individuals to join its Policy Council and support the SPA Board in delivering high quality policy and leadership for the sheep industry.

In accordance with the Policy Council **Terms of Reference**, the Policy Council will be constituted of:

- One State Farming Organisation (“SFO”) nominated member from each SFO (7 in total)
- Up to five independent representatives who do not need to be an SFO member (5 in total)
- One SFO staff member from each SFO, as an observer (7 in total)
- One independent Policy Council Chair, appointed by the SPA Board.

State Farming Organisation (SFO) nominated representatives:

- SFO representatives must be a member of the nominating SFO.

Independent representatives:

- Independent representatives may be members of an SFO, but this fact must be declared as a potential conflict of interest in their application. If successful, the independent representative must be diligent in managing the potential conflict and must strictly carry out the role only as an independent representative in accordance with the Terms of Appointment.

Selection Criteria

The table below represents the desirable skills and experience for Policy Council Members. It is not necessary for each applicant to meet all listed skills for the Policy Council. What is essential to ensure a structure that best informs SPA policy is that all identified skills are attained across the Policy Council membership.

The table represents the five key areas for applicants to address in their Policy Council application form:

SPA Policy Council Skills and Experience Matrix

<p>1. Relevant Industry experience</p>	<p>Knowledge and awareness of:</p> <p>1.1 On farm sheep production</p> <p>1.2 Supply chains, food safety and processing</p> <p>1.3 Marketing</p> <p>1.4 Agricultural commodity trade</p> <p>1.5 Animal health and biosecurity</p> <p>1.6 Agricultural research, extension and adoption</p> <p>1.7 Red meat industry peak bodies, structures and strategic plans.</p>
<p>2. Policy</p>	<p>2.1 Knowledge of legislative and regulatory concepts.</p> <p>2.2 Experience in government processes and public policy development.</p>
<p>3. Advocacy</p>	<p>3.1 Ability to effectively communicate and debate issues collaboratively and respectfully.</p> <p>3.2 Experience in an advocacy role or advocacy activities.</p>
<p>4. Industry leadership</p>	<p>4.1 Demonstrated leadership experience in industry positions, or equivalent.</p> <p>4.2 Ability to mentor future sheep industry advocates.</p>

5. Levy investment

- 5.1 Understanding of the sheep transaction levies (purpose, collection, recipients, levy raising principles and guidelines).
- 5.2 An ability to articulate investment options and identify opportunities for future levy investment.

Responsibilities of Policy Council Members

In accordance with the Policy Council **Terms of Reference**, the key responsibilities of the Policy Council Members are:

- Being fully prepared for each meeting, having read the documentation in advance.
- Making every reasonable effort to attend each meeting.
- Submitting formal apologies to the Chair if unable to attend.
- Consulting with their stakeholders in advance of each meeting
- Reporting relevant meeting outputs back to Stakeholders
- Understanding and abiding by any policies, procedures or directions as set by the SPA Board, including, without limitation, the SPA Code of Conduct and Council Terms of Appointment.

Term of Appointment

- A term of appointment for Policy Council Members is two years with a maximum of three consecutive appointments.
- **Transitional arrangements:** As this is the inaugural year of the Policy Council, there will be a staggered rotational system of appointment of Policy Council Members as follows:
 - The terms of half of the Policy Council Members represented by SFO Members will expire one year following the first meeting of the Policy Council.
 - Policy Council Members that conclude their term after the first year will be eligible for renomination in accordance with term of appointment limits.

Remuneration and Sitting Fees

Policy Council Members will be reimbursed reasonable travel, accommodation and meal expenses in accordance with the SPA Domestic Travel Policy. Members will also receive a sitting fee for the time they are engaged in the affairs or business of the Council at a rate agreed to by the SPA Board.

How to apply

1. Complete the SPA Policy Council application form.
2. Please email this application to maria@agstarprojects.com.au by **11:59pm Sunday 18 July 2021**.

Applications will be assessed by the Board Selection Committee. Applicants may be invited to attend an interview with the Board Selection Committee. This may be conducted via Zoom.

SPA Policy Council Application Form

Position (please tick):

SFO nominated member

Independent Member

Applicant information

First name	
Last name	
Email	
Mobile phone	
State Farming Organisation (if relevant)	
<i>For SFO Nominees</i>	
<i>Name and Position of Nominating Officer</i>	
<i>Signature of Nominating Officer</i>	

Response to Selection Criteria

Please describe how you meet the following key areas of the selection criteria (max. 200 words for each):

<p>1. Relevant Industry experience</p>	
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2. Policy

3. Advocacy

<p>4. Industry leadership</p>	
<p>5. Levy investment</p>	

Please answer the following additional questions (max. 200 words):

<p>Why would you like to be a member of the SPA Policy Council?</p>	
<p>What do you consider to be a key policy issue for the national sheep industry to address in the next 12 months?</p>	

Conflicts of Interest

Please identify any potential conflicts of interest that are relevant to your application, including membership of a state farming organisation, affiliation with a research and development corporation and/or other livestock peak bodies.

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Referee details:

Name	
Organisation	
Position	
Email	
Phone	

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