



23 November 2018

Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water
Leonie Hiscutt, Liberal Member for Montgomery

Tasmanian Meat Industry Working Group

Today's inaugural meeting of the Tasmanian Meat Industry Working Group has acted decisively to address short, medium and long-term issues for the industry.

The Working Group endorsed support for local abattoirs to help maintain meat supply to the Tasmanian market in the short term, as well as commissioning an economic overview of the sector and a feasibility study into future processing options to inform strategic decisions about the medium and longer term.

Minister for Primary Industries and Water Guy Barnett said he was delighted that the Working Group had hit the ground running.

"The red meat sector is worth \$400 million a year to Tasmania and is vital to the profitability of farms across the state. We need it running efficiently and well and I am looking forward to recommendations from the Working Group to help chart the way forward."

Chair Leonie Hiscutt MLC said the Working Group would consult widely as part of its work.

"We will approach key stakeholders directly for their views, and we will also be conducting listening posts at saleyards around the state to enable anyone interested to have their say."

The Working Group's first communique can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/2DGizF5>